September 22, 2008

Dear Sir or Madam:

The staff of the California Air Resources Board (ARB/Board) invites you to participate in a public meeting to discuss issues related to the upcoming fuel comparison study of California (CARB) diesel and Federal Ultralow Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) fuels.

California has had in place a diesel fuel regulation that promotes and mandates clean burning diesel within the State. Recently, Federal diesel fuel regulations have been modified to reduce sulfur levels to accommodate advanced diesel engines and aftertreatment systems. The Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 679 (AB 679) (Stats. 2006, ch. 11) requiring ARB to convene a panel of interested parties to develop a test protocol to measure the differences in oxides of nitrogen and particulate matter emissions between CARB diesel and the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s 2006 ultralow sulfur highway diesel fuel.

Discussion topics will include, but are not limited to, comments received regarding the recently posted draft test plan, CARB and Federal diesel fuel properties, and emission test cycle selection. A proposed agenda is enclosed. For more information regarding the Diesel Fuel Comparison Study, you may want to visit the Diesel Fuel Program webpage at http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/diesel/diesel.htm.

The time and place of the public meeting are shown below:

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008
Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm
Location: California Environmental Protection Agency
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
Sierra Hearing Room
Sacramento, California 95814

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

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.
For your information, this meeting will be webcast. You may access the webcast at ARB's homepage, http://www.arb.ca.gov. To participate by teleconference dial (877) 709-5342, give the participant passcode: 61086, and the leader name: Floyd Vergara. During the webcast, we will also accept comments and questions sent via email to sierrarm@calepa.ca.gov.

If you have questions about the meeting or the proposed agenda, please call Mr. Floyd Vergara, Manager, Industrial Section at (916) 327-5986.

Sincerely,

Dean C. Simeroth, Chief
Criteria Pollutants Branch

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Floyd Vergara, Manager
Industrial Section
Diesel Fuel Comparison Study Meeting  
Thursday, October 14, 2008  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor  
Sierra Hearing Room  
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Agenda  
I. Introductions  
II. Background  
III. Project schedule  
IV. Revisions to the draft test plan  
V. Comments regarding diesel fuel properties  
   a. Federal ULSD  
   b. CARB ULSD  
VI. Update on the selection of test engines and vehicles  
VII. Open discussion