

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROVIDE FURTHER LOCOMOTIVE AND RAILYARD EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider staff recommendations to provide further locomotive and railyard emissions reductions.

DATE: September 24, 2009

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: South Coast Air Quality Management District
Auditorium
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, California 91765

This item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., September 24, 2009 and may continue at 8:30 a.m., on September 25, 2009. This item may not be considered until September 25, 2009. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before September 24, 2009, to determine the day on which this item will be considered.

If you require special accommodations or need this document in an alternate format or language, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-5594 or by facsimile at (916) 322-3928 as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

At the April 2008 public meeting, the Board directed staff to develop a plan to further reduce emissions from locomotives and railyards. The emission reductions were to be beyond existing United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations and ARB regulations and agreements. Additional emission reductions are primarily needed to:

- Address the significant remaining public health risks associated with the diesel particulate matter (PM) emissions around California's railyards; and
- Assist in meeting the State Implementation Plan goals for attaining federal ambient air quality standards for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}).

Staff began this process by developing a Technical Options Report that evaluated 37 options to further reduce locomotive and railyard emissions.¹ The 37 options were evaluated based on the following criteria: technical feasibility, potential emissions reductions, costs, and cost-effectiveness. Based on the Technical Options Report, staff is now recommending five locomotive measures as the highest priority options. In general, these measures involve replacing existing switch and medium horsepower locomotives with cleaner locomotives, retrofitting these locomotives with particulate matter and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) aftertreatment devices, and accelerating the introduction of Tier 4 line haul locomotives in 2015 when these cleaner locomotives become available. While costly, the measures are highly cost-effective.

In general, these measures would further reduce statewide locomotive NOx and diesel PM emissions about 30 percent by 2014 and about 70 percent by 2020. As locomotives represent the major emissions at the railyards after the implementation of the existing regulations and agreements, the reduction in locomotive diesel PM emissions translates to an average 65 percent reduction in potential cancer risks in communities surrounding railyards by 2015 and 85 percent reduction by 2020. These reductions are in addition to the significant reductions that have occurred from locomotives and railyards due to existing federal regulations and ARB regulations and agreements.

ARB staff will present a written report at the meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained from ARB's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California, 95814, at (916) 322-2990. The report may also be obtained from ARB's website at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/railyard/railyard.htm>.

Interested members of the public may also present comments orally or in writing at the meeting and may be submitted by postal mail or by electronic submittal before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, September 23, 2009**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic submittal: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq.), your written and oral 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 engines.

¹ The Technical Options Report was released as a draft in December 2008 and as a final in August 2009. The Report is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/railyard/ted/ted.htm>.

The Board requests, but does not require 20 copies of any written submission. Also, ARB requests that written and email statements be filed at least 10 days prior to the meeting so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Mr. Harold Holmes, Manager, Engineering Evaluation Section at (916) 324-8029.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/

James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

Date: September 9, 2009

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 at www.arb.ca.gov