February 2, 2005

Mail-Out #MSC-05-03

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE EXHAUST EMISSION STANDARDS AND TEST PROCEDURES – 1985 AND SUBSEQUENT MODEL HEAVY-DUTY URBAN BUS ENGINES AND VEHICLES

Background: In February 2000, the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) adopted the fleet rule for public transit agencies and amended the exhaust emission standards for heavy-duty urban bus engines and vehicles (Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 1956.1-1956.4, as amended on October 24, 2002 and June 24, 2004). This regulation is designed to achieve significant reductions in particulate matter (PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions through the implementation of a fleet rule and emission standards for new transit bus engines.

Proposed modifications to these regulations would apply to all manufacturers of urban bus engines, urban bus builders, and California transit agencies.

Workshop: At this time we are announcing workshops to be held in Sacramento and El Monte to discuss the exhaust emission standards for 2007-2009 model year urban bus engines. The two options under consideration are:

- No change to the 2007 and beyond Model Year Urban Bus exhaust emission standards.
- Harmonize the Urban Bus exhaust emission standards with the California Heavy Duty truck standard beginning with the 2007 Model Year.
The following dates and times have been scheduled to provide an overview and receive public comments. Please note that the workshops may end earlier than scheduled if all issues have been discussed.

Date: Wednesday, March 9, 2005  
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Location: Cal EPA Building  
Sierra Hearing Room  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Sacramento workshop on Wednesday, March 9, will be webcast on the ARB website. For more information, go to: http://www.arb.ca.gov/app/calendar/cal_wbcst.php

Date: Thursday, March 10, 2005  
Time: 10:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Air Resources Board Auditorium, Annex 4  
9530 Telstar Avenue  
El Monte, California 91731

Staff encourages comments regarding this proposal and would appreciate receiving written comments by April 4, 2005. Timely submittal of comments allows staff time to address comments before the proposed regulation order is submitted to the Board for consideration in July 2005. Please send your comments to Ms. Thelma Yoosephiance by email at tyooseph@arb.ca.gov or by mail, Attention: Ms. Thelma Yoosephiance, Air Resources Board, Mobile Source Control Division, 9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4, El Monte, California 91731. Please send a copy of your comments to Dr. Nancy L.C. Steele by email at nsteele@arb.ca.gov or by mail, Attention: Dr. Nancy L.C. Steele, Air Resources Board, 9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4, El Monte, California 91731.
If you have special accommodation or language needs or have any questions or comments regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Neidy Pinuelas, Branch Secretary, Heavy-Duty Diesel In-Use Strategies at (626) 350-6454, or send an email to npinuela@arb.ca.gov, as soon as possible. Teletypewriter/ Telecommunications Device for the Deaf /Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division