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Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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Scoping Plan Workshop Series California Global Warming Solutions Act - AB 32 —Policy Mechanisms for Emission Reductions—

Invitation to Attend Public Workshop on Policy Mechanisms

The Air Resources Board (ARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss potential policy mechanisms for emission reductions that are being considered for inclusion in the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Scoping Plan (Plan) required by the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, also known as Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32). This workshop will discuss the process that ARB will use in evaluating policy mechanisms for achieving the GHG emission reductions called for in AB 32. The mechanisms under consideration include direct emission reduction measures, alternative compliance mechanisms, market-based compliance mechanisms, potential monetary and non-monetary incentives, and voluntary reductions for various sources and categories of sources. ARB is seeking input into the range of mechanisms being considered for inclusion as part of the overall AB 32 program, and the process ARB will use in evaluating the options for inclusion in the Plan.

Scoping Plan Background

AB 32 requires ARB to develop a Plan to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gases by 2020, and that the Board approve this Plan no later than January 1, 2009. In this third in a series of workshops, ARB is seeking input on the range of mechanisms under consideration for inclusion as part of the overall AB 32 program. These mechanisms include, but are not limited to: direct regulations, alternative compliance mechanisms, offset programs, a cap-and-trade market system, incentives, fee-bates, carbon fees, and voluntary actions.

ARB is also developing a policy statement relating to the treatment of voluntary Early Actions in the Plan for consideration by the Board at its February meeting. ARB is seeking input on that policy statement at this workshop, and will publish a draft policy statement on ARB's Climate Change website (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm>); ARB will make this document available in hard copy at the workshop.

ARB will also provide a status report on the economic modeling effort that is underway to evaluate the economic impacts and cost-effectiveness of the different policy mechanisms under review. A separate public consultation meeting is also being planned to provide a more in-depth give-and-take on technical modeling inputs. As soon as we secure a date and location for this meeting, we will send out a separate notice.

Subsequent workshops in April and July will focus on a discussion of proposed alternatives for achieving the 2020 GHG reduction target and beyond.

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>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Where and When is the Public Workshop?

This workshop will be held at the offices of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in Oakland and will also be webcast.

Date: January 16, 2008
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Auditorium
Address: Metropolitan Transportation Commission
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Directions to MTC can be found at http://www.mtc.ca.gov/about_mtc/directions.htm. For those unable to attend the workshop(s) in person, a live video/audio webcast will be available beginning at 9:30 a.m. on January 16, 2008, at <http://www.cal-span.org/Broadcast/CARB.asx>. During the workshops, the webcast audience may submit questions and comments for ARB staff response using the following email address: ccplan@arb.ca.gov.

Need More Information?

Workshop materials and an agenda will be posted prior to the meeting at ARB's Climate Change website (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm>) and made available in hard copy at the meeting. At this website, you may also join our electronic mailing list to receive further notices of ARB activities and public meetings related to the implementation of AB 32.

Who Do I Contact to Request Special Accommodation or Language Assistance?

To place your request for disability services, please contact ARB's Disability Coordinator at 916-323-4916 by voice or through the California Relay Services at 711. If you are a person with limited English, and would like to request interpreter services to be available at the workshop, please contact ARB's Bilingual Manager at 916-323-7053. For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in Braille, large print, audiocassette, or computer disk.

We welcome and encourage your participation in this important effort. If you have questions regarding the January 16, 2008, workshop, please contact Lucille van Ommering, ARB Office of Climate Change, at (916) 324-5931 or lvanomme@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Kevin Kennedy, Chief
Program Evaluation Branch
Office of Climate Change

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AB 32 Scoping Plan Workshop Series

Nov 30, 2007	Scoping Plan Process Overview Workshop	✓
Dec 14, 2007	Sector-Based Workshop	✓
Jan 16, 2008	Workshop On Alternative Mechanisms	Oakland
April 4, 2008 (note new date)	Workshop On Scenarios	Sacramento
Jul 2008	Workshops on Draft Scoping Plan	Statewide