



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



VIA FACSIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Must be received by June 18, 2007

California Air Resources Board
C/o Clerk of the Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Comments on Proposed Changes to the Smog Index Labeling Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express strong support for the California emissions control and smog index labeling program amendments. The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) appreciates the opportunity to comment on California Air Resources Board public notice, *California Air Resources Board; Proposed Amendments to the Emissions Control and Smog Index Labels Regulation* (California Regulatory Notice Register 2007, Volume No. 18-Z). The DEP offers the following comments in support of the proposed smog index labeling amendments.

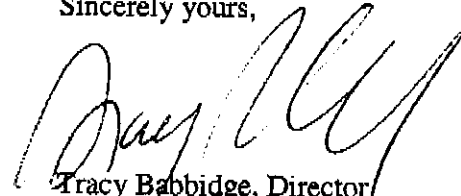
The proposed revisions to the smog index labeling program to include a global warming score and associated graphics will provide consumers with valuable information necessary to make informed decisions about a major purchase with significant environmental impacts. Clearly, raising consumer awareness is one of the easiest and least expensive instruments to implement change. DEP believes the proposed labeling amendments, coupled with a robust education and outreach effort, will go a long way to educating the public about the environmental impacts associated with one of their most significant purchasing decisions. Furthermore, an educated public can encourage change through their purchasing choices and must be a willing partner with us in our ongoing efforts to effectively address the challenge of climate change.

As you know, Connecticut is one of many states to adopt California's motor vehicle greenhouse gas emissions standards as their own. In 2006, Connecticut's General Assembly passed Public Act 06-161, An Act Concerning Clean Cars. DEP is currently framing a similar labeling program. It will help us to educate the public and make strides toward our mutual goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The DEP supports California's proposed amendments to the smog index label. California should adopt the proposed amendments to the label coupled and incorporate a

consumer education and out reach program. These combined elements will likely ensure the effectiveness of this program and should also help to further reduce motor vehicle greenhouse gas emissions. The DEP appreciates the opportunity to provide comment in furtherance of our mutual environmental goals.

Sincerely yours,



Tracy Babbidge, Director
Planning & Standards Division
Bureau of Air Management

TRB/PK/PEF