NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED “AIR QUALITY AND LAND USE HANDBOOK: A COMMUNITY HEALTH PERSPECTIVE”

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider the approval of the proposed guidance document entitled, "Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective." This is an advisory report, and no regulatory action will be taken.

DATE: April 28, 2005
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Air Resources Board Auditorium
9530 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731

This item will be considered at a one-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 6:00 p.m., April 28, 2005.

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 go to http://inside.arb.ca.gov/as/eeo/languageaccess.htm or contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 324-5049. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

The "Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective", was developed to provide technical information to local land use and transportation agencies for considering impacts of local sources of air pollution in the land use decision-making process. The Handbook was developed over the past two years through an extensive working partnership with community groups, environmental organizations, business organizations, local air districts, and other state and local agencies involved in the land use planning process.

The Handbook is advisory, not regulatory, and contains recommendations on siting of new sensitive land uses such as homes, schools, and daycare centers. It provides available information on the potential health impacts of siting new sensitive land uses near sources of air pollution and makes distance recommendations where possible. It also provides information on air quality issues relating to land use and promotes the consideration of localized air pollution impacts in the land use decision-making process.

In the development of these guidelines, we received valuable input from local government about the spectrum of issues that must be considered in the land use planning process. This includes addressing housing and transportation needs, the benefits of urban infill, community economic development priorities, and other quality of
life issues. All of these factors are important considerations. The recommendations in the Handbook need to be balanced with other State and local priorities.

ARB staff will present an overview of the Handbook at the meeting. Copies of the Handbook may be obtained from the Board's Public Information Office, 1001 "I" Street, 1st Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 322-2990, on April 18, 2005. The report may also be obtained from ARB's Internet site at http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/landuse.htm.

Interested members of the public may also present comments orally or in writing at the meeting and in writing or by email before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments or submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received no later than 12:00 noon, April 27, 2005, 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 ej2005@listserv.arb.ca.gov and received at ARB no later than 12:00 noon, April 27, 2005.

Facsimile submissions are to be transmitted to the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-3928 and received at ARB no later than 12:00 noon, April 27, 2005.

The Board requests, but does not require 30 copies of any written submission. Also, ARB requests that written and email 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 Mr. Dale Shimp, Manager, Environmental Justice Section, at (916) 324-7156 or dshimp@arb.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/
Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

Date: April 6, 2005

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.