

October 1, 2018

TO: All Interested Parties:

**SUBJECT: WORKSHOP ON UPCOMING HYDROFLUOROCARBON EMISSION  
REDUCTION MEASURES**

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss a proposal for reducing high-global warming potential (GWP) hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerant emissions from stationary refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment. At the workshop, CARB staff will present an overview of reduction efforts to date, and next steps on the HFC mitigation strategies identified in the Short Lived Climate Pollutant (SLCP) Strategy. As next steps, CARB is considering:

1. Prohibiting refrigerants with a GWP of 750 or greater in new stationary air-conditioning systems starting January 1, 2023.
2. Limiting the use of refrigerants with high GWP values in stationary refrigeration systems.

**Background**

In order to meet California's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets under Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32) (Núñez and Pavley, Ch. 488, Stats. of 2006) and Senate Bill 32 (SB 32) (Pavley, Ch.249, Stats. of 2016), a special effort has been mounted to address SLCPs, which are powerful climate forcers that remain in the atmosphere for a much shorter period of time than longer-lived climate pollutants, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). SLCPs are more potent when measured in terms of how they heat the atmosphere, which can be tens, hundreds, or even thousands of times greater than an equivalent mass of CO<sub>2</sub>. Reducing SLCPs in the near-term will provide immediate and significant climate benefits while other California policies to reduce longer-lived GHGs, such as CO<sub>2</sub>, are implemented. SLCPs include fluorinated gases (F-gases), such as HFCs.

Recognizing this, the Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB 605) (Lara, Ch. 523, Stats. of 2014), which ultimately required CARB to develop a strategy to further reduce SLCP emissions. In 2016, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) (Lara, Ch. 395, Stats. of 2016) requiring CARB to implement the SLCP Strategy and reduce HFCs by 40 percent below 2013 baseline levels by 2030. In March of 2017, CARB approved the SLCP Strategy describing a suite of proposed measures to reduce SLCP emissions in California. The Strategy describes the level of reductions needed to ensure that California meets its climate change goals for 2030 and 2050.

As part of the SLCP Strategy, CARB relied on the federal Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program prohibitions on high-GWP HFCs. However, in August 2017, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals published a decision limiting U.S. EPA's ability to require replacement of HFCs under the SNAP Program. In light of this, CARB's Board approved a new regulation in 2018, which preserves key SNAP prohibitions in California. Once approved by the Office of Administrative Law, the regulation will become law. Most recently, the California Legislature passed Senate Bill 1013 (SB 1013) (Lara, Ch. 375, Stats. of 2018), known as the "California Cooling Act." SB 1013 provides a comprehensive backstop to ensure California does not backslide on emissions of high-GWP HFCs and also establishes an incentive program to be administered by CARB to promote the adoption of low-GWP refrigerants. Now that California has backstopped the SNAP Program HFC prohibitions, it is necessary to proceed with the other measures in the SLCP Strategy to further reduce HFC emissions and meet the 40 percent HFC reduction goal for California. This workshop is for CARB to present the additional reduction measures for stationary air-conditioning and stationary refrigeration systems under consideration and receive input from stakeholders.

### **Workshop Logistics Information**

In order to gather additional information from all stakeholders, the public workshop will be held at the time and location shown below:

Date: October 24, 2018 (Wednesday)  
Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Location: CalEPA Headquarters Building  
2nd Floor, Sierra Hearing Room  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Directions to the CalEPA headquarters and public transit can be found at: <https://calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>

### **Live Video/Audio Webcast**

For those unable to attend the workshop in person, a live video/audio webcast will be available beginning at 10:00 AM on October 24, 2018 at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>. During the workshop, the webcast audience may submit questions and comments using the following E-mail address: [sierrarm@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:sierrarm@calepa.ca.gov).

### **Workshop Materials**

Stakeholders can stay current on regulatory developments, future meetings, and timelines by signing up for the list-serve and visiting CARB's website at: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/hfc-reduction-measures/rulemaking>.

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The staff presentation and any other related materials will be posted to this website. You can sign up for the list-serve at:  
[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CARB/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=HFC-Reduction](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CARB/subscriber/new?topic_id=HFC-Reduction).

**Special Accommodation Request**

If you have questions or requests regarding a disability-related reasonable accommodation for the workshop or require the workshop documents in an alternate format (e.g. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Hilda Vargas at 916-322-8209 as soon as possible, but no later than five (5) business days before the workshop. TTY/TDD/Speech-to Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

We welcome and encourage your participation at this public workshop. If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Glenn Gallagher at (916) 327-8041 or [glenn.gallagher@arb.ca.gov](mailto:glenn.gallagher@arb.ca.gov), or Pamela Gupta at (916) 327-0604 or [pamela.gupta@arb.ca.gov](mailto:pamela.gupta@arb.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Michael FitzGibbon, Chief  
Atmospheric Science and Climate Strategies Branch  
Research Division

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Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy Section  
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