REQUEST FOR EARLY EFFECTIVE DATE

Pursuant to Government Code section 11343.4(d), the Air Resources Board (ARB) requests that the amendment to Title 13, California Code of Regulations, Section 2292.1 becomes effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Title 13, California Code of Regulations, section 2292.1 sets forth specifications for M100 fuel methanol intended for use in motor vehicles in California. One of the specifications is a requirement that the fuel "shall produce a luminous flame, which is visible under maximum daylight conditions, throughout the entire burn duration." In order to provide time for the development of an acceptable flame luminosity additive available, when the ARB adopted the specifications in 1992 it established a delayed January 1, 1995 implementation date for the luminosity requirement. Unfortunately, an acceptable flame luminosity additive has still not been developed.. The ARB has now accordingly adopted an amendment which allows fuel suppliers to sell M100 fuel that does not have a luminosity additive if they can demonstrate the fuel will be used only in vehicles equipped with either a system for automatically detecting and suppressing on-board fires or a system for on-board luminosity enhancement.

There are currently only about 380 M100-powered motor vehicles operating in California. Almost all are transit or school busses equipped with automatic fire-suppression systems. An early effective date for the ARB's amendments is necessary to assure these vehicles can continue to operate in the State.

Operators of M100-powered motor vehicles, and other parties affected by the amendments, have been on notice of the forthcoming amendments since the ARB adopted them on December 8, 1994. The ARB intends to notify affected parties promptly of the date on which the amendments become effective. None of the parties affected by the amendments will be disadvantaged by the requested early effective date.

Date: June 29, 1995

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