November 4, 2010

Mail-Out #MSC 10-48

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO CRITERIA AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR LIGHT- AND MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLES – ADVANCED CLEAN CARS

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) is developing a proposal for more stringent emission requirements for new passenger vehicles, to be considered by the Board in early 2011. A one-day workshop to discuss ARB staff’s preliminary thoughts and sources of information upon which to base the proposed standards and test procedures is scheduled for November 16, 2010, in El Monte, California.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

DATE: November 16, 2010

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Air Resources Board
9528 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731

This is the fourth technical workshop for the Advanced Clean Cars rulemaking. The first workshop, on March 2nd, focused on preliminary elements of the proposed criteria pollutant emission standards and involved a presentation of technical information from several studies that are under evaluation for potential greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction. The second workshop, on May 3rd, focused on staff’s initial proposal for modifications to the ZEV regulation. The third workshop, on May 18th, went into more detail in several areas related to criteria pollutant emissions and greenhouse gas emissions. Material from the previous workshops can be found at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/levprog/leviii/leviii.htm. This fourth workshop will provide an update on proposed requirements for criteria emissions, a review of technologies that can reduce vehicle GHG emissions in the 2017-2025 timeframe, a discussion on California’s Environmental Performance label requirements, and proposed modifications to the Zero-Emission Vehicle program.

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.
The morning session will include a discussion of the proposal for criteria exhaust emission requirements, including particulate matter emissions, for light- and medium-duty vehicles. That discussion will be followed by a discussion on the proposed modifications to evaporative and supplemental federal test procedure requirements. Staff will summarize the proposed evaporative emission standards and test procedures. Remaining issues, such as bleed emissions test details and phase-in schedule, will also be discussed. Staff will also provide updates to the proposed supplemental test procedure requirements and standards, as well as phase-in requirements. For the medium-duty vehicles, staff will discuss proposed emission standards, fleet phase-in, and the selection of test cycles.

The third workshop item will be a review and discussion of vehicle technologies with the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the 2017-2025 timeframe. Many of these technologies were discussed in the recent United States Environmental Protection Agency, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), ARB Joint Technical Assessment Report which will be briefly reviewed along with the implications to California’s light-duty GHG program beyond 2017. The Technical Assessment Report can be accessed at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/clean_cars/ldv-ghg-tar.pdf

The fourth workshop item will be a discussion on proposed modifications to certification gasoline fuel.

Beginning in the afternoon, staff will discuss California’s Environmental Performance Label and the implications of the proposed modifications to the federal Fuel Economy and Environmental Performance Labels.

Lastly, staff will present proposed ZEV regulation modifications, and solicit public comments on staff’s proposal. Staff will present minor proposed modifications to the 2012 through 2017 model year requirements. The majority of staff’s proposal will be focused on 2018 model year and beyond requirements, including changes to the overall requirements, travel provision, intermediate volume manufacturers, ZEV credits, and compliance flexibility.

If you require special accommodations or language needs, please contact Ms. Adrieann Medina at (626) 459-4405 or amedina@arb.ca.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

ARB will use the LEV Program list serve to notify stakeholders of upcoming events. If you wish to sign up for this list serve, please visit: http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=levprog

The workshop will be webcast. Interested parties may access the webcast on the morning of the workshop at: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/?BDO=1
Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the workshop. Comments may also be submitted by postal mail before the workshop or by electronic submittal before and during the workshop.

Postal mail:  Mr. Paul Hughes  
Air Resources Board  
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4  
El Monte, California 91731

Electronic submittal: phughes@arb.ca.gov

We welcome and encourage your participation. If you have any questions regarding the workshop, please contact Mr. Paul Hughes, Manager, at (626) 575-6977, or by email at phughes@arb.ca.gov, or Ms. Sarah Carter, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, at (626) 575-6845, or by email at scarter@arb.ca.gov. Questions on particulate matter can be addressed to Alberto Ayala, Chief Monitoring and Laboratory Division, at (916) 445-3742 or by email at aayala@arb.ca.gov. Questions on the evaporative emission and supplemental federal test procedure requirements can be addressed to Ms. Leela Rao, Air Pollution Specialist, at (626) 350-6459 or by email at lrao@arb.ca.gov. Questions on the ZEV regulation can be addressed to Ms. Anna Gromis-Wong, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 323-2410 or by email at acgromis@arb.ca.gov, or to Ms. Elise Keddie, Manager, at (916) 323-8974 or by email at ekeddie@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

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cc:  See next page.
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