

REQUEST FOR EARLY EFFECTIVE DATE

AIRBORNE TOXIC CONTROL MEASURE TO REDUCE FORMALDEHYDE EMISSIONS FROM COMPOSITE WOOD PRODUCTS

Pursuant to Government Code section 11343.4, the Air Resources Board (ARB) requests that sections 93120 through 93120.12, title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State. Good cause for this request exists.

This Air Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) is designed to reduce formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products in California. Section 93120.2(a) specifies the effective dates of the ATCM for hardwood plywood (HWPW), particleboard (PB), and medium density fiberboard (MDF). Section 93120.2(b) requires that manufacturers of HWPW, PB and MDF certify that the emissions of their products meet the emission standards under section 93120.2(a).

To achieve compliance, manufacturers must employ ARB approved third party certifiers (TPCs) and complete a multi-month certification process by January 1, 2009. However, no ARB approved TPCs currently exist because the ATCM is not yet effective. It is important to begin reducing formaldehyde emissions as soon as possible, thus the ARB requests an early effective date to allow for expeditious approval of candidate TPCs to ensure timely manufacturer compliance.

Date: March 4, 2008

/s/
Michael Terris
Senior Staff Counsel