

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER ENDORSEMENT OF AN UPDATED CALIFORNIA TROPICAL FOREST STANDARD

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider the endorsement of the California Tropical Forest Standard.

DATE: September 19, 2019

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: California Environmental Protection Agency
California Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

This item will be considered at a meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., on September 19, 2019, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., on September 20, 2019. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least ten days before September 19, 2019, to determine the day on which this item will be considered. This item is not proposing any regulatory action.

California Tropical Forest Standard

The California Tropical Forest Standard (Standard) was originally released in September 2018 for a November 16, 2018 Board hearing. No action was taken on the Standard at the November 16, 2018 Board hearing. Following the Board hearing, CARB continued to assess issues raised by opponents of the Standard and received additional input from several members of the Assembly. Based on consideration of these issues and input, CARB is releasing an updated Standard. The updates serve to strengthen, bolster, and clarify provisions of the Standard to further address stakeholder comments. The Standard provides a strong signal to value the preservation of tropical forests over continued destructive activities such as oil exploration and extraction, and establishes rigorous social and environmental safeguards for indigenous peoples and local communities. While endorsement of the Standard will not result in any change to regulatory programs in California, it will support important actions to address climate change and is available to jurisdictions throughout the world to incorporate into their tropical forest protection efforts.

The originally proposed Standard language from September 2018 was modified prior to the November 2018 hearing based on comments received and those modifications are shown in ~~strike through~~ to indicate deletions and underline to indicate additions. Modifications made

since the November 2018 hearing are shown in ~~double strikethrough~~ to indicate deletions and double underline to indicate additions.

Environmental Analysis and Response to Comments

CARB released a Draft Environmental Analysis (Draft EA) for the Endorsement of California's Tropical Forest Standard (Proposed Project) on September 14, 2018, for a 45-day public review and comment period that concluded October 29, 2018. During the public comment period for the Proposed Project, 76 unique comment letters were received. Two additional letters were received after the close of the comment period resulting in a total of 78 unique comment letters received on the Proposed Project. CARB staff carefully reviewed all comment letters received to determine which ones raised significant environmental issues related to the analysis in the Draft EA and required a written response under CARB's certified regulatory program implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). At the end of the initial public review process, CARB prepared a Final EA and response to environmental comments prior to the November 2018 Board hearing.

This updated Standard includes modifications to further strengthen, bolster, and clarify the Standard. None of the modifications presented in the updated Standard released along with this Notice alter any of the types of foreseeable compliance responses evaluated or conclusions reached in the Draft EA, introduce new significant effects on the environment, or provide new information of substantial importance relative to the EA. As a result, these revisions do not require recirculation of the draft document pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15088.5, before consideration by the Board. However, CARB may prepare a revised Final EA prior to the meeting to document as accurately as possible the modifications proposed to the Standard.

Proposed Action

CARB staff will present a written updated California Tropical Forest Standard, as well as the Final EA and Response to Comments, for the Board's consideration and potential approval at the meeting. The Standard and related materials may also be obtained from CARB's website at <https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ghgsectors/tropicalforests.htm>.

Copies of the updated Standard, the Final EA, and Response to Comments are available in CARB's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California, 95814. All comments received on the updated Standard will be considered by CARB. To be considered by the Board, written comments must be received no later than August 29, 2019, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic submittal: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g.,

your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request.

Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Jason Gray, Branch Chief, Climate Change Program Evaluation Branch, at (916) 324-3507 or (designated back-up contact) Greg Mayeur, Manager, Program Operation Section, at (916) 324-8031.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION REQUEST

Consistent with California Government Code Section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the hearing;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; and
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-5594 or by facsimile at (916) 322-3928 as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia;
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alterno u otro idioma; y
- Una acomodación razonable relacionados con una incapacidad.

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al (916) 322-5594 o envíe un fax a (916) 322-3928 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de 10 días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD



Richard W. Corey
Executive Officer

Date: July 30, 2019

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 at www.arb.ca.gov.