



# Air Resources Board



**Linda S. Adams**

*Secretary for*

*Environmental Protection*

**Mary D. Nichols, Chairman**

9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4

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**Arnold Schwarzenegger**

*Governor*

April 10, 2008

Mail-out #MSC 08-08

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**SUBJECT:** WORKSHOP TO CONSIDER REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM NEW VEHICLES CAUSED BY THE USE OF MOBILE AIR CONDITIONERS

The Air Resources Board (the Board or ARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop on May 15, 2008, in El Monte, California, to discuss approaches to reduce emissions from mobile air conditioners. The proposed control measure would require manufacturers to equip new vehicles with technologies that will reduce the solar heat gain of vehicles parked in the sun. This is the first workshop in the rulemaking process for this proposed climate change regulation.

The workshop will be held at the date, time, and location listed below:

**DATE:** Thursday, May 15, 2008

**TIME:** 1:00 - 4:00 PM

**PLACE:** California Air Resources Board - Annex 3, Conference Room 100  
9460 Telstar Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731

## Background

Assembly Bill 32, signed into law in 2006, directs ARB to reduce California's greenhouse gas emissions from virtual all sources. Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are emitted when petroleum products are burned. Greater fuel consumption translates directly into greater CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The use of air conditioners in motor vehicles substantially increases vehicular fuel consumption. Therefore, an obvious way to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from motor vehicles is to reduce air conditioner use.

The air conditioner is typically activated when the driver starts a vehicle that has been parked in the sun. The interior of such a vehicle is often quite hot. If the interior of the vehicle were cooler, it is anticipated that many drivers would not activate their vehicle's air conditioner. Several approaches to reducing interior soak temperatures have been

*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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identified, including solar reflective paints and window glazing and passive or active ventilation systems.

ARB staff will host a workshop to discuss the planned regulatory approach in this area. The purpose of this workshop is to inform interested parties about the proposed action, solicit input from affected parties as to the most effective way to craft the proposed regulations, and gather information about the anticipated cost of the proposed regulations. Additional background materials, draft requirements, and a workshop agenda will be available at the workshop and at least 10 days prior to the workshop on ARB's climate change website at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cool-paints/cool-paints.htm> or may be requested from ARB's Emission Research and Regulatory Development Branch at (626) 575-6632.

It is staff's intent to minimize CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the outset by minimizing postal mailings for this regulation. Thus, ARB encourages you to sign up to receive email notification for this and other climate change activities at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/cc.htm>. For this specific item, select the "Cool Cars" list. To continue to receive hard-copy notifications for this item, you must specifically request to do so. Requests can be made at the workshop, or by contacting Dr. Marijke Bekken at [mbekken@arb.ca.gov](mailto:mbekken@arb.ca.gov) or (626) 575-6684.

### **Additional Information**

ARB staff is soliciting comments and questions from interested stakeholders before the workshop takes place. Stakeholders are also encouraged to present comments at the workshop, and in writing or by e-mail at any time. Comments or questions can be directed to Dr. Marijke Bekken at [mbekken@arb.ca.gov](mailto:mbekken@arb.ca.gov) or (626) 575-6684. Please send a copy of any comments to Ms. Sharon Lemieux, Manager, at [sclemieu@arb.ca.gov](mailto:sclemieu@arb.ca.gov). Comments may also be faxed to (626) 459-4480.

For disability-related accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator at (916) 323-4916 or visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm> for assistance. If you need assistance in a language other than English, please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eeo/languageaccess.htm> or contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 324-5049.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief  
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page.

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cc: Mr. Tom Cackette  
Chief Deputy Executive Officer

Ms. Sharon Lemieux, Manager  
Emission Research Section

Dr. Marijke Bekken  
Staff Air Pollution Specialist  
Emission Research Section