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Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

June 17, 2008

Mail-Out # MSC 08-17

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS AMENDMENTS TO TEST PROCEDURES FOR HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLES (HEV) IN THE PASSENGER CAR, LIGHT DUTY TRUCK AND MEDIUM DUTY VEHICLE CLASSES

Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop on July 16, 2008 in El Monte, California, to discuss proposed amendments to test procedures to incorporate all types of Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEV) in the passenger car, light duty truck and medium duty vehicle classes. The proposed changes are necessary due to two main developments. The first development relates to new vehicle technologies which cannot be adequately tested with the current test procedures. The second development relates to the approved amendments to the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) regulations, which were approved by the Board at the March 27, 2008 Board Hearing. For more information on the ZEV regulation rulemaking, please go to the following web page: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2008/zev2008/zev2008.htm>. Additional information about the amendments is available at the following website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/zevprog/zevreview/zevreview.htm>.

In this rulemaking, ARB staff is developing draft test procedures that address these HEV issues. Modifications will be made to the Exhaust, and Evaporative Emission test procedures. In addition, this rulemaking will explore the requirements for Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV) Kits thru the Aftermarket Parts Regulation and may include discussion of the implementation of the Partial Zero Emission Vehicle (PZEV) extended warranty and its relation to the On Board Diagnostics Program. Vehicle charging requirements and modifications will also be presented in addition to other issues designed to address the nuances of these new vehicle technologies. The draft test procedure modifications and a workshop agenda will be made available via the ZEV Program Internet website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/zevprog/zevprog.htm> in the week prior to the workshop. Staff will explain elements of the proposed amendments at the workshop and ask questions about the anticipated impacts of such changes. Comments presented and public input received at the workshop will be used in drafting a final proposal for the Board's consideration at its October 2008 hearing.

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

All Interested Parties
June 17, 2008
Page 2

Details of the workshop are as follows:

Date: July 16, 2008
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: California Air Resources Board
Auditorium, Annex 4
9480 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731
Staff Contact: Lesley Crowell, (916) 323-2913
lcrowell@arb.ca.gov

For faster notification, ARB will use the Internet list serve for the ZEV Program to notify stakeholders of upcoming events relating to the HEV Test Procedure. If you sign up for this list serve, you will receive an email notice when new information has been posted regarding the Modified Test Procedures for HEVs and the ZEV Program. To subscribe to the ZEV Program list serve, please visit the Internet at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/zev-program.htm>.

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please consult the Internet at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm> for assistance or contact the ADA Coordinator by telephone at (916) 323-4916. If you are a person who needs assistance in a language other than English, please consult the Internet at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eo/languageaccess.htm> or contact the Bilingual Coordinator by telephone at (916) 324-5049.

We welcome and encourage your participation in this effort. If you have questions regarding either the workshop or the proposed modifications to the test procedures or programs, please contact Ms. Elise Keddie, Manager, at (916) 323-8974, or by email at ekeddie@arb.ca.gov, or Ms. Lesley Crowell, Air Resources Engineer, at (916) 323-2913, or by email at lcrowell@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page

All Interested Parties
June 17, 2008
Page 3

cc: Ms Elise Keddie, Manager
Zero Emission Vehicle Implementation Section

Ms. Lesley Crowell
Air Resources Engineer
Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Section