



Air Resources Board  
Mary D. Nichols  
Chairman

# State of California

Edmund G. Brown Jr.



Office of Environmental  
Health Hazard Assessment  
George V. Alexeeff, Ph.D., D.A.B.T  
Director

TO: Ms. Jennifer Kalafut  
Interim Advisor on Water and Energy  
Office of Commissioner Carla Peterman  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

Mr. Richard Myers, Supervisor  
Energy Division Natural Gas Section  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

FROM: Mr. Daniel Donohoue, Chief  
Emissions Assessment Branch  
Stationary Source Division  
California Air Resources Board

Dr. Melanie Marty  
Supervising Toxicologist  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Division of Scientific Affairs  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

DATE: May 15, 2013

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING HEALTH PROTECTIVE  
STANDARDS FOR THE INJECTION OF BIOMETHANE INTO THE  
COMMON CARRIER PIPELINE**

Attached is a report providing Air Resources Board (ARB) and Office of Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) staff's recommendations for health protective standards for constituents of concern in biogas that is upgraded to biomethane and injected into the common carrier pipeline. These recommendations were developed in accordance with the provisions of Assembly Bill 1900 (AB 1900).

*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>.*

Jennifer Kalafut, Interim Advisor  
Richard Myers, Supervisor  
May 15, 2013  
Page 2

AB 1900, authored by Assemblyman Mike Gatto and chaptered into law on September 27, 2012 (Chapter 602, Statutes of 2012), requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to develop standards for constituents of concern in biogas to protect human health and pipeline integrity and safety by December 31, 2013. To support the CPUC's standards development efforts, AB 1900 specifies that ARB and OEHHA work together, in consultation with a number of other State agencies, to provide recommendations by May 15, 2013 on the public health aspects of injecting biomethane into the common carrier pipeline. The enclosed recommendations satisfy these requirements, and include a list of constituents of concern, their associated health protective levels, and recommendations for monitoring, testing, reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

During the CPUC regulatory process, ARB and OEHHA staff will be available to address any issues pertaining to incorporating health considerations into the standards to maintain pipeline integrity and safety as required by AB 1900. In addition, as required by AB 1900, ARB and OEHHA staff will update the list of constituents of concern, the health protective levels, and the monitoring, testing, reporting and recordkeeping requirements at least every five years, if the data warrant.

For your information, the report is also posted on our website at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/energy/biogas/biogas.htm> and a notice indicating the report is available has been sent to the AB 1900 list serve. If you have any questions regarding the recommendations, please contact Mr. Daniel Donohoue, Chief, Emissions Assessment Branch, Air Resources Board, at (916) 322-8277, or [ddonohou@arb.ca.gov](mailto:ddonohou@arb.ca.gov), or Dr. David Siegel, Chief, Air, Community and Environmental Research Branch, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, at (916) 322-5624, or [david.siegel@oehha.ca.gov](mailto:david.siegel@oehha.ca.gov).

#### Attachment

cc: Richard W. Corey  
Executive Officer  
Air Resources Board

Dr. George Alexeeff, Director  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Continued next page.

Jennifer Kalafut, Interim Advisor  
Richard Myers, Supervisor  
May 15, 2013  
Page 3

cc: (continued)

Cynthia Marvin, Chief  
Stationary Source Division  
Air Resources Board

Edie Chang  
Assistant Division Chief  
Stationary Source Division  
Air Resources Board

Dr. David Siegel, Chief  
Air Community and Environmental Research Branch  
Scientific Affairs Division  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment