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Air Resources Board

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9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

November 27, 2006

Mailout #MSC 06-21

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Public Workshop Regarding the Proposed Addition of Conditional Extension for On-Road Applications to the Verification Procedure

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss ARB's proposed amendments to the Verification Procedure, Warranty and In-Use Compliance Requirements for In-Use Strategies to Control Emissions from Diesel Engines (the Procedure). The workshop will be held in El Monte, California. The workshop will primarily consist of the following:

- Presentation of proposed regulatory language
- Question and answer session

The proposed amendments are scheduled to be considered by the Board at a hearing in Spring of 2007.

The workshop will be held at the following location, date, and time:

Date: December 19, 2006
Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Location: ARB Annex 3 Conference Room
9460 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731

The workshop will also be available through teleconference. Interested parties within the United States may call (888) 730-9134. International callers may call (210) 839-8500. The passcode is 49683.

The proposed language, workshop notice, and workshop presentation will be posted on the ARB website prior to the workshop. Please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/verdev.htm> for updates.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Background: In 1998, ARB identified diesel particulate matter (PM) emissions from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. ARB adopted the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan (DRRP or Plan) in 2000 with the goal of significantly reducing public exposure to diesel PM. The Plan identified various control measures including more stringent standards for new diesel-fueled engines and vehicles, the use of diesel emission control systems on in-use engines, and the use of low-sulfur diesel fuel.

To ensure the effectiveness of diesel emission control systems used on in-use engines, ARB staff developed a verification procedure that includes emissions performance, durability, warranty, and in-use compliance requirements (the Procedure). The Board approved the Procedure at the May 16, 2002 public hearing and various amendments at subsequent public hearings. Staff is now proposing additional amendments to further improve the Procedure, principal among which is allowing conditional extensions of existing verifications for on-road applications. Staff held a public workshop on October 3, 2006, in Los Angeles, California and presented the proposed amendments. Since that workshop, new language has been added to the proposed amendments.

Staff's Proposal: Staff proposes to add the following to the Procedure:

- Conditional extensions for on-road applications (Section 2702).
- Clarifications regarding the sample format of the verification application given in Section 2702(d).
- Consideration of emissions and durability test fuels for applications that must use fuels that do not meet the specifications in the California Code of Regulations (Sections 2280 through 2283 of Title 13) (Sections 2703 and 2704).
- A statement that ARB will consider accepting data applicants generate during their participation in other diesel emission control programs such as United States Environmental Protection Agency's Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Program and Verminderung der Emissionen von Realmaschinen im Tunnelbau (VERT) (Section 2702).
- A requirement that applicants submit a brief statement that they agree to comply with the in-use compliance requirements of Section 2709, and keep records of updated contact information of the end-user they sell or lease to, a description of the vehicles the systems are applied to, and a description of the engines the systems are applied to (Section 2702). This requirement would simplify the process of locating and acquiring emission control systems for in-use compliance testing.
- Clarification of the requirements of in-use compliance and deadlines for submitting in-use compliance test plans and reports (Section 2709).
- Clarification of the minimum particulate matter reductions required to receive verification (Section 2708).

- Clarification of the warranty report requirements and instructions for applicants that wish to warrant verified products (Section 2702).
- Clarification regarding the sales and installations of verified systems (Section 2706).
- A change to the alternative diesel fuel definition. The Procedure currently regards emission control strategies using fuel additives as alternative diesel fuel based strategies unless the additive is supplied to the engine by an on-board dosing mechanism, if the additive is directly mixed into the base fuel inside the fuel tank of the vehicle or engine, or the additive or base fuel are not mixed until the vehicle or engine is fueled. Staff proposes to change the definition of an alternative diesel fuel based strategy to include all emission control strategies that use a fuel additive (Section 2701).

Comments: We welcome and encourage your participation in this effort. Staff encourages comments regarding the proposed amendments to the Procedure, written comments must be received by January 10, 2007. Timely submittal of comments allows staff time to address comments before the proposed regulation order is submitted to the Board.

Please send your comments to Ms. Shawn Daley, Manager, at sdaley@arb.ca.gov or Ms. Danielle Robinson, Air Resources Specialist, at drobinso@arb.ca.gov, or by mail to the attention of Ms. Danielle Robinson, Air Resources Board, 9528 Telstar Avenue, El Monte, California 91731.

If you have special accommodation or language needs, or have any questions or comments regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Danielle Robinson, at (626) 450-6101, as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page

All Interested Parties
November 27, 2006
Page 4

cc: Ms. Shawn Daley, Manager
Retrofit Assessment Section

Ms. Danielle Robinson
Air Resources Specialist
Retrofit Assessment Section