



# Air Resources Board



**Matthew Rodriguez**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

**Mary D. Nichols, Chairman**  
1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, California 95812 • [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)

**Edmund G. Brown Jr.**  
Governor

February 21, 2014

Dear Sir or Madam:

The California Air Resources Board (ARB/Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, to continue discussion on proposed amendments to the Airborne Toxic Control Measure to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products (Composite Wood Products ATCM or ATCM). As noted in previous workshop notices, amendments are being proposed to improve the ATCM and to further align the ATCM with proposed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) regulations. ARB staff is pleased to inform you that U.S. EPA representatives have agreed to participate in this workshop. A draft agenda is attached to this workshop notice.

The workshop will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014  
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (PST)  
Location: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building  
Sierra Hearing Room  
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, California 95814

Directions to the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) headquarters and public transit can be found at the Cal/EPA website at:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/>.

## Background

In 2008, the California Air Resources Board adopted the Composite Wood Products ATCM to reduce formaldehyde emissions from composite wood product panels and from finished goods that contain composite wood products (title 17, California Code of Regulations, sections 93120-93120.12). The ATCM establishes formaldehyde emission standards for hardwood plywood-veneer core, hardwood plywood-composite core, particleboard, medium density fiberboard, thin medium density fiberboard, and requirements for furniture and other finished products made with composite wood

*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

Sir or Madam  
February 21, 2014  
Page 2

products. The ATCM applies to panels and finished goods that are sold, supplied, offered for sale, used, or manufactured for sale in California. Businesses required to comply with the ATCM are: manufacturers, distributors, importers, fabricators, and retailers of composite wood products and finished goods that contain these products.

Implementation of the Composite Wood Products ATCM has been underway for the past five years. During the course of implementation, ARB staff identified potential areas for improvement and, in late 2011, a process was initiated to develop amendments to the ATCM. That effort was temporarily suspended pending release of U.S. EPA's proposed regulations for composite wood products. Once U.S. EPA released proposed regulations in 2013, ARB staff restarted the process to amend the ATCM with the overarching goals of aligning the ATCM with the federal regulations to the extent practicable and to improve the ATCM based on experience in implementing the ATCM over the past five years.

At this workshop, ARB staff will continue to discuss proposed amendments to the ATCM and will follow up on key topics presented in the November 20, 2013 public workshop including laminated products, definition of hardboard, Third Party Certification requirements and labeling requirements.

#### Webcast and Handout Information

For those unable to attend in person, this workshop will be webcast. Webcast links are posted at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast>. ARB staff recommends that you do not run other programs while viewing the webcast, as it may interrupt or lower the quality of the signal.

To receive email notification concerning the availability of the workshop materials to be posted on the webpage above, please join our Composite Wood Products ATCM email list at: [http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv\\_ind.php?listname=compwood](http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=compwood). Workshop handouts and materials will be available prior to the workshop, on our website for your review at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>. Hard copies of the workshop handouts will also be available on the day of the meeting. You can find additional information regarding the current Composite Wood Products ATCM at the website above which contains links to the current regulatory language, fact sheets, and regulatory advisories.

Sir or Madam  
February 21, 2014  
Page 3

Special Accommodations and Language Assistance

If you require special accommodations or need this document in an alternative format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Ms. Linda Keifer at (916) 327-1011, or [lkeifer@arb.ca.gov](mailto:lkeifer@arb.ca.gov) as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled event/meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

We welcome and encourage your participation at this workshop. If you have general questions regarding the upcoming workshop or the proposed amendments to the regulation, please contact Ms. Angela Csondes, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 445-4448 or [acsondes@arb.ca.gov](mailto:acsondes@arb.ca.gov), or Mr. Lynn Baker, Staff Air Pollution Specialist at (916) 324-6997 or [lbaker@arb.ca.gov](mailto:lbaker@arb.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel E. Donohue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel E. Donohue, Chief  
Emissions Assessment Branch

Attachment

cc: Angela Csondes  
Air Pollution Specialist  
Technical Analysis Section

Lynn Baker  
Staff Air Pollution Specialist  
Technical Analysis Section

**California Environmental Protection Agency  
Air Resources Board**

**Public Workshop to Discuss  
Proposed Amendments to the Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM)  
to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products**

**Draft Agenda**

**Tuesday, March 18, 2014  
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Pacific Time)**

Sierra Hearing Room  
Cal/EPA Headquarters (Joe Serna Building)  
1001 I Street Sacramento, California

Webcast: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast>

- I. Introductions
- II. Status of U.S. EPA Regulation and ARB's Amendments
- III. Changes to Proposed Amendments Presented on November 20, 2013
- IV. Stakeholder Presentation (tentative, depending on interest)
- V. Questions/Open Discussion
- VI. Next Steps
- VII. Adjourn