Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Chairman
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Gray Davis
Governor

March 13, 2002

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED 24-HOUR AVERAGE PM2.5 AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARD

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Air Resources Board (ARB) and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) invite you to participate in an Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC) meeting to discuss the ARB/OEHHA draft proposal to establish a 24-hour average PM2.5 ambient air quality standard. The meeting will take place at the following time and location:

Wednesday, April 3, 2002
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
1515 Clay Street, 2nd Floor, Room 2
Oakland, California
1-5 p.m.

This draft proposal results from comments made by the Committee at their January 23-24, 2002 meeting to review the joint report "Review of the California Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter and Sulfates-Report to the Air Quality Advisory Committee." The major conclusion from the meeting was that while the PM report was well written and researched, the document must address the lack of a recommendation for a 24-hour PM2.5 standard. The draft proposal has been posted to the ARB website at www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/std-rs/std-rs.htm, or contact Dr. David Mazzera at (916) 445-9488 if you want a copy of the draft proposal.

The scientific basis for the draft 24-hour PM2.5 standard proposal will be peer reviewed by the AQAC at the April 3rd meeting and will also provide the public with an opportunity to present comments to the AQAC for their consideration. If you wish to submit written comments specific to this proposed 24-hour PM2.5 standard recommendation, please address them in care of Dr. David Mazzera, Research Division, Air Resources Board, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812-2815 or dmazzera@arb.ca.gov, by **March 25, 2002**. Comments submitted after this date will be entered into the public record for the Air Resources Board's consideration.

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: http://www.arb.ca.gov.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Following the AQAC meeting, staff may revise the 24-hr PM2.5 standard proposal based on the findings of the AQAC. The proposed standard will be incorporated into a final staff report that also includes recommendations for annual PM2.5, annual and 24-hour PM10, and sulfate ambient air quality standards. The final staff report is scheduled for release for public review at the beginning of May 2002, with final recommendations scheduled for consideration by the Air Resources Board at their June 2002 board meeting.

Please check our website at www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/std-rs/std-rs.htm for updates on the AQAC meeting, including maps to the meeting site. Updates will also be sent out via our electronic list serve. To subscribe, please enroll at www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/aaqs/aaqs.htm.

The meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If accommodation is needed, please call Ms. Jacqueline Cummins at (916) 445-0753. If you have technical questions regarding the review of the particulate matter standards, please contact Richard Bode, Chief, Health and Exposure Assessment Branch, at (916) 323-8413 or e-mail at rbode@arb.ca.gov. If you would like to obtain a copy of the report contact Dr. David Mazzera at (916) 445-9488.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Kenny
Executive Officer

cc: Mr. Richard Bode, Chief
Health & Exposure Branch

Dr. David Mazzera
Air Pollution Specialist

Ms. Jacqueline Cummins
Office Technician