



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Air Resources Board

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

December 24, 2008

Gary Heroux
Composite Panel Association
19465 Deerfield Avenue, Suite 306
Leesburg, Virginia 20176

Dear Mr. Heroux:

Thank you for your letter requesting the use of a small chamber with an electrochemical sensor as an alternative small scale test method for conducting quality control testing of formaldehyde emissions by manufacturers of composite wood products. Your letter was referred to me and I am pleased to respond.

The testing information you provided was all collected using a unit sold by Results Technology Inc. (RTI) under the trade name Dynamic Microchamber (DMC). The DMC consists of a small chamber that is 44 liters in volume, connected to an electrochemical sensor and a pre-programmed desktop computer. The DMC User Manual, dated March 2007, is quite detailed, and specifies required operational parameters and essential calibration procedures. We reviewed the DMC User Manual and the information you provided. Your information demonstrated a good correlation between the DMC and the large chamber (ASTM E 1333). On behalf of our Executive Officer, James N. Goldstene, we approve your request.

The DMC is approved for use by any manufacturer, provided that the following condition is met by all persons using the DMC:

Small scale quality control tests of composite wood products performed pursuant to section 93120.12, Appendix 2, subsection (g) must completely follow all operational parameters specified in the "Dynamic Microchamber" User Manual, dated March 2007.

We will list the DMC on our composite wood products website as an approved alternative small scale quality control test method for all composite wood products [California Code of Regulations section 93120.9(d) and section 93120.12, Appendix 2, subsection (g)(1)(C)].

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

Gary Heroux

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If you need further assistance, please contact Mr. Lynn Baker, Substance Evaluation Section, at (916) 324-6997.

Sincerely,



Robert D. Barham, Ph.D.
Assistant Chief
Stationary Source Division

cc: James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer
Air Resources Board

Lynn Baker
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
Substance Evaluation Section
Stationary Source Division