

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO UPDATE THE BOARD ON THE STATUS OF OZONE TRANSPORT MITIGATION IN CALIFORNIA

The Air Resources Board (the Board or ARB) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider a status report on ozone transport mitigation in California. This item is informational only, and no regulatory action will be taken.

DATE: April 22, 2004

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Central Valley Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

This item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., April 22, 2004, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., April 23, 2004. This item may not be considered until April 23. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before April 22, 2004, to determine the day on which this item will be considered.

If you have special accommodation or language needs, please contact ARB's Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-5594 or landreon@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Unhealthy ozone levels in a particular area often result from a combination of emissions generated by local sources and pollution blown in or transported from other regions of the State. Upwind areas contribute transported pollution; downwind areas receive transported pollution. Many regions are both contributors and recipients of transport. ARB has identified regions linked by transport and characterized the impact of transport on the downwind area as inconsequential, significant or overwhelming on some days. The transport relationships are complex -- a downwind area can experience different impacts on different days, depending on the weather pattern.

The California Clean Air Act directs upwind air districts to mitigate ozone transport to help their downwind neighbors attain the State ambient air quality standard. State law gives ARB the responsibility to establish specific ozone transport mitigation requirements to be implemented by local air districts. In addition to the oversight role, ARB directly reduces ozone transport through statewide control programs for sources like vehicles, fuels, and consumer products.

The Board adopted the first transport mitigation regulation in 1990 and strengthened it in May 2003. The 2003 amendments added two significant requirements for upwind districts: (1) continue adopting all feasible control measures for ozone precursors until the downwind area attains the State ozone standard and (2) use emission thresholds for permitting new or modified stationary sources at least as stringent as those of downwind districts. With its action to adopt these amendments, the Board asked staff to report back with an update on transport mitigation in a year.

Staff will report on the significant progress made in addressing transport issues over the last year. The breadth of activities include: a Northern California coordination group with governing board members and top management from ARB and local air districts, an ARB-district staff effort to identify opportunities for additional emission reductions based on the most stringent district rules in place, and a framework developed by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association to facilitate consideration of transport in local air quality plans. ARB staff will also summarize the status of its work to understand transport relationships and briefly describe the future direction of these assessments.

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 Visitors and Services Center, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 322-2990, after April 8, 2004. The report may also be obtained from ARB's internet site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/transport/mitigation/mitigation.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 comments submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, April 21, 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 tranmit@listserv.arb.ca.gov and received at the ARB **no later than 12:00 noon, April 21, 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 April 21, 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. Kim-Heroy Rogalski, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, Air Quality and Transportation Planning Branch, at (916) 327-2200, or kheroyro@arb.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/

Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

Date: April 1, 2004

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.