April 7, 2017  
Mail-Out #MSC 17-09

To:  All Interested Parties

Subject:  THIRD PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM AND THE PERIODIC SMOKE INSPECTION PROGRAM

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss staff’s proposal for regulatory amendments to CARB’s Heavy-Duty Vehicle Inspection Program (HDVIP) and the Periodic Smoke Inspection Program (PSIP).

Staff also will briefly discuss its progress in developing a comprehensive inspection and maintenance (I/M) program for heavy-duty (HD) vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating over 14,000 pounds for implementation in the post-2020 timeframe.

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

Date:  Wednesday, May 17, 2017
Time:  1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Location:  Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Sierra Hearing Room, 2nd floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The workshop will be available by webcast for those unable to attend in person. The broadcast can be accessed on the day of the workshop at https://video.calepa.ca.gov/. Information on submitting questions and comments will be provided during the webcast for remote participants. Staff’s presentation and any associated documents will be posted prior to the workshop on CARB’s website at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/hdim/hdim.htm

Background

Legislative mandates from the late 1980s and early 1990s required CARB to develop regulatory programs to inspect heavy-duty vehicles for excessive smoke emissions and for tampering. These programs, the HDVIP (also known as the roadside program) and

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the PSIP (also known as the fleet program), remain in force today and are currently CARB’s primary HD vehicle screening programs to detect excess opacity emissions from in-use trucks. While these programs have been effective, they were established before the use of diesel particulate filters (DPFs), which come new on 2007 and later model year engines. Because of the widespread use of DPFs and the need to ensure they are operating efficiently, CARB now needs to update the HDVIP and PSIP regulations to reduce the opacity limit to assist in identifying heavy-duty trucks with broken DPFs and in need of repair, and to incorporate other proposed program improvements.

At this third public workshop, staff will discuss proposed amendments to the HDVIP and PSIP regulations, which include:

1. Reducing the current 40 percent opacity limit to account for modern diesel engines equipped with DPFs (both original equipment and retrofits).
2. Requiring all opacity testers who perform paid opacity testing services to be trained to ensure the SAE J1667 snap acceleration smoke test procedures are properly performed.
3. Reporting requirements (updated from those discussed at the February 28, 2017, workshop).

With stakeholder and industry input, staff is currently scheduled to present its proposed HDVIP and PSIP regulatory amendments to the Board at the October 26-27, 2017, public meeting in Riverside, California.

The proposed amendments to the HDVIP and PSIP are also an important first step in transitioning to a more robust multi-pollutant HD I/M program that takes advantage of the extensive capabilities of on-board diagnostic systems in newer engines (2013 and later model year engines) for monitoring the performance of nearly every engine and emission control component. At the workshop, staff will also briefly discuss its ongoing work in developing a comprehensive HD I/M regulatory program, which it expects to present to the Board for consideration in the 2020-timeframe.

Contacts

If you have questions regarding the proposed regulatory amendments to the HDVIP and PSIP that will be discussed at the workshop, please contact Mr. Jason Hill-Falkenthal, Ph.D., Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 322-4683 or by email at jason.hill-falkenthal@arb.ca.gov. For questions regarding CARB’s plans to develop a future, comprehensive HD I/M program, please contact Ms. Krista Fregoso, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 445-5035 or by email at krista.fregoso@arb.ca.gov.
Special Accommodations

If you require a special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format (i.e., braille, large print) or another language, please contact Jason Hill-Falkenthal, Ph.D., Air Resources Specialist, at (916) 322-4683 or by email at jason.hill-falkenthal@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

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Sincerely,

/s/

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