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9/18/2023
The Honorable Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D
Executive Officer
California Air Resources Board
1001 Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
ATTENTION: Clerk's Office

RE: PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST: Proposed Amendments to the Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Omnibus Regulation

Dear Dr. Cliff:

On behalf of my company, Santa Barbara Airbus, and pursuant to Section 11346.8 of the California Government Code, I write to request the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) hold a public hearing on its proposed amendments to the Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Omnibus (Omnibus) regulation, per the Board's notice posted on August 1, 2023. We would seek the hearing to be scheduled prior to the close of the comment period or, alternatively, seek to have the comment period extended beyond September 18 to accommodate a public hearing.

As a Motorcoach Operator, we have a vital interest in CARB's proposed action to amend the Omnibus regulation, and believe it is important for the Board to hold a public hearing on this matter to fully assess both the proposed amendments and their impact, as well as the steps leading to the development of these amendments.

The Board's action appears to be predicated solely on heavy-duty truck engine manufacturer product plans,[1] and we believe it important for the Board to provide for the exchange of additional information from the end users of these engines, in a public forum.

Further, a public hearing is warranted to ensure the Board and heavy-duty vehicle operators, such as the bus and motorcoach industry, along with the public, fully understand the impact of the proposed amendments on the end users of heavy-duty engines, and in turn the impact on the state's transportation network and emissions goals.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara Airbus requests the Board to schedule a public hearing before moving forward with the proposed amendments to the Omnibus regulation. I may be reached at 805-964-7759 ext 114 or sonnen@sbairbus.com, for any questions concerning this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Onnen

CEO

Santa Barbara Airbus

[1] Public Hearing to Consider the Proposed Amendments to the Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Omnibus Regulation, Staff Report: Initial Statement of Reasons, August 1, 2023, p. ES-154