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Air Resources Board

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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

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TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: ETHANOL-BASED (E10) CERTIFICATION EXHAUST AND
EVAPORATIVE EMISSION TEST FUEL AMENDMENT FOR
CALIFORNIA OFF-ROAD, SPARK-IGNITION ENGINE CERTIFICATIONS

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) is proposing to amend the certification test fuel required for demonstrating compliance with California's exhaust and evaporative emission standards for off-road, spark-ignition (SI) engines, including:

- Large SI (LSI) engines
- Small off-road engines (SORE)
- Off-highway recreational vehicles (OHRV)
- Recreational marine SI engines (Marine SI)

Staff is scheduled to propose this E10 test fuel change at the December 2011 Board hearing as a minor amendment to the existing regulations for the LSI engine, SORE, OHRV, and Marine SI engine categories. These amendments will be part of proposals for major amendments to the California SORE and Tier 4 off-road compression-ignition (CI) engine regulations and test procedures intended to provide greater alignment with the applicable federal nonroad small SI engine and nonroad CI engine regulations and test procedures.

Specifically, the proposed certification test fuel will have a ten-percent blend of ethanol, and will be consistent with the new certification test fuel that ARB will soon propose for adoption by on-road motor vehicles under the third phase of California's Low Emission Vehicle rulemaking (LEV III). Consult the bulleted "Fuels"-related items on the LEV III web page <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/levprog/leviii/leviii.htm> for more information regarding the proposed E10 specifications. Staff intends to propose that use of the new E10 certification test fuel will be optional for the California off-road SI categories until the 2018 model year. The new E10 certification test fuel will become mandatory for certifications beginning with the 2019 model year.

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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Please provide any questions or comments about this proposed E10 certification exhaust and evaporative emission test fuel amendment to Ronald Haste, Manager, Off-Road Control Section, at rhaste@arb.ca.gov or (626) 575-6676.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Ronald Haste, Manager
Off-Road Control Section