



Air Resources Board



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Secretary for
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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James E. Enstrom, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center
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Los Angeles, California 90095

Dear Dr. Enstrom:

This letter is in response to the two issues you raised during my Senate Rules Committee confirmation hearing held June 4, 2008, in Sacramento. During the hearing you expressed a concern over the Air Resources Board's (ARB or Board) method of quantifying the health impacts of exposure to air pollution and a second concern that the process of appointing members to the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants (SRP) was not following State law. At the time, I answered that your concerns warranted a response, and this letter provides that response.

Your first concern was that ARB methodology developed to quantify the health impacts of air pollution, specifically fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), relies on national studies rather than California studies. You felt that there are enough California-specific data that they should be used and given preference over nationwide data. You also stated that your recent study needs to be fairly evaluated. I asked ARB staff to review your remarks from my confirmation hearing as well as your comments submitted on April 22, 2008, regarding our Board update on the Goods Movement Emission Reduction Plan.

ARB's approach for assessing the health risk associated with PM_{2.5} exposures is consistent with methodologies used by the U.S. EPA and the World Health Organization, and has undergone extensive peer review by three separate panels comprised of experts in the field of air pollution health effects and exposure. A report describing the details of our approach and the review process were released to the public at the May Board meeting and can be found at this website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/health/pm-mort/pm-mortdraft.pdf>. The report reviewed and discussed in detail all major studies using California-specific data, including your study published in 2005 in *Inhalation Toxicology*. Staff also reviewed the recent studies

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

