

Notice of Preparation

To: California Office of Planning and Research, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Substitute Environmental Document

Project Title: Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking

Lead Agency: California Air Resources Board

Date: March 7, 2023

Review Period: March 7, 2023 to April 6, 2023

As the Lead Agency, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will prepare a substitute environmental document (referred to as an "Environmental Analysis" or "EA") as part of the Staff Report prepared for the proposed project identified above. CARB would like to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. If the proposed project has no relevance to you or your organization, no action on your part is necessary.

Information on the project description, location, and potential environmental effects, as currently known, are contained in the attached materials, including the notice for public workshop to be held on March 22, 2023. In addition to soliciting input on the proposed project, this workshop will also serve as a CEQA scoping meeting to solicit input on scope and content of the EA to be prepared for the proposed project. Additional information on this proposed project is available for review on the Program webpage at the following link: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/zero-emission-forklifts>

The NOP is available for review and comment for 30 days, per CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15082(b)). The comment period for this NOP begins March 7, 2023 and ends on April 6, 2023. Due to the limits mandated by State law, responses should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 5:00 PM on April 6, 2023.

Please submit your written comments to CaliforniaEnvironmentalQualityAct@arb.ca.gov or via mail to Rebecca Fancher, Air Resources Board Legal Office/CEQA Unit, P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, CA 95812-2815. In your response, please indicate the public agency or other entity you represent, and the name and phone number of a contact person.

Date: 3/7/2023

Signature: *Rebecca Fancher*

Rebecca Fancher
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
California Air Resources Board
Legal Office/CEQA Unit
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812-2815
CaliforniaEnvironmentalQualityAct@arb.ca.gov

List of Agencies to Review

Distributed to agencies marked with an "X" below:

STATE AGENCIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CalRecycle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of -- Oil, Gas Geothermal Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Wildlife, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Waste Management Board <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Environmental Protection Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of General Services <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Growth Council <input type="checkbox"/> California High Speed Rail Authority <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Conservation – Division of Land Resource Protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OEHHA <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Water Quality Control Board #____ <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency <input type="checkbox"/> SF Bay Conservation & Development Commission <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Water Resources Control Board <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University of California <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> Building Standards Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Health <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Nature Conservancy <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Nevada Nature Conservancy <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Conservancy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>California State Transportations Authority</u>
AIR DISTRICTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amador County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antelope Valley AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bay Area AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Butte County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calaveras County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colusa County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County of El Dorado AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kern APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feather River AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glenn County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Great Basin Unified APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Imperial County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lake County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lassen County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mariposa County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mendocino County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modoc County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mojave Desert AQMD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monterey Bay Unified APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North Coast Unified AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Sierra AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Sonoma County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placer County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Diego County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Valley APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Santa Barbara County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shasta County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Siskiyou County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South Coast AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tehama County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tuolumne County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ventura County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yolo-Solano AQMD
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

A copy of an Initial Study is not attached because CARB complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) through its regulatory program certified by the California Secretary for Natural Resources under Public Resources Code section 21080.5 (14 CCR 15251(d)). Public agencies with certified regulatory programs are exempt from certain CEQA requirements, including but not limited to, preparing environmental impact reports, negative declarations, and initial studies (14 CCR 15250).

The Environmental Analysis (EA) will evaluate the potential for impacts to the environment as a result of the proposed project: Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking. The project and the nature of potential impacts that could result from the project are described below.

- **PROJECT TITLE:**

Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking

- **PROJECT LOCATION:**

The project has statewide applicability.

- **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

CARB is currently developing a regulation that would require forklift fleets to transition spark-ignited forklifts (e.g., propane and gasoline forklifts) to zero-emission technology. The proposed Zero-Emission Forklift (ZEF) Regulation (Proposed Regulation) seeks to advance zero-emission technology in forklifts to reduce emissions and to facilitate further technology development and zero-emission infrastructure expansion. The measure is intended to help California achieve the emission-reduction goals outlined in the 2016 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan, 2022 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan, 2016 Mobile Source Strategy, 2020 Mobile Source Strategy, and Sustainable Freight Action Plan, as well as the zero-emission technology-deployment goals set forth in Governor's Executive Order N-79-20.

Specifically, the Proposed Regulation would target spark-ignited forklifts with a lift capacity of 12,000 pounds or less (hereinafter "affected forklift"). Starting in 2026, the measure would both restrict the sale and purchase of new affected forklifts in California and require existing fleets to phase out affected forklifts over time. CARB is proposing this measure because many forklift applications are well-suited for zero-emission technology, and because transitioning spark-ignited forklifts to zero emission would reduce emissions that contribute to unhealthy regional ozone and particulate matter and to climate change.

- **PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:**

The EA will evaluate the potential for impacts on the environmental resource areas found in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. The proposed project would have beneficial impacts related to greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, including direct combustion emissions from vehicles in the State, and emissions from fuel production activities occurring both in and out of California. Potential adverse impacts would be associated with the reasonably foreseeable compliance responses related to the proposed project, which may include but are not limited to: the introduction of new zero-emission vehicles; new charging, fueling, and electrical infrastructure; battery second life applications; battery recycling or disposal; and water consumption due to hydrogen production.

Notice of Preparation for the Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking

March 7, 2023

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The reasonably foreseeable compliance responses associated with the proposed Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking could potentially adversely or beneficially affect several resource areas, including but not limited to the following, which will be further evaluated in the EA:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural and Forest Resources
- Air Quality and Odors
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology, Seismicity, and Soils
- Greenhouse Gases
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

Potential cumulative impacts and potential for growth inducement will be evaluated in the EA, as well as alternatives, including the No Project Alternative.

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Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking Workshop

California Air Resources Board sent this bulletin at 03/03/2023 02:40 PM PST

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page](#).



March 3, 2023

Zero-Emission Forklift Rulemaking Workshop

California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss a regulatory proposal being developed to accelerate the transition of internal-combustion forklifts to zero-emission technology. The workshop is a follow-up to the January 24, 2023, public workshop and will focus on updated draft regulatory language developed since staff last shared draft language in July 2022.

In addition, staff will provide an overview of CARB's process for preparing the Environmental Analysis (EA) and its content. Staff welcomes public input at the workshop on the appropriate scope and content of the EA, including the reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance with the proposal, the potential significant adverse impacts associated with the methods of compliance, potential feasible mitigation measures, and feasible alternatives to the proposal that could reduce or eliminate any significant adverse impacts. A draft of the EA will be released for public review and comment later in 2023.

CARB is following directives from the Governor's Executive Orders [N-29-20](#) and [N-33-20](#) as well as the California Department of Public Health's recommendations regarding public gatherings. As a result, the public workshop will be a remote meeting only, held via a webinar.

Date: March 22, 2023
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: [Webinar](#)

[Register](#)

Meeting materials will be made available in advance of the workshop on the [Zero-Emission Forklifts: Meetings and Workshops webpage](#).

Background

Mobile sources, including off-road equipment and the fossil fuels that power them, are the largest contributors to emissions of ozone precursors, fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), diesel particulate matter, and greenhouse gases (GHG) in California. The Zero-Emission Forklift measure is part of a suite of mobile-source strategies for reducing such emissions through the use of zero-emission technology. The measure is intended to help California achieve the emission-reduction goals outlined in the [2016 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan](#), [2022 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan](#), [2016 Mobile Source Strategy](#), [2020 Mobile Source Strategy](#), and [Sustainable Freight Action Plan](#), as well as the zero-emission technology-deployment goals set forth in Governor's [Executive Order N-79-20](#).

Forklifts are widely used in freight, materials handling, manufacturing, and construction operations. In the freight industry, zero-emission forklifts have already achieved substantial market acceptance and deployment volumes. However, in other industries, forklifts with internal-combustion engines are still widely used. The intent of this measure is to transition the remaining internal-combustion forklifts to zero-emission technology where feasible. In addition to reducing emissions of both criteria pollutants and GHGs, staff believes the measure could help catalyze greater adoption of zero-emission technology in the off-road sector by increasing market awareness and supporting the overall growth of the zero-emission industry.

The Zero-Emission Forklift workshop is intended to provide a forum for fleet owners, forklift industry representatives, non-governmental organization representatives, and other interested and knowledgeable stakeholders to identify, discuss, and evaluate key programmatic components of a potential zero-emission forklift regulation. This workshop will be the fifth public meeting CARB staff has conducted to discuss programmatic components and the development process. For information and presentations from the previous public meetings, please visit CARB's [Meeting and Workshops](#) webpage for the Zero-Emission Forklift measure.

Contact

We welcome and encourage the public's participation in this process. For questions regarding the workgroup or the proposed Zero-Emission Forklift measure, please contact [Keith Roderick](#), Air Resources Engineer. If you require a special accommodation or need this document in another language or in an alternate format (i.e., Braille, large print), please contact [Marjorie Tamoro](#) as soon as

possible, and no later than 10 business days before the scheduled webinar.
TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Clearing California Skies for Over 50 Years

CARB is the lead agency for California’s fight against climate change, and oversees all air pollution control efforts in the state to attain and maintain health-based air quality standards.

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