TITLE 17. CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST OF EQUIPMENT DEFECTS THAT SUBSTANTIALLY IMPAIR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF GASOLINE VAPOR RECOVERY SYSTEMS

The Executive Officer of the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) is proposing to amend the list of equipment defects that substantially impair the effectiveness of gasoline vapor recovery systems used in motor vehicle refueling operations. Health and Safety Code (Health & Saf. Code) section 41960.2(c) requires the Executive Officer to adopt and periodically update the list of defects, which is incorporated by reference in section 94006, title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), and is otherwise known as the Vapor Recovery Equipment Defects (VRED) List. Such defects are sufficiently egregious to warrant the removal of the fueling point from service until the defect is repaired.

Written comments on the proposed regulatory amendments must be received by July 21, 2011 in order to be considered by the Executive Officer. No public hearing is currently scheduled but you may by July 6, 2011, request the Executive Officer to conduct a public hearing. If a public hearing is requested by that date, it will be scheduled to be conducted by the Executive Officer or his or her delegate pursuant to the authority set forth in sections 39515 and 39516 of the Health & Saf. Code. Notice of the time, date, and place of the hearing will be provided by separate notice.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST OF PROPOSED ACTION AND POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Sections Affected: Proposed amendment to California Code of Regulations, title 17 section 94006(b) and the VRED List (adopted September 23, 2002 and last amended June 17, 2008) that is incorporated by reference therein. Staff is recommending that the Executive Officer approve the proposed amendments to the VRED List as described herein.

Background: In accordance with section 41954 of the Health & Saf. Code, ARB certifies systems for the control of gasoline vapors resulting from motor vehicle fueling operations. The certification is accomplished by the issuance of an Executive Order (EO) identifying the system that is certified and the conditions of certification. The sale or installation of an uncertified system is prohibited.

Section 41960.2(c) of the Health & Saf. Code requires the Executive Officer of ARB to: 1) identify and list equipment defects in systems for the control of gasoline vapors resulting from motor vehicle fueling operations that substantially impair the effectiveness of the systems in reducing air contaminants, and 2) periodically update the list to reflect changes in equipment technology or performance. The initial list of defects was developed in 1982 and was most recently updated in 2008. The current VRED List

Further, the agency representative and designated back-up contact persons to whom nonsubstantive inquiries concerning the proposed administrative action may be directed are Lori Andreoni, Manager, Board Administration & Regulatory Coordination Unit, (916) 322-4011, or Amy Whiting, Regulations Coordinator, (916) 322-6533. The Board has compiled a record for this rulemaking action, which includes all the information upon which the proposal is based. This material is available for inspection upon request to the contact persons.

This notice, the ISOR and all subsequent regulatory documents, including the FSOR, when completed, are available on ARB website for this rulemaking at www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2011/vrdef11/vrdef11.htm

COSTS TO PUBLIC AGENCIES AND TO BUSINESSES AND PERSONS AFFECTED

The determinations of the Board's Executive Officer concerning the costs or savings necessarily incurred by public agencies and private persons and businesses in reasonable compliance with the proposed regulations are presented below.

Pursuant to Government Code sections 11346.5(a)(5) and 11346.5(a)(6), the Executive Officer has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not create costs or savings to any State agency or in federal funding to the Sstate, costs or mandate to any local agency or school district whether or not reimbursable by the State pursuant to part 7 (commencing with section 17500), division 4, title 2 of the Government Code, or other nondiscretionary cost or savings to State or local agencies

In developing this regulatory proposal, ARB staff evaluated the potential economic impacts on representative private persons or businesses. The ARB is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action. This determination is based on the fact that the proposed regulatory action establishes no new requirements, but rather clarifies existing defects. A detailed assessment of the economic impacts of the proposed regulatory action can be found in the ISOR.

The Executive Officer has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states, or on representative private persons.

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.3, the Executive Officer has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not affect the creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California, the creation of new businesses or elimination of existing businesses within the State of California, or the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California. A detailed assessment of the economic impacts of the proposed regulatory action can be found in the ISOR.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This regulatory action is proposed in accordance with the authority granted to ARB and the Executive Officer in sections 39600, 39601, and 41960.2 of the Health & Saf. Code. This action is proposed to implement, interpret, and make specific sections 41954 and 41960.2 of the Health & Saf. Code.

REGULATORY AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

This regulatory proceeding will be conducted in accordance with the California Administrative Procedure Act, title 2, division 3, part 1, chapter 3.5 (commencing with section 11340) of the Government Code.

Following the close of the comment period, the Executive Officer may adopt the regulatory language as originally proposed or with non-substantial or grammatical modifications. The Executive Officer may also adopt the proposed regulatory language with other modifications if the text as modified is sufficiently related to the originally proposed text that the public was adequately placed on notice that the regulatory language as modified could result from the proposed regulatory action. In the event that such modifications are made, the full regulatory text, with the modifications clearly indicated, will be made available to the public for additional written comment at least 15 days before it is adopted. The public may request a copy of the modified regulatory text, if applicable, from ARB's Public Information Office, Visitor and Environmental Services Center, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 322-2990.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

Date: May 24, 2011