

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Resolution 88-45

July 15, 1988

Agenda Item No.: 88-10-1

WHEREAS, on January 25, 1985, pursuant to Section 39662 of the Health and Safety Code, the Air Resources Board ("Board") identified benzene as a toxic air contaminant for which there is not sufficient available scientific evidence to support the identification of a threshold exposure level below which no significant adverse health effects are anticipated (see Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Section 93000);

WHEREAS, on July 9, 1987 the Board considered the "Proposed Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Emissions of Benzene from Retail Service Stations" and on October 8 approved a revised measure to reduce benzene emissions;

WHEREAS, on July 9, 1987 the Board directed the staff to assess the benefits and cost of using hold-open latches on gasoline dispensing nozzles as a supplement to vapor recovery systems at gasoline service stations to reduce personal exposure to benzene during vehicle refueling;

WHEREAS, the Board staff has prepared an informational report titled "Hold-Open Latches on Gasoline Dispensing Nozzles and Personal Exposure to Benzene During Refueling" (staff report) which includes: estimates of benzene emissions and personal exposure to benzene during vehicle refueling, and the cancer risk and cancer incidence reductions associated with using hold-open latches during vehicle refueling at retail service stations that have vapor recovery; a discussion of the fire safety issues associated with the use of hold-open latches at gasoline service stations; estimates of current hold-open latch availability and use by the public; and cost estimates of making hold-open latches and instructional signs available at all service stations statewide;

WHEREAS, in consideration of the staff report and the written comments and public testimony it has received, the Board finds that:

The added lifetime cancer risk and cancer incidence from exposure to benzene emissions from retail service stations during the refueling of motor vehicles contributes to the statewide and local incidence of cancer and to the overall cancer risk;

The increased use of hold-open latches at gasoline service stations in conjunction with vapor recovery refueling controls would reduce further personal exposure to benzene, and the resulting cancer risk and cancer incidence, by allowing refuelers to move away from the vehicle fill pipe during refueling;

The hold-open latches do not reduce benzene emissions, yet the latches are an appropriate and inexpensive supplement to Phase II vapor recovery systems;

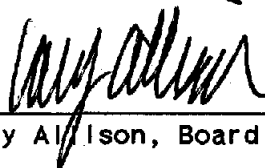
The air pollution control districts and air quality management districts (districts) should require the installation of hold-open latches to further reduce exposure to benzene; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined, pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and Board regulations, that this action will have no significant adverse impact on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby directs the Executive Officer to transmit the staff report to the districts, with the Board's recommendation that the districts require that hold-open latches be made available at gasoline service stations as a supplement to vapor recovery systems and encourage greater use of the latches through public education, while taking into account the recommendations of the local Fire Marshals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Officer shall request that the districts report to him by July, 1989, on their progress towards implementing the Board's recommendations regarding hold-open latches, and that the Executive Officer shall thereafter provide the Board with a brief report on the status of implementation.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 88-45, as adopted by the Air Resources Board.



Cary Allison, Board Secretary