



WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE

Public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions

The goal of the Collaborative is to leverage significant federal funds to reduce emissions from the most polluting diesel sources in the most affected communities. The Collaborative seeks to significantly improve air quality and public health by targeting the highest polluting engines with the most cost effective control strategies.

Hospital Clean Diesel Zones Project

The West Coast Collaborative is pleased to announce that EPA has selected the Hospital Clean Diesel Zones Project for \$250,000 in EPA funding. The project will be implemented with \$30,719 in leveraged funds from Oregon Health and Science University and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

What is the Hospital Clean Diesel Zones Project?

Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), Providence Health Systems, Legacy Health Systems, Kaiser Permanente, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and other partners will work together to establish "Hospital Clean Diesel Zones" by addressing the emissions that come from equipment under their direct control and the equipment that provides services and goods for their facilities.

Why is this project important?

Activities at hospital facilities include the use of diesel-powered equipment that can negatively affect the health of patients, visitors and employees at and near hospitals. This project addresses the impacts of diesel emissions from hospital operations, vendors and construction activity. In particular, this project will reduce particulate matter — microscopic particles that can penetrate deep into the lungs and cause significant health problems.

What are the estimated environmental benefits?

Approximately 51 vehicles or pieces of equipment will be equipped with emissions-reducing technology through this project. This project is expected to reduce annual emissions of particulate matter from participating vehicles or pieces of equipment by approximately 70 percent.

How is this project funded?

Through EPA, the Collaborative is providing \$250,000 in support of this project. In addition, \$30,719 will be provided in leveraged support from the Oregon Health and Science University and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Who are the partners on this project?

Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU): OHSU is a health and research university that includes the state's only academic health center. The university serves as an educational resource for environmental scientists and students.

Providence Health System (PHS): PHS in Oregon is a not-for-profit network of hospitals, health plans, physicians, clinics, home health services and affiliated health services.

Legacy Health Systems: Legacy Health facilities include two tertiary hospitals, three community hospitals, the largest children's hospital in Oregon, hospice care, a full-service research facility, and primary care clinics and specialty clinics.

Kaiser Permanente: Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente is the nation's largest nonprofit health plan, serving 8.2 million members, with headquarters in Oakland, California.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ): ODEQ is a state agency that is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes.

What is the Collaborative?

The West Coast Collaborative is an ambitious partnership between leaders from federal, state, and local government, the private sector, and environmental groups committed to reducing diesel emissions along the West Coast. Partners come from all over Western North America, including California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Hawaii, Canada and Mexico. The Collaborative is part of the National Clean Diesel Campaign (www.epa.gov/cleandiesel).

How can I find out more?

For more information, please contact Peter Murchie (murchie.peter@epa.gov, 503-326-6554) or visit our website at www.westcoastcollaborative.org.