TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 118 AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AQIP) FISCAL YEAR 2011-12 FUNDING PLAN

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss development of the AB 118 AQIP Funding Plan for Fiscal Year 2011-12 (FY 2011-12 Funding Plan) pursuant to AB 118 (Statutes of 2007), the California Alternative and Renewable Fuel, Vehicle Technology, Clean Air, and Carbon Reduction Act of 2007.

The meeting will be held at the following time and place:

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2011
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Place: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Sierra Hearing Room, 2nd Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

If you are interested in proposed changes to the Carl Moyer Program or Goods Movement Emission Reduction Program or the effect the December regulatory Board action for on-road and off-road vehicles will have on these funding opportunities, a workshop addressing those topics will also be held on January 11, 2011 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Sierra Hearing Room.

Webcast Information

This meeting will be webcast for those unable to attend in person. The broadcast can be accessed on the day of the workshop at http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/. Information on submitting questions or comments will be provided during the webcast for remote participants. Staff’s presentation will be posted in advance of the workshop on ARB’s web site at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/aqip.htm.

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.
Meeting Information and Background

AB 118 provides up to $50 million annually through 2015 for the AQIP to fund a variety of air quality incentive projects, including low-emission vehicle and equipment projects, air quality research, and advanced energy technology workforce training. In 2009, the Board established overarching implementation priorities and guiding principles directing AQIP funds to support development and deployment of the advanced technologies needed to meet California’s longer-term, post 2020 State Implementation Plan (SIP) goals, and to fund projects that do not fit within the statutory framework of other ARB incentive programs. The Board envisioned that many of the project categories included in the FY 2009-10 Funding Plan would be funded for multiple years in order to achieve air quality benefits in reducing criteria or toxic air pollutants. The Board approved FY 2010-11 Funding Plan built upon the successes of those project categories, providing continued funding for the existing AQIP projects at approximately the same funding percentages.

As part of developing the FY 2011-12 Funding Plan, ARB staff seeks public input to evaluate the project categories funded in 2010-11 and will consider: 1) whether the projects are over subscribed or under subscribed; and 2) whether continued funding should be proposed, and if so, whether modifications to project requirements are needed. Key in this discussion is the Clean Vehicle Rebate Program (CVRP). Due to the introduction of a number of new electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle models, the CVRP is expected to be significantly oversubscribed without additional funding or modifications to the funding criteria. In developing the FY 2011-12 Funding Plan, ARB staff also seeks public input in order to:

- Examine the project categories not funded in previous years and consider whether additional categories should be proposed for funding in FY 2011-12 that meet the AQIP’s implementation priorities and guiding principles established by the Board.

- Evaluate the progress of the ARB truck loan program - Providing Loan Assistance for California Equipment, and consider whether changes to existing funding levels are needed.

- Reexamine opportunities to coordinate with other incentive programs such as the Energy Commission’s AB 118 program or federal incentive programs.

For reference, The FY 2010-11 Funding Plan can be accessed at the web link http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/fundplan/fundplan.htm.
Public Workshop Schedule

This is the first of two planned sets of workshops. The second set of AQIP workshops will be held in Sacramento, Southern California and the San Joaquin Valley in spring 2011. ARB will bring the proposed FY 2011-12 Funding Plan to the Board for its consideration in early summer 2011.

Special Accommodations

If you require a special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Ms. Johanna Levine at (916) 324-6971 or jlevine@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.

If you have questions regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Johanna Levine, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 324-6971 or jlevine@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Ms. Johanna Levine
Air Pollution Specialist
Mobile Source Control Division