Cap and Trade Program Forum -- the RECLAIM Example

April 25, 2007 -- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. South Coast Air Quality Management District Headquarters Auditorium 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765

California's landmark global warming legislation, AB 32, requires that the state's greenhouse gas emissions be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020. Emissions trading is being considered for achieving the requirements of AB 32.

The AQMD is hosting this one-day forum and roundtable at which a panel of experts will discuss the AQMD's experience with its own cap and trade program, the Regional Clean Air Incentives Market (RECLAIM) which has been operating since 1994. The RECLAIM program sets facility-wide limits on NOx and SOx emissions for over 300 facilities, and allows businesses to decide what equipment, processes and materials they will use to meet those limits. The limits decline by a specific amount each year, and businesses that reduce their emissions below their cap are allowed to sell the credits to other businesses.

The sessions will consist of presentations by a panel of experts on the RECLAIM program. Representatives of industry and environmental groups will also present their perspectives. Emphasis will be placed on what has or has not worked well in RECLAIM, what problems have occurred, and the lessons learned that can be applied to AB 32. Following each session, there will be a roundtable discussion among the panelists. There will also be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and make suggestions.

The AQMD encourages anyone interested in this topic to attend this forum free of charge. This forum will also be webcast live, and copies of the agenda, presentations, and the webcast will be posted on the AQMD's Technology Forum/Roundtable website at http://www.aqmd.gov/tao/ConferencesWorkshops/techforum.htm. If you have any questions about this forum, contact Jill Whynot (909) 396-3104.