



Air Resources Board



Linda S. Adams
Acting Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

July 6, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

The California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to be held on Tuesday, August 23, 2011. At this public workshop, staff will discuss potential amendments to the Airborne Toxic Control Measure to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products (Composite Wood Products ATCM or ATCM). The purpose of the workshop is to provide an overview of ARB activities to date and to initiate a dialog with stakeholders on potential amendments to the ATCM. A preliminary meeting agenda is attached to this workshop notice.

The workshop will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2011
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (PDT)
Location: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Directions to the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) headquarters and public transit can be found at the Cal/EPA website at:
<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/>.

Background

In 2008, the California Air Resources Board adopted the Composite Wood Products ATCM to reduce formaldehyde emissions from composite wood product panels and from finished goods that contain composite wood products (title 17, California Code of Regulations, sections 93120-93120.12). The ATCM establishes formaldehyde emission standards for hardwood plywood veneer core (HWPW-VC), hardwood plywood composite core (HWPW-CC), particleboard (PB), medium density fiberboard (MDF), thin medium density fiberboard (tMDF) and also furniture and other finished products made with composite wood products. The ATCM applies to panels and finished goods that are sold, supplied, offered for sale, used, or manufactured for sale in California. Businesses required to comply with the ATCM are: manufacturers, distributors, importers, fabricators, and retailers of composite wood products and finished goods that contain these products.

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>.

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The ATCM establishes two tiers of formaldehyde emission standards; Phase 1, which became effective on January 1, 2009, and more stringent Phase 2 standards which are implemented within the 2010-2012 timeframe.

Implementation of the Composite Wood Products ATCM has been on-going for the past three years. During the course of implementation, ARB staff has identified potential areas for improvement in the ATCM. At this workshop, ARB staff will discuss potential revisions to the ATCM to help improve implementation of the ATCM and address issues that have arisen in the last three years.

Webcast and Handout Information

For those unable to attend in person, this workshop 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.

To receive email notification concerning the availability of the workshop materials to be posted on the webpage above, please join our Composite Wood Products ATCM email list at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=compwood.

Workshop handouts and materials will be available prior to the workshop, on our website for your review at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>. Hard copies of the workshop handouts will also be available on the day of the meeting. You may find additional information regarding the current Composite Wood Products ATCM at the website above which contains links to the current regulatory language, fact sheets, and regulatory advisories.

Special Accommodations and Language Assistance

If you require special accommodations or need this document in an alternative format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Ms. Linda Keifer at (916) 327-1505, or lkeifer@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled event/meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

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We welcome your participation in this effort and encourage you to make a presentation relative to topics on the agenda. If you have any questions about the workshop or are interested in making a presentation, please contact Ms. Angela Csondes, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 445-4448 or (acsondes@arb.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel E. Donohue". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line that extends to the right across the page.

Daniel E. Donohue, Chief
Emission Assessment Branch
Stationary Source Division

Attachment

cc: Peggy Taricco, Manager
Technical Analysis Section

Angela Csondes, Air Pollution Specialist
Technical Analysis Section