CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A SUGGESTED CONTROL MEASURE FOR EMISSIONS OF VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS FROM THE APPLICATION OF ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider approval of a Suggested Control Measure for emissions of volatile organic compounds from the application of architectural coatings.

DATE: June 22, 2000

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Air Resources Board
Board Hearing Room, Lower Level
2020 L Street
Sacramento, California

This item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the ARB, which will commence at 9:30 a.m., June 22, 2000, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., June 23, 2000. This item may not be considered until June 23, 2000. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before June 22, 2000, to determine the time when this item will be considered.

This facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If accommodation is needed, please contact ARB's Clerk of the Board by June 12, 2000, at (916) 322-5594, or TDD (916) 324-9531, or (800) 700-8326 for TDD calls from outside the Sacramento area, to ensure accommodation.

Background

Architectural coatings are basically paints and other coatings applied to stationary structures and their appurtenances. The use of architectural coatings in California results in approximately 130 tons per day of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions, which contribute to the formation of ozone and particulate matter (PM). These two pollutants pose California's most serious air quality problems.

Under California law, the primary authority for controlling emissions from architectural coatings is vested in the local air pollution control districts and air quality management districts ("districts", see Health and Safety Code, sections 39002, 40000, and 40001). However, the ARB often provides guidance and other assistance to the districts,

including the development of model rules, such as the Suggested Control Measure (SCM) for architectural coatings. The ARB's authority to do this is provided by sections 39001, 39003, 39500, 39600, 39602, 39605, 40916 and 41500 of the Health and Safety Code.

Widespread regulation of architectural coatings began in 1977, when the ARB approved a SCM for architectural coatings. A number of districts adopted architectural coatings rules based on this SCM and on revisions to the SCM in 1985 and 1989. Currently, 17 of California's 35 districts have adopted architectural coatings rules. Given advances in coatings technologies over the past 10 years, and given the need for further emission reductions to attain health-based air quality standards in many districts, the ARB, in cooperation with the districts, has evaluated the VOC content limits in the 1989 SCM and current district rules. This two year effort included the following activities: 1) a comprehensive survey of architectural coatings; 2) regular meetings with districts, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and industry representatives; 3) an evaluation of durability and performance testing in various coating categories; 4) an evaluation of U.S. EPA's national architectural coatings rule; 5) technical analyses of all the coating categories proposed in the SCM; 6) an evaluation of alternatives to the SCM in a draft program environmental impact report; and 7) an analysis of the cost impacts. ARB staff also conducted eight public workshops and meetings with individual manufacturers and other interested parties from May 1998 through March 2000. The outcome of this review is the proposed new SCM.

The approval of the proposed SCM by the ARB will not impose binding requirements on any person. Binding requirements will only be imposed if one or more districts decide to adopt the SCM as a district rule. Upon adoption, a district rule would then apply to affected persons within the jurisdiction of the district. In addition, approval of the SCM by the ARB will not impose an obligation on any district to subsequently adopt the SCM. It will be up to each district to decide if adoption of the SCM as a district rule is needed to attain the state and federal ambient air quality standards within the district. Architectural coatings rules now in place in the districts will remain in effect, unchanged, until district adoption of the SCM.

Description of the Proposed SCM

The proposed new SCM specifies VOC limits for 47categories of architectural coatings. However, the SCM lowers limits for only 11 of these 47 categories, relative to typical district limits currently in effect in California. The categories include general use flat and nonflat (glossy) coatings, and a wide variety of specialty coatings, such as industrial maintenance coatings, lacquers, floor coatings, roof coatings, rust preventive coatings, stains, and primers, sealers, and undercoaters. Implementation of the proposed SCM

would reduce VOC emissions by 10.3 tons per day statewide (excluding the South Coast Air Quality Management District, since they adopted Rule 1113 amendments in May 1999). The proposed effective date for the VOC limits is January 1, 2003, for all categories except industrial maintenance coatings. The proposed effective date for the VOC limit for industrial maintenance coatings is January 1, 2004.

The SCM also contains a three year "sell through" provision (for coatings manufactured before the applicable effective dates), definitions, test methods, standards for painting practices and thinning of coatings, container labeling requirements, and reporting requirements.

Although the current version of the proposed SCM does not contain an averaging provision, we are continuing to work with all interested parties to develop a voluntary averaging provision. The voluntary averaging provision will provide manufacturers with additional flexibility in complying with the proposed VOC limits. ARB staff plans to propose an averaging provision for the SCM at the June 22, 2000, public meeting.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS AND AGENCY CONTACT PERSON

The ARB staff has prepared a Staff Report on the proposed SCM. The Staff Report contains the full text of the proposed SCM, and discusses the background, necessity for, technical basis, and economic impacts of the proposed SCM. Pursuant to CEQA (Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq.), the ARB has also prepared a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed SCM. The Draft Program EIR concludes that no significant adverse environmental effects would result from the proposed SCM. The Draft Program EIR was made available for a 45-day public review and comment period from February 22, 2000, to April 7, 2000. All comments received on the Draft Program EIR and the ARB's responses to those comments will be incorporated into the Final Program EIR for the SCM, which will be made publicly available prior to the June 22, 2000, Board meeting.

Copies of the Staff Report, the Draft Program EIR, and the Final Program EIR (when it is completed) may be obtained from the ARB's Public Information Office, 2020 L Street, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 322-2990. In addition, this notice, the Staff Report, the Draft Program EIR, and the Final Program EIR will be available on the ARB Internet site at **http://www.arb.ca.gov/arch/recent.htm**. To obtain these documents in an alternative format, please contact the Air Resources Board ADA Coordinator at (916) 323-4916, TDD (916) 324-9531, or (800) 700-8326 for TDD calls from outside the Sacramento area.

Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Mr. Jim Nyarady, Manager, Strategy Evaluation Section, Stationary Source Division, at (916) 322-8273.

SUBMITTAL OF COMMENTS

At the June 22, 2000, public meeting, staff will recommend that the Board approve the proposed SCM, and certify the Final Program EIR for the SCM. The public may present comments relating to this matter orally or in writing at the meeting, and in writing or by e-mail before the meeting. To be considered by the ARB, written submissions must be addressed to and received by the Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812, or 2020 L Street, 4th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, no later than 12:00 noon, June 21, 2000, or received by the Clerk of the Board at the meeting. To be considered by the ARB, e-mail submissions must be addressed to **archscm@listserv.arb.ca.gov** and received at the ARB no later than 12:00 noon June 21, 2000.

The ARB requests, but does not require, that 30 copies of any written statement be submitted. The ARB encourages members of the public to bring any suggestions for modification of the proposed SCM to the attention of staff in advance of the meeting.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Don Carlisle for

MICHAEL P. KENNY
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: June 5, 2000