

**Notice of 30-Day Public Comment Period
Hornblower Cruises and Events
Alternative Control of Emissions (ACE) Plan**

Background

The Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation¹ (CHC Regulation), subsection (f) allows the Air Resources Board (ARB) Executive Officer to approve an alternative control of emissions (ACE) strategy provided the owners/operators can demonstrate that the alternative strategy will achieve emission reductions equal to or greater than those required by the CHC regulatory compliance schedule. Additional information on the CHC regulation is available at the following link:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/ports/marinevess/harborcraft.htm>

Applicant

Hornblower Cruises and Events (Hornblower)
Pier 3, Hornblower Landing
San Francisco, CA 94111

Description of the Proposal

Hornblower has submitted an ACE plan requesting Executive Officer approval of an alternative compliance strategy. The ACE plan proposes using emission reductions achieved by early compliance to offset a delay in compliance for engines on certain vessels. These vessels all operate in the San Francisco Bay area with home ports in either San Francisco or Berkeley.

Hornblower replaced four engines on the vessel California Hornblower in 2009. This was five to six years before the CHC regulation's compliance dates for these engines. This early repower provides significant surplus emission reductions because this is a high-use vessel. The ACE plan uses these surplus diesel particulate matter (PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions to offset delayed reductions associated with a 2 to 4 year compliance delay of the repower of 16 significantly lower-use engines on 6 different vessels. The hours of operation for these 16 engines will be limited to the hours of operation prescribed in the table labeled "List of ACE Plan Vessels with Associated Annual Operating Hours Limits". This table is provided as a separate document.

Staff Analysis

ARB staff has reviewed the proposed ACE plan and has determined that the PM and NOx emission reductions achieved by Hornblower's ACE plan exceeds the PM and NOx reductions that would be achieved by compliance with the CHC regulatory schedules for these vessel engines.

¹ Regulation to Reduce Emissions from Diesel Engines on Commercial Harbor Craft Operated Within California Waters and 24 Nautical Miles of the California Baseline. Title 17 California Code of Regulations, Section 93118.5

Public Comment

The next phase of the approval process requires that the public be provided an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed ACE plan prior to final Executive Officer action. The proposed ACE plan and supporting documentation can be found at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ports/marinevess/harborcraft/hcace.htm>. To request a hard copy of the proposed ACE plan and supporting documents, please call toll-free 888-442-7238.

The public comment period for this ACE plan will begin on January 31st, 2013. To be considered by the ARB Executive Officer, written comments must be submitted on or after January 31st, 2013 and **received no later than 5:00 PM, Pacific Standard Time, March 1st, 2013**, and must be addressed to one of the following:

Email: harborcraft@arb.ca.gov

or

Postal mail: California Air Resources Board
Stationary Source Division
Emissions Assessment Branch
Control Strategies Section, Commercial Harbor Craft
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812-2815
Attn: Zhenlei Wang

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code, § 6250 et seq.), your written comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engine.

If you have any questions regarding the Hornblower ACE plan or questions about the CHC Regulation, please contact either Kirk Rosenkranz at 916-327-7843 or via email at krosenkr@arb.ca.gov or Zhenlei Wang at 916-322-1049 or via email at zwang@arb.ca.gov.