July 20, 2012

Mail-Out #MSO 2012-02

To: ALL MANUFACTURERS OF
- PASSENGER CARS (PC), LIGHT-DUTY TRUCKS (LDT), MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLES (MDV) AND ENGINES USED IN SUCH MDV
- HEAVY-DUTY (HD) VEHICLES AND ENGINES USED IN SUCH HD VEHICLES
- ALTERNATIVE FUEL RETROFIT SYSTEMS
ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: Public Workshop to Discuss Current Alternative Fuel Conversion Requirements for New and Used Vehicles and Engines used in Such Vehicles

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to clarify ARB's current requirements regarding conversion of vehicles and engines to operate on alternative fuels. Vehicle and engine manufacturers and other interested parties are welcome to provide input. The workshop will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (PST)
Location: California Air Resources Board
Annex 4 Auditorium
9528 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731

Since United States Environmental Protection Agency promulgated changes to its rules affecting alternative fuel conversions in 2011, ARB has received numerous inquiries regarding its requirements for conversion of vehicles and engines to alternative fuels. The primary fuels of interest have been liquefied natural gas, compressed natural gas, and propane. Manufacturers have requested guidance on how to certify and show compliance with ARB’s regulations. As a result, the workshop is intended to clarify ARB’s regulations and test procedures regarding conversions of new (unregistered) vehicles and engines and in-use (already registered) vehicles and engines to operate on alternative fuels. The workshop will focus on both new vehicle and engine and in-use vehicle and engine certification processes. It will cover the timing needed for certification review, filing and electronic process, testing and other requirements, and documents to be submitted.

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.
Prior to the workshop, a draft guidance document, agenda and any handouts will be available on the ARB website at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onroad/cert/ldctp/ldctp.htm.

For those unable to attend in person, this workshop will be available by webinar. Prior to the workshop, the webinar link will be available on website listed above.

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm for assistance or contact the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Coordinator at (916) 323-4916. If you need assistance in a language other than English, please contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 322-0473.

Your participation in the workshop is welcome. If you cannot attend, but would like to provide comments, or if you have any questions regarding conversions of new PC, LDT, and chassis certified MDV, please contact Mr. Duc Nguyen, Manager of the On-Road Light-Duty Certification Section, at (626) 575-6844 or by email at dnguyen@arb.ca.gov. For questions regarding conversions of new HD vehicles and engines, including engines used in diesel and incomplete MDV 8,501 to 14,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating, please contact Ms. Kimberly Pryor, Manager of the Compression-Ignition and Heavy-Duty Certification Section, at (626) 575-6640 or by email at kpryor@arb.ca.gov. For questions regarding aftermarket retrofit system conversions of used vehicles and engines, please contact Ms. Rose Castro, Manager of the Aftermarket Parts Section, at (626) 575-6848 or by email at rcastro@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Annette Herbert, Chief
Mobile Source Operations Division