Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

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Chairman
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Gray Davis
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Linda Moulton-Patterson, Chair
Integrated Waste Management Board

Members of the Board

FROM: MHS for Michael P. Kenny
Executive Officer

DATE: February 20, 2001

SUBJECT: MATERIAL EMISSIONS TESTING IN PORTABLE CLASSROOMS AND STATE CONSTRUCTION

I am writing to express the Air Resources Board's (ARB) support of the studies of emissions from building materials associated with Items 17 and 19 of your Board's February 20 – 22, 2001 Meeting Agenda. The two proposed Contract Concepts are "Material Emissions Testing in Portable Classrooms" ($60,000) and "Materials Testing for State Construction" ($50,000). In the proposed studies, investigators with the Department of Health Services and the California Public Health Institute will measure gaseous chemical emissions from recycled content building products that are recommended for use in the manufacture of portable classrooms and State buildings. This information is needed to assure that those materials do not pose a risk to occupants' health if used for those purposes.

The information gained from the study will be very timely relative to statewide efforts to improve the design and construction of portable classrooms and state buildings. As you are aware, your staff and mine have been working together with the Collaborative for High Performance Schools to develop guidelines for the design and construction of schools that are energy and resource efficient, and that provide a healthful and comfortable learning environment. Additionally, they are participating on the State Green Building Task Force to implement Executive Order D-16-00 for sustainable state buildings. The building materials emissions studies proposed by your staff would help assure that our mutual goals of resource efficiency and healthful indoor and outdoor air quality will be met.

If you have any questions please contact me at (916) 445-4383, or Bart Croes, P.E., Chief of our Research Division at (916) 323-4519.

cc: Bart Croes, Chief
Research Division