



Air Resources Board



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
El Monte, California 91731 www.arb.ca.gov

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: School Transportation Officials

DATE: July 16, 2008

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUSES IN THE PROPOSED REGULATION FOR IN-USE ON-ROAD HEAVY-DUTY DIESEL-FUELED VEHICLES

The California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) will be considering a regulation that will affect nearly all in-use heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles operating in the state, including all public and private school buses. The proposed regulation for In-Use On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel Fueled Vehicles is scheduled to be heard by the Board on October 23, 2008.

In support of the development of this proposed regulation, staff has scheduled the seventh set of workshops to discuss the proposal throughout the State from July 22 through August 5. Information related to these workshops and the overall regulations can be found at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/onrdiesel.htm>.

As part of our effort to outreach specifically to the school bus community, staff will conduct a special workshop at the time and location indicated below to focus solely on the proposed requirements that affect school buses. As currently proposed, this regulation would require all school buses to be retrofitted with a Verified Diesel Emission Control System that reduces particulate matter (PM) emission by at least 50 percent.

El Monte

Date: Thursday, July 24, 2008
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Air Resources Board
Auditorium, Annex 4
9530 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/maps/elmomaps.htm>

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

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At this workshop, staff plans to present an overview of the proposed changes to the regulatory language, revised as a result of input from prior workshops. Attending this workshop gives you an opportunity to provide your input into the development of this regulation.

Assistance to public school districts may be available for early compliance with this proposed regulation. The Lower-Emission School Bus Program has significant funding which can pay for the retrofit of eligible 1987 and newer model year diesel-fueled school buses with ARB-verified, Level-3 (85 percent PM reduction), diesel-particulate filters. Although significant, program funding is not sufficient to meet the total demand of the regulation and may no longer be available after June 30, 2010. Therefore, we encourage you to apply for this grant funding in order to use State funds to install retrofit devices on your eligible school buses. Please visit the Lower-Emission School Bus Program web page for information on this grant funding:
www.arb.ca.gov/bonds/schoolbus/schoolbus.htm .

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please go to <http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm> for assistance, or contact the ADA Coordinator, at (916) 323-4916. If you are a person who needs assistance in a language other than English, please go to <http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eo/languageaccess.htm> or contact the Bilingual Coordinator, at (916) 323-7053. We welcome your participation.

If you have questions regarding the workshop, the Proposed Regulation For In-Use On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel-Fueled Vehicles as it relates to school buses, or the Lower-Emission School Bus Program, please contact, Mr. Earl Landberg, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 323-1384 or by email at elandber@arb.ca.gov .

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Mr. Earl Landberg
Air Pollution Specialist
Planning and Regulatory Development Section