

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER A STATUS REPORT ON CATALYST TESTING OF SPARK-IGNITION INBOARD/STERNDRIVE PLEASURECRAFT

The Air Resources Board (the Board or ARB) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider the status report on catalyst testing of spark-ignition inboard/sterndrive pleasurecraft. This item is informational only; no regulatory action will be taken.

DATE: October 28, 2004

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: **In-Person**

San Joaquin Valley Unified
Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, California

Via Videoconference

District Northern Region Office
4230 Kiernan Avenue, Suite 130
Modesto, California

District Southern Region Office
2700 M Street, Suite 275
Bakersfield, California

This item will be considered at a one-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., October 28, 2004. The Board will also consider other items at this meeting. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before October 28, 2004, to determine the order in which the items will be considered by the Board.

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please go to <http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm> for assistance or contact the ADA Coordinator at (916) 323-4916. If you are a person who needs assistance in a language other than English, please contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 324-5049. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Background

At the July 2001 Public Hearing, the Board approved exhaust emission standards for spark-ignition inboard/sterndrive pleasurecraft. The vessels comprising this category are inboards, such as ski boats, and sterndrives, such as cruisers. Prior to this

rulemaking, there were no state or federal exhaust emission standards for inboard and sterndrive engines. The regulations contain two sets of standards. Beginning with the 2003 model year, an emission standard went into effect that serves to maintain or “cap” emissions at current levels. Over the 2007-2009 time frame, catalyst-based emission standards will be phased in.

As directed in Board Resolution 01-23 for this rulemaking, it was deemed necessary and proper that ARB undertake a joint developmental in-water testing program in conjunction with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), the United States Coast Guard, members of the National Marine Manufacturers Association, and manufacturers and suppliers of emission control equipment in order to demonstrate the safeness and durability of catalysts when used in a marine environment.

Summary of Report

Staff will present to the Board the results of the catalyst test program for inboard/sterndrive pleasurecraft. The report will focus on the demonstration project that was conducted for ARB by the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) in San Antonio, Texas. The project involved four inboard/sterndrive boats that were fabricated with new, catalyst-equipped exhaust systems and with closed-loop fuel controls. Engine calibrations were optimized, baseline exhaust emissions were sampled and measured, and then the boats were operated for a period of 480 hours at Canyon Lake in Texas. During the 480-hour accumulation of on-water operation, exhaust samples were obtained and sampled to verify that the emission control systems were functioning properly. Following the 480-hour accumulation, the engines were then re-tested at the SwRI laboratory.

The successful results from the demonstration project should allay the concerns about the safeness and durability of catalysts in a marine environment. The results also re-confirm that California’s catalyst-based standards are indeed feasible with emission control technology that is presently available.

Staff will also report on other issues related to inboard pleasurecraft, including U.S. EPA’s proposed rulemaking for evaporative controls and recent concerns involving carbon monoxide emissions.

Availability of Documents and Agency Contact Person

ARB staff will present a written status report at the meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained from the Board's Public Information Office, 1001 “I” Street, 1st Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 322-2990, October 18, 2004. The staff report may also be obtained from ARB’s Internet site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/marine/marine.htm>.

Interested members of the public may also present comments orally or in writing at the meeting, and in writing or by e-mail before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, October 27, 2004**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail is to be sent to:

Clerk of the Board
Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street, 23rd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic mail is to be sent to cattest@listserv.arb.ca.gov and received at the ARB **no later than 12:00 noon, October 27, 2004**.

Facsimile submissions are to be transmitted to the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-3928 and received at the ARB **no later than 12:00 noon, October 27, 2004**.

The Board requests, but does not require 30 copies of any written submission. Also, the ARB requests that written and e-mail statements be filed at least 10 days prior to the meeting so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Ms. Jackie Lourenco, Manager, Off-Road Controls Section, at (626) 575-6676, 9528 Telstar Avenue, El Monte, California 91731, or at jlourenc@arb.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/
Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

Date:

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 Web-site at www.arb.ca.gov.