



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

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Retrofitting School Buses in San Joaquin Valley

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) selected and awarded the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) \$4,000,000 to retrofit school buses operating in San Joaquin Valley.

### What is the purpose of this project?

The EPA has selected the SJVUAPCD for \$4,000,000 in funding to install diesel particulate filters (DPF) on 190 2001 model year and newer diesel school buses. The project is expected to reduce particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide emissions, thereby protecting the health of children who ride these buses daily.

### Why is this project important for air quality?

The SJV does not currently meet Federal health-based ambient air quality standards for Ozone and PM2.5 and has been classified as Extreme Non-attainment for the 1-hour Ozone and the 8-hour Ozone standards. Almost half of the residents in the San Joaquin Valley are minority with some of the lowest salary levels in California, making large portions of the Valley environmental justice areas. Fresno County in San Joaquin Valley has 50 percent higher rate of asthma than the state average. Within the SJVUAPCD boundaries there are

an estimated 215 school districts that are responsible for transporting approximately 83,300 children ages 5-18 to and from school each day. Older diesel school buses can produce up to 100 times more particulate matter than cleaner alternatives currently available. Therefore, this project has significant associated health benefits.

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### How does this project relate to the Recovery Act Funding Priorities?

- **Job Preservation/Creation and Economic Benefit** : The retrofit program will create and maintain jobs for teachers, educational staff, local filter manufacturers, distributors, and installers, and mechanics.
- **Increase Economic Efficiency**: This project represents investment in a greener economy. It supports companies that are promoting new and innovative technologies to clean up old diesel engines, while helping owners reduce emissions.

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### How do I find out more about ARRA?

For more information regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, please visit the Recovery Homepage (<http://www.recovery.gov>).

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### What Is the West Coast Collaborative and How Do I Find Out More?

The West Coast Collaborative is a partnership between leaders from federal, state, and local government, the private sector, and environmental groups committed to reducing diesel emissions along the West Coast. The West Coast Collaborative is part of the National Clean Diesel Campaign: [www.epa.gov/cleandiesel](http://www.epa.gov/cleandiesel)

For more information about the West Coast Collaborative, please visit: [www.westcoastcollaborative.org](http://www.westcoastcollaborative.org)