

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) will conduct a workshop on renewable natural gas (RNG) and fossil-sourced natural gas (NG) fuel quality specifications and method of sale. The purpose of this workshop will be to discuss the regulations for commercial RNG and NG when used as a transportation fuel.

**Tuesday, September 15, 2015**

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

California Department of Food and Agriculture  
1220 N Street  
First Floor, Auditorium  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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## **Purpose**

The purpose of this workshop is to provide stakeholders an opportunity to comment on a proposed regulation for interim fuel quality standards for natural gas when used as a motor vehicle fuel and amendments to California Code of Regulations Title 4, Division 9, Chapter 1, Article 1, which adopts National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44, 3.37. Mass Flow Meters Code. The broad goal of the regulation is to ensure that RNG and NG, when used as a transportation fuel and sold at retail, will meet minimum quality standards. More specifically, the details of the regulation will create standards that will meet energy efficiency, environmental, and air-quality requirements, meet or exceed minimum manufacturer's specifications for performance, reliability, and safety, while aligning with the State's low carbon and renewable energy goals for the transportation sector. Additionally, the proposed regulation will require accurate and adequate information about RNG and NG sold at retail so that purchasers can make price and quantity comparisons.

## **Background**

The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Núñez/Pavley, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006 [Assembly Bill (AB) 32,]), requires California to reduce statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and continue further reductions beyond 2020.

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) established its Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Program in 2007 pursuant to AB 32 and the Governor's Executive Order S-01-07. The LCFS mandates California transportation fuel providers to reduce the carbon intensity of fuels used in the state. CDFA has been an active member of the LCFS



Advisory Panel that helps guide the ARB in implementation and amendments to the LCFS regulation.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1907 (Ridley-Thomas, Chapter 805, Statutes of 2014) codified the terms “gasoline gallon equivalent” (GGE) and “diesel gallon equivalent” (DGE) for compressed and liquefied natural gas, respectively in Division 5, Chapter 14, of the California Business and Professions Code. The law requires GGE and DGE labeling and price indications on retail natural gas dispensers.

RNG and NG are lower carbon intensity fuels which will assist with California’s long-term transportation strategy to reduce pollution and greenhouse gases (GHG), enable continued economic growth, and promote environmental sustainability. CDFA received funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to research fuel quality standards and test methods for biofuels, e.g., RNG that can be derived from agricultural waste. Introduction of these biofuels into commercial applications will generate significant GHG reductions from the transportation sector, which is responsible for 40 percent of all GHG emissions in California.

The proposed regulation to establish fuel quality standards and enforce a uniform method of sale will support the development and use of RNG and NG, and provide practical and efficient means to ensure consumers can make value comparisons between competing retail service stations.

## **Public Comment**

Oral comments: Staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to 5 minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding.

Written comments: Written comments may be accepted at the workshop; however, staff may or may not have time to review them before the workshop conclusion. Written comments after the workshop must be submitted to the Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards, 6790 Florin Perkins Road, Suite 100, Sacramento, California 95828. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile (FAX) at (916) 229-3026 or by e-mail at [dms@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:dms@cdfa.ca.gov). Comments must be submitted prior to 5:00 p.m., October 15, 2015.

Please note that your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the viewable public record.

## **Remote Attendance**

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**To join a meeting:**

VIA COMPUTER: Go to [www.gotomeeting.com/webinar](http://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar). Click "Join a Webinar" and enter the unique meeting ID number: 138-905-475; along with your email address.

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**Availability of Documents**

Following the meeting, documents, including the staff reports and presentations, will be available online at: <http://cdfa.ca.gov/dms/programs/altfuels/altrenewablefuels.html>.

August 4, 2015



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Kristin Macey  
Director