December 13, 2012  

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ALTERNATIVE FUEL CONVERSION CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR NEW AND IN-USE VEHICLES AND ENGINES

The Air Resources Board (ARB or the Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss proposed amendments to the alternative fuel conversion certification procedures. Recent changes promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to its procedures for certifying alternative fuel conversions generated numerous inquiries from industry regarding suggested updates to ARB’s regulations. ARB also held an educational public workshop to discuss current alternate fuel conversion requirements for new and used vehicles and engines used in such vehicles on August 14, 2012, in El Monte, California. In response to comments received, staff is now considering changes to the current alternative fuel conversion certification procedures for both new (unregistered) and in-use (already registered) vehicles and engines.

You may attend the public workshop in person or participate via teleconference. The workshop will be held at the date and time shown below:

Date: Tuesday, January 22, 2013
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)
Location: Air Resources Board Auditorium – Annex 4
9528 Telstar Avenue

The following information is needed to participate via teleconference:

Call-in Time: Between 12:45 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.
USA Toll Free Number: 888-677-4430
Passcode: 36034
At the public workshop, staff will discuss preliminary concepts in how to simplify the application process while preserving emissions benefits including how to better align ARB’s alternative fuel certification procedures with changes recently promulgated by U.S. EPA. These include: applicability, demonstrating emission compliance, demonstrating on-board diagnostic compliance, and carry-over for new vehicle/engine alternative fuel certifications to subsequent model years. Regarding these proposals, the primary fuels of interest are liquefied natural gas, compressed natural gas, and propane; however, conversions to other fuels may be discussed.


The Mobile Source Program Mailouts and Manufacturers Advisory Correspondence (ms-mailings) list serve will be used to notify stakeholders of upcoming events relating to proposed changes to the alternative fuel conversion certification procedures. If you would like to receive notification by email of upcoming events relating to the proposed changes, please sign up at http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=ms-mailings.

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:

Postal Mail: Mr. Dean Bloudoff
Air Resources Board
1001 “I” Street, P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812

Electronic submittal: dbloudof@arb.ca.gov

If you need special accommodation due to a disability, please go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm for assistance, or contact the American Disabilities Act Coordinator at (916) 323-4916. If you require other special accommodations or language services please contact Ms. Dee Enos-Friedman, at (916) 322-4722 or via email at denosfri@arb.ca.gov, as soon as possible or no later than 10 business days before the scheduled workshop.
Teletypewriter/Telecommunications Device for the Deaf/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

We welcome and encourage your participation. If you have any questions about this workshop, please contact Mr. Craig Duehring, Manager, at (916) 323-2361, or via email at cduehrin@arb.ca.gov, or Mr. Dean Bloudoff, Air Resources Engineer, at (916) 322-8987, or via email at dbloudof@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, M.S.M.E., P.E.
Chief, Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page
cc: Ms. Annette Hebert, Chief
    Mobile Source Operation Division

    Ms. Jackie Lourenco, Chief
    New Vehicle/Engine Programs Branch

    Mr. Tony Brasil, Chief
    Heavy Duty Diesel Implementation Branch

    Mr. Mike McCarthy, Manager
    Engineering Analysis Section

    Mr. Mike Regenfuss, Manager
    Engineering Evaluation Section

    Mr. Tony Martino, Manager
    Aftermarket Parts Section

    Ms. Kimberly Pryor, Manager
    Compression Ignition & Heavy Duty Certification Section

    Mr. Duc Nguyen, Manager
    On-Road Light Duty Certification Section

    Mr. Craig Duehring, Manager
    In-Use Control Measures Section

    Mr. Dean Bloudoff, Air Resources Engineer
    Mobile Source Control Division