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Air Resources Board

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WORKSHOP NOTICE

Workshop to Discuss Revisions to the California Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regulation

The Air Resources Board (ARB) will hold a workshop at the date and time below to discuss revisions to ARB's Regulation for the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The revisions would align California greenhouse gas reporting requirements with the federal greenhouse gas reporting requirements adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and add specific provisions to support ARB's proposed Cap-and-Trade regulation. These revisions would apply to 2012 greenhouse gas reporting of 2011 emissions. Until any new requirements take effect, those now subject to mandatory greenhouse gas reporting will continue to report under the current regulation.

The workshop is scheduled as follows:

When

Tuesday, March 23, 2010
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where

Byron Sher Auditorium, 2nd floor
Cal/EPA Headquarters
1001 I Street, Sacramento

Topics for Discussion and Comment:

- ◆ Alignment with the U.S. EPA greenhouse gas reporting rule, with changes to support proposed Cap-and-Trade regulation – Staff will recommend revising California's mandatory reporting requirements to align with U.S. EPA requirements, with specific changes or limitations applied to reporters subject to cap-and-trade obligations to ensure the rigor and consistency required of trading programs. Third party verification will be retained, with some modifications, for reporters within the cap-and-trade program.
- ◆ Lower facility reporting threshold to 10,000 metric tons CO₂e – Facilities with greenhouse gas emissions from 10,000 metric tons (MT) CO₂e to 25,000 MT CO₂e may become subject to reporting. This proposal is being considered because of the need to monitor emissions leakage (i.e., emissions from capped sources transferring to sources below the proposed cap-and-trade emissions threshold of 25,000 MT CO₂e) and ensure the program is achieving expected emission reductions. Third party verification would not be required for these smaller facilities. A 10,000 MT CO₂e threshold would include facilities consuming 180 million standard cubic feet of natural gas, or 980,000 gallons of diesel fuel, as examples.

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

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- ◆ New reporting requirements for industrial process emissions and industrial gases – New reporting requirements for industrial process emissions would be required from facilities involved in the production of iron and steel, production of nitric acid, oil and natural gas systems, manufacture of glass and lime, and manufacture of pulp and paper products. Producers and importers of certain industrial gases would also have new reporting requirements.
- ◆ Revised reporting requirements for producers and importers of electricity – Staff is recommending revisions to reporting to align with a “first deliverer” reporting approach. First deliverers are the providers of electricity where it first enters the state, including utilities, power marketers, and in-state power plants.
- ◆ New reporting requirements for fuels – Producers and importers of natural gas and transportation fuels would be required to report emissions from downstream use of those fuels.

Staff is working to develop revised greenhouse gas reporting requirements that would be brought before the Board for consideration concurrent with consideration of a proposed cap-and-trade regulation in October 2010.

The workshop agenda and workshop slides will be posted prior to the workshop at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reporting/ghg-rep/ghg-rep.htm>. The workshop will be webcast via <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Broadcast/>.

For background, the Preliminary Draft Cap-and-Trade Regulation Overview document is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/capandtrade.htm>. The U.S. EPA mandatory reporting rule is available via the EPA website: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html>. The current California regulation is at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2007/ghg2007/frofinal.pdf>.

If you require a special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Lisa Schenck at 916-322-6021 or lschenck@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Doug Thompson, Manager, Climate Change Reporting Section, at (916) 322-7062, or dthompso@arb.ca.gov.