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Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

June 27, 2007

Mail-Out #MSC 07-21

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE VERIFICATION PROCEDURE

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss ARB's proposed amendments to the Verification Procedure, Warranty and In-Use Compliance Requirements for In-Use Strategies to Control Emissions from Diesel Engines (the Procedure). The workshop will be held in Sacramento, California. The workshop will consist of the following:

- Presentation of proposed regulatory language
- Question and answer session

The proposed amendments are scheduled to be considered by the Board at a hearing in the Fall of 2007.

The workshop will be held at the following location, date, and time:

Date: July 31, 2007
Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Location: California EPA Headquarters
Byron Sher Auditorium, 2nd Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The workshop will also be available through webcast and teleconference. To view the webcast please visit <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>. Parties within the United States who wish to participate through teleconference may call 1-800-369-1121. International callers may call 1-210-234-0000. The passcode is 39551. Teleconference participants please press *6 to mute your phone lines so that other teleconference participants may clearly hear the presentation.

*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

The proposed language, workshop notice, and workshop presentation will be posted on the ARB website prior to the workshop. Please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/verdev.htm> for updates.

Background: In 1998, ARB identified diesel particulate matter (PM) emissions from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. ARB adopted the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan (DRRP or Plan) in 2000 with the goal of significantly reducing public exposure to diesel PM. The Plan identified various control measures including more stringent standards for new diesel-fueled engines and vehicles, the use of diesel emission control systems on in-use engines, and the use of low-sulfur diesel fuel.

To ensure the effectiveness of diesel emission control systems used on in-use engines, ARB staff developed a verification procedure that includes emissions performance, durability, warranty, and in-use compliance requirements. The Board approved the Procedure at the May 16, 2002, public hearing and various amendments at subsequent public hearings. Staff is now proposing additional amendments to further improve the Procedure, principal among which is allowing conditional extensions of existing verifications for on-road applications. Staff presented the proposed amendments at public workshops on October 3, 2006, in Los Angeles, California, on December 19, 2006, and May 10, 2007, in El Monte, California. Since those workshops, new language has been added to the proposed amendments.

Staff's Proposal: Staff proposes to add the following to the Procedure:

- Conditional extensions for on-road applications (Section 2702).
- Clarifications regarding the sample format of the verification application given in Section 2702(d).
- For certain applications, consideration of test fuels that do not meet the specifications in the California Code of Regulations (Sections 2280 through 2283 of Title 13) (Sections 2703 and 2704).
- A statement that ARB will consider accepting data generated during participation in other diesel emission control programs such as United States Environmental Protection Agency's Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Program and Verminderung der Emissionen von Realmaschinen im Tunnelbau (VERT) (Section 2702).
- A requirement that applicants submit a brief statement that they agree to comply with the in-use compliance requirements of Section 2709, keep records of updated contact information of the end-user to whom they sell or lease their product(s), keep a description of the vehicles on which the systems are applied, and keep a description of the engines the systems are applied to (Section 2702). This requirement would simplify the process of locating and acquiring emission control systems for in-use compliance testing.

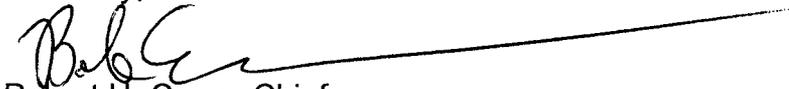
- Clarification of the requirements of in-use compliance and deadlines for submitting in-use compliance test plans and reports (Section 2709).
- Clarification of the minimum particulate matter reductions required to receive verification (Section 2708).
- Clarification of the warranty reporting requirements and instructions for applicants that wish to warrant verified products (Section 2702).
- Clarification regarding the sales and installations of verified systems (Section 2706).
- Requirements that all fuel-based strategies undergo testing per Section 2710, all fuel-based strategies for on-road applications undergo Federal Test Procedure cycle testing, and all fuel-based strategies for off-road and stationary applications undergo appropriate test cycles per Section 2703(e)(2) and 2703(e)(3) (Section 2710).
- Restructuring of the oxides of nitrogen (NOx) reduction classifications (Section 2703).
- A requirement to test off-road applications with the Non Road Transient Cycle (Section 2703).
- A test plan for NOx emission reduction systems (2703).

Comments: We welcome and encourage your participation in this effort. Staff encourages comments regarding the proposed amendments to the Procedure. Written comments should be submitted by August 17, 2007. Timely submittal of comments allows staff time to address comments before the proposed regulation order is submitted to the Board.

Please send your comments to Ms. Shawn Daley, Manager, at sdaley@arb.ca.gov or Ms. Danielle Robinson, Air Resources Engineer, at drobinso@arb.ca.gov, or by mail to the attention of Ms. Danielle Robinson, Air Resources Board, 9480 Telstar Avenue, El Monte, California 91731.

If you have special accommodation, language needs, or any questions or comments regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Jennette Bronner, Branch Secretary, at jbronner@arb.ca.gov or (916) 322-1017, as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: see next page

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cc: Ms. Shawn Daley, Manager
Retrofit Assessment Section

Ms. Danielle Robinson
Air Resources Engineer
Retrofit Assessment Section