April 20, 2006

Dear Sir or Madam:

California Air Resources Board (ARB) staff invites you to participate in our Commercial Harbor Craft Workgroup meeting on May 17, 2006. At this meeting we will discuss development of regulatory concepts for reducing diesel particulate matter (diesel PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions from in-use diesel-fueled engines on commercial harbor craft. Commercial harbor craft include, but are not limited to, tugboats, fishing vessels, work boats, crew boats, ferries, and military vessels.

Diesel engines used on harbor craft are a significant source of diesel PM and NOx emissions, contributing to both localized and regional adverse health impacts. To address the impacts of diesel PM and NOx emissions, ARB has developed two statewide emission reduction plans. First, the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan (DRRP), approved by ARB in September 2000, established an overall goal of an 85 percent reduction of diesel PM from all source categories statewide by 2020. To achieve this goal, the DRRP identified many sources, including commercial harbor craft, for potential diesel PM reductions. In addition, the Draft Goods Movement Emission Reduction Plan, proposed by ARB staff in March 2006, identified commercial harbor craft as an important source of emission reductions for NOx as well as diesel PM. The Draft Goods Movement Emission Reduction Plan sets a goal of achieving a 40 percent statewide reduction in harbor craft emissions by 2020.

The Commercial Harbor Craft Workgroup meeting will be held at the following time and location.

Date: May 17, 2006
Time: 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM (PST)
Location: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
          Training Room 2 East/West
          1001 I Street
          Sacramento, California  95814

If you wish to participate by phone, you can call in by 1-800-369-2088, and using the passcode 67149 #. The call leader name is Todd Sterling.

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.
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One week prior to the meeting we will post the agenda and any relevant handouts on our web site at http://www.arb.ca.gov/ports/marinevess/marinevess.htm. The materials will also be available as a hard copy on the day of the meeting. If you did not receive this letter directly but would like to be on the mailing list for future notification, please sign up via our web site at http://www.arb.ca.gov/ports/marinevess/lists.htm.

If you have special accommodation or language needs, please contact Ms. Linda Keifer at (916) 327-1505 or lkeifer@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service. For public transit information, please contact Regional Transit at (916) 321-BUSS or view the transportation information on the California Environmental Protection Agency's web site at http://www.calepa.ca.gov/epabldg/location.htm.

We welcome your participation in this effort. If you have questions regarding the May 17, 2006 Commercial Harbor Craft Workgroup meeting, please contact Mr. Todd Sterling, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 445-1034 or Mr. Erik White, Manager, Technical Analysis Section, at (916) 327-7213.

Sincerely,

/s/
Daniel E. Donohoue, Chief
Emissions Assessment Branch

cc: Mr. Erik White, Manager
Technical Analysis Section
Stationary Source Division

Mr. Todd Sterling
Technical Analysis Section
Stationary Source Division