CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AB 32 SCOPING PLAN TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN CALIFORNIA

The Air Resources Board (ARB or the Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider the approval of the AB 32 Scoping Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in California.

DATE: December 11, 2008
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium, Second Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

This item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., December 11, 2008 and may continue at 8:30 a.m., December 12, 2008. This item may not be considered until December 12, 2008. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before December 11, 2008, to determine the day on which this item will be considered. The AB 32 Scoping Plan will also be noticed for the Board’s October 23, 2008, public meeting for ARB staff to present a brief summary and for the Board’s November 20-21, 2008, public meeting. Please refer to the section below entitled “Proposed Action” for a description of how each meeting will be structured.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document and other related material can be made available in Braille, large print, audiocassette or computer disk. For assistance, please contact ARB’s Reasonable Accommodations/Disability Coordinator at 916-323-4916 by voice or through the California Relay Services at 711, to place your request for disability services, or go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm

If you are a person with limited English and would like to request interpreter services to be available at the Board meeting, please contact ARB’s Bilingual Manager at 916-323-7053.

Background

In 2006, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Nunez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006). AB 32 directs the Air Resources Board to approve, on or before January 1, 2009, a Scoping Plan for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. At the December 2008 Board Meeting, staff will present the Proposed Scoping Plan for Board consideration and approval.
ARB staff proposes a comprehensive set of actions designed to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions in California. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels requires cutting approximately 30 percent from business-as-usual emission levels projected for 2020. The recommended measures and strategies have the added benefits of improving our environment, reducing our dependence on fossil fuel, diversifying our energy sources, saving energy, and enhancing public health, while creating new jobs and enhancing the growth in California’s economy.

Key elements of California’s plan to reduce California’s greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 include:

- Expanding and strengthening existing energy efficiency programs and building and appliance standards;
- Obtaining 33 percent of California’s electricity from renewables;
- Developing a California cap-and-trade program that links with other Western Climate Initiative partner programs to create a regional market system;
- Establishing targets for transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions for regions throughout California, and pursuing policies and incentives to achieve those targets;
- Adopting and implementing measures pursuant to existing State laws and policies, including California’s clean car standards, goods movement measures, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard; and
- Creating targeted fees, including a public goods charge on water use, fees on high global warming potential gases, and a fee to fund the administrative costs of the State’s long term commitment to AB 32 implementation.

Proposed Action

The Board will not take action on the Proposed Scoping Plan until the December 11-12 Board meeting. At the Board’s October 23, 2008 public meeting, ARB staff will provide a brief summary of the Plan to the Board. On November 20-21, 2008, the Board will conduct a public meeting to discuss the Plan. At the December 11-12, 2008 public meeting, staff will recommend adoption of the Plan. All written comments and oral testimony provided at the October, November and December meetings will be considered as part of the December item. However, the Board intends that the November meeting will be the main forum for hearing oral testimony on the Plan, and requests the public to consider this when planning their testimony. Please consult the agendas for each meeting, which will be available at least ten days before each meeting, to determine the day on which the Plan will be discussed. The agendas for each meeting can be found at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/board/meetings.htm.

ARB staff has reviewed the Proposed Scoping Plan and concluded that it meets the requirements of AB 32. The Scoping Plan was developed with the input from other affected State agencies, the Climate Action Team and its sub-groups, the Economic
and Technology Advancement Advisory Committee, the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, the Market Advisory Committee, as well as other interested parties who commented on the Plan through public workshops and the ARB website.

Economic and public health analyses are included in the Plan and its appendices. Additionally, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an environmental impact analysis has been prepared and is provided as Appendix J in the Proposed Scoping Plan. This document has been circulated through the State Clearinghouse for agency review and comment. The Board will consider approval of the Proposed Scoping Plan and adoption of the environmental document concurrently.

Availability of Documents

ARB staff will present the Proposed Scoping Plan at the meeting. Copies of the Proposed Scoping Plan may be obtained from the Board’s Public Information Office, 1001 “I” Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 322-2990, on or after October 15, 2008. The report may also be obtained from ARB’s internet site at http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/scopingplan.htm

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the meeting, and in writing or by electronic submission before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received no later than 12:00 noon, Wednesday, December 10, 2008, and addressed to the following:

Electronic submittal: http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php

Please note: For “electronic submittal” the webpage has a link for commenting on the Proposed Scoping Plan and a separate link for commenting on the Appendix J - California Environmental Quality Act Functional Equivalent Document.

For commenting on the Proposed Scoping Plan:
The link is titled “scopingpln08”.

For commenting on Appendix J - California Environmental Quality Act Functional Equivalent Document: The link is titled “ceqa-sp08”.

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Facsimile submittal: (916) 322-3928
Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

The Board requests, but does not require, 30 copies of any written submission. The ARB also requests that written and e-mail statements be filed at least 10 days prior to the meeting so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment.

Further inquiries regarding the **Proposed Scoping Plan** should be directed to Mr. Rob DuVall at the Office of Climate Change, (916) 324-5930, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Inquiries and written comments regarding **Appendix J - California Environmental Quality Act Functional Equivalent Document** should be directed to Ms. Jeannie Blakeslee at the Office of Climate Change, (916) 445-8286, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

**CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD**

Date: October 15, 2008

James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer