PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE “LEV II” AND “CAP 2000” AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA EXHAUST AND EVAPORATIVE EMISSION STANDARDS AND TEST PROCEDURES FOR PASSENGER CARS, LIGHT-DUTY TRUCKS AND MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLES, AND TO THE EVAPORATIVE EMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES

Public Hearing Date: November 5, 1998
First Public Availability Date: April 15, 1999
Second Public Availability Date: June 1, 1999
Second Deadline for Public Comment: June 15, 1999

This notice announces a second supplemental period in which the public may comment on additional modifications being proposed for the “LEV II” amendments to the California Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) regulations. No action by any member of the public is necessary unless the person wishes to comment on the additional modifications.

At a public hearing held November 5, 1998, the Air Resources Board (ARB or the Board) considered adoption of a comprehensive set of “LEV II” amendments to the California LEV regulations, including the application of passenger car exhaust emission standards to most sport utility vehicles, pick-up trucks and mini-vans, lower tailpipe standards for all vehicles, more stringent requirements for phasing in cleaner vehicles, an up to 80% reduction in most evaporative emission standards, additional mechanisms for the generation of zero-emission vehicle credits, and “CAP 2000” amendments to the certification and in-use compliance requirements. The proposed amendments are described in detail in the Staff Report (Initial Statement of Reasons for Proposed Rulemaking) released on September 18, 1998.

The Board’s action. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board adopted Resolution 98-53, in which it approved the originally proposed amendments with several modifications. The resolution directed the Executive Officer to incorporate the modifications into the proposed regulatory texts, with such other conforming modifications as may be appropriate, and to make the modified text available for a supplemental comment period. The proposed modifications were made available with a supplemental comment deadline of April 30, 1999, and several written comments were received.

Additional Modifications. Based on the comments received during the supplemental comment period, staff is proposing additional clarifying and technical modifications to the regulatory texts that are needed to reflect the underlying intent of the proposal. Excerpts of the
regulations and documents incorporated by reference in the regulations, with the additional modifications shown, are set forth in Attachment I. The complete texts of the regulations containing proposed additional modifications are available online at the ARB’s Internet site for the LEV II regulatory documents — http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/levii/levii.htm. Printed copies of the entire regulatory texts are available from Ms. Donna Barragan, Mobile Source Control Division, telephone (626) 459-4405 or fax (626) 575-7012.

Comments and subsequent action. The additional modifications are being made available for a second supplemental comment period in accordance with section 11346.8 of the Government Code. In Resolution 98-53, the Board directed the Executive Officer either to adopt the amendments with such additional modifications as may be appropriate in light of the comments received, or to present the regulations to the Board for further consideration if warranted in light of the comments.

Written comments on the proposed additional modifications must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, California 95812, no later than the deadline for public comment identified above, for consideration by the Executive Officer prior to final action. Only comments relating to the additional modifications made available with this notice will be considered by the Executive Officer.

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

Attachments