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Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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October 22, 2008

AB 32 - California Global Warming Solutions Act Feebate Research Contract Public Consultation Meeting

Invitation to Attend Public Consultation on Upcoming Feebate Research Contract

The Air Resources Board (ARB) staff invites you to participate in a public consultation to discuss ARB's proposed research contract titled "Potential Design, Implementation, and Benefits of a Feebate Program for New Passenger Vehicles in California." This consultation will include a discussion of the research objectives and the scope of work to be addressed by this contract.

Where and When is the Public Consultation Meeting?

The consultation meeting will be held at Cal/EPA Headquarters in Sacramento and will also be webcast.

Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2008
Time: 1:30 pm
Location: Byron Sher Auditorium, 2nd Floor
Address: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 32 Background & Event Details

AB 32 specifically states that if the Pavley regulations do not remain in effect, ARB shall implement alternative regulations to control mobile sources to achieve equivalent or greater reductions of greenhouse gas emissions (HSC §38590). ARB is currently evaluating the use of a feebate program as the mechanism to secure these reductions should that be necessary. A feebate regulation would combine a rebate program for low-emitting new vehicles with a fee program for high-emitting new vehicles. This program would be designed in a way to generate equivalent or greater cumulative reductions of greenhouse gas emissions compared to what would have been achieved under the Pavley regulations.

As described in the Proposed Scoping Plan (Volume I, p. C-61, <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/scopingplandocument.htm>), ARB is commissioning a study to analyze the implementation of feebates for new vehicles in California both in place of and in addition to the Pavley standards. The study will assess elements of program design including fee and rebate levels, point of regulation, implementation strategy, consumer response, and interaction with other AB 32 programs. Based on standard research contract processes, ARB issued a research solicitation to University of California and California State University researchers for pre-

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

proposals to analyze the potential design and benefits of a feebate program for California. Through this solicitation process, the team from the Institute of Transportation at University of California, Davis, led by Dr. David Greene and Prof. David Bunch, in collaboration with researchers from University of California, Berkeley and Irvine campuses was selected to develop a full proposal for funding.

This consultation will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to review the research objectives and discuss the scope of work with the research team and ARB staff. A summary of public comments will be presented to the Research Screening Committee (RSC) for consideration at their meeting later in November. The Board's legislatively mandated RSC consists of scientists, engineers, and others knowledgeable, technically qualified, and experienced in air pollution and climate change problems. Depending on the RSC's recommendation, the proposal would then be presented to the Board for approval of the contract award.

Consultation Materials

Materials and an agenda will be posted prior to the consultation meeting at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/econprog/feebates/feebates.htm>. At this website, you may also join our electronic mailing list to receive further notices of ARB activities and public meetings related to the implementation of AB 32.

Cannot Make it to the Consultation Meeting?

This consultation will be webcast, and viewers can email questions during the session to auditorium@calepa.ca.gov. Webcast links are posted at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast>. ARB recommends that you do not run other programs while viewing the webcast, as it may interrupt or lower the quality of the signal. Written questions and comments can be submitted at any time to ffeizoll@arb.ca.gov.

Directions to Cal/EPA

There are many ways to arrive at Cal/EPA Headquarters Building but we encourage you to take public transportation or drive low emission/high efficient vehicles whenever possible. Use the following link for directions and information on public transit: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>

Special Accommodations or Language Assistance

To place your request for disability services, please contact ARB's Disability Coordinator at 916-323-4916 by voice or through the California Relay Services at 711. For interpreter services, please contact ARB's Bilingual Manager at 916-323-7053.

Upcoming AB 32 Events

November 20, 2008	Board Hearing to Discuss Proposed Scoping Plan	Sacramento, CA
December 11-12, 2008	Board Hearing to Consider Approval of Proposed Scoping Plan	Sacramento, CA

We welcome and encourage your participation in this important effort. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Fereidun Feizollahi, ARB Research Division, at (916) 323-1509 or ffeizoll@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

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cc: Richard Corey, Assistant Chief
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