



Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Chairman

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Gray Davis
Governor

May 8, 2002

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS TO DISCUSS A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR PARTICULATE MATTER AND SULFATES

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Air Resources Board (ARB) invites you to participate in public workshops to discuss a staff report entitled "Public Hearing to Consider Amendments to the Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter and Sulfates." The report contains findings and recommendations for revising the California standards for particulate matter 10 microns in diameter and smaller (PM10) and establishing new California standards for particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter and smaller (PM2.5). Dates and locations of workshops are listed below.

Public Workshops:

Date: June 5, 2002

Time: 1-3 p.m.

Location: Monitoring and Laboratory Division – Air Resources Board
Conference Room North
1927 13th Street
Sacramento, California

Date: June 6, 2002

Time: 1-3 p.m.

Location: Air Resources Board
El Monte Facility Auditorium
9528 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California

At the workshops, staff from the ARB and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment will briefly summarize the staff report and its recommendations, and respond to public questions and comments. The report is available for downloading from our website at www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/std-rs/pm-final/pm-final.htm. If you do not have internet access, please call Ms. Jacqueline Cummins at (916) 445-0753 and we can provide a copy.

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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The staff report was peer reviewed by the Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC), which met on January 23 and 24, and April 3, 2002, to review the scientific basis of the recommendations and the comments received from the public. The AQAC's major findings were that the recommendations for amending the PM standards report were based upon sound scientific knowledge, methods, and practices and supported by the scientific literature. The AQAC's findings are included in Appendix 2 of the staff report.

The recommendations are scheduled for consideration by the Air Resources Board at its June 20, 2002 Board meeting. Please check our website at www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/std-rs/std-rs.htm for updates on workshops and the upcoming Board meeting, including maps to the workshop and Board meeting sites. Updates on the release of the report and the workshops will also be sent out via our electronic list serve. To subscribe, please enroll at www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/aaqs/aaqs.htm.

The workshops are accessible to persons with disabilities. If accommodation is needed, please call Ms. Jacqueline Cummins at (916) 445-0753. If possible, please make this contact at least four days prior to the scheduled workshop. 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 rbode@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Bart E. Croes, P.E., Chief \s\
Research Division

cc: Richard Bode, Chief
Health and Exposure Assessment
Research Division

Jacqueline Cummins
Research Division