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NEW LAW ENCOURAGES CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ACTION REGISTRY TO HELP VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS EARLY

On July 22, 2002, California Governor Gray Davis signed AB 1493 (Pavley), the first law in the country to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from cars and light trucks. GHG emissions are associated with global warming, and vehicles are one of the major sources. The law will regulate emissions beginning in 2009, and also encourages earlier reductions through the California Climate Action Registry (the Registry), a unique nonprofit supported by businesses, environmentalists and the State of California. Early vehicle reductions housed with the Registry will be credited by California Air Resources Board when regulations come into effect.

The Registry will be opening its doors in the fall of 2002, and will accept voluntary registration of GHG emissions from a broad spectrum of organizations, including utilities, industry, businesses, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions and others. Today the Governor added vehicles as another source of emissions for which registration will be encouraged and has provided a place for automakers to take advantage of incentives for early action. The Registry is charged with ensuring that the information reported to the Registry is credible and will stand the test of time.

Diane Wittenberg, President of the Registry encourages interested organizations to contact the Registry: The first step towards reducing GHG emissions from vehicles is to measure them. The Registry will convene stakeholders to agree upon how to measure various GHG emissions from vehicles, and will establish the effectiveness of strategies such as lower rolling resistant tires, more effective coolants, the effect of using lighter materials for better aerodynamics and measures vehicle manufacturers can take to reduce GHG emissions.

About the Registry

The California Climate Action Registry was established by California statute as a nonprofit voluntary registry for GHG emissions. The purpose of the Registry is to help companies and organizations voluntarily reduce GHG emissions and establish emission baselines against which any future emission reduction requirements by be applied.

For more information on the Registry, visit our website at www.climateregistry.org.