TO:  Automobile and Engine Manufacturers:

SUBJECT:  REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE PRODUCTION PLANS

The Air Resources Board (ARB) is requiring your assistance in providing information regarding your alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) production plans. This information is necessary in order to implement the requirements of ARB’s Clean Fuels regulations. This reporting is required under multiple California emission standards and test procedures.\(^1\) ARB staff is concurrently proposing revisions to the Clean Fuels Program (Title 13, Chapter 8), per Resolution 09-66,\(^2\) to determine how the regulation should be updated to complement near-term zero emission vehicle development and commercialization and reflect current and future conditions. As such, your information will likely factor into this regulatory process.

The regulations require that certain owner/lessors of retail gasoline stations in California equip an appropriate number of stations to dispense a clean fuel if the number of fleet-operated and publically owned or leased low-emission vehicles (LEV) certified on that clean fuel is expected to meet a specified level. If an AFV category triggers the program, we are required to notify affected parties of the number of clean fuel outlets required. In order to provide this estimate, we need projections of the number of vehicles certified on each clean fuel intended for sale or lease in California.

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2 At the December 2009 Air Resources Board hearing on the redesign of the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandate, the Board directed staff to “mandate hydrogen through existing regulations or through a new regulation” as part of a suite of complementary policies to support ZEV infrastructure. The Clean Fuels Program regulation is currently under revision to achieve this objective.

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.
We are requesting that manufacturers of AFVs provide projected California sales figures for the 2010, 2011, 2012 and, if available, 2013 model years. For projected numbers, please provide a single best estimate, not a range. In addition, for manufacturers who had certified AFVs for the 1994-2009 model years, we request an update using actual sales and leases.

The vehicle projections and sales production data should specify the manufacturer, year, model, engine family (test group), fuel type, fuel economy, certification level, and vehicle type (passenger cars, light duty trucks, and medium duty vehicles). All AFVs that are certified to LEV standards (Transitional Low Emission Vehicle, LEV, Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle, Super Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle, and Zero Emission Vehicle) or to non-LEV standards (Tier 0, Tier1, AB 965) should be reported.

Additionally, to satisfy the ARB board directive, please report the following:

1. Vehicle projections and sales production data for certified dedicated fuel or hybrid vehicles or conversions that use hydrogen or off-vehicle electric charging (this does not apply to vehicles that produce electricity or hydrogen solely from onboard means), and
2. Projected timing and location of AFV placements (i.e., statewide, Bay Area, Los Angeles).

A sample format for the information requested is enclosed. Please do not aggregate production numbers from previous years.

The requested information must be submitted no later than May 31, 2010, to the following address:

Mr. Gerhard Achtelik, Manager  
Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Section  
Mobile Source Control Division  
California Air Resources Board  
Post Office Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2815

Revisions to these plans are requested as they occur. The information provided in response to this request will be kept confidential, pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Section 91011, to ensure that the competitive position of each manufacturer is not compromised.
If you have any questions, please contact Gerhard Achtelik, Manager, at (916) 323-8973, or by email at gachteli@arb.ca.gov, or Leslie Goodbody, Air Resources Engineer, at (916) 323-2961, or by email at lgoodbod@arb.ca.gov. Contact Leslie Goodbody if you wish to be removed from this mailing list.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

Enclosure

cc:  Gerhard Achtelik Jr., Manager  
Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Section

Ms. Leslie Goodbody
Air Resources Engineer
Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Section