DERA 2011: Port of Long Beach Equipment and Vessel Emission Reduction Project

The City of Long Beach Harbor Department (Port of Long Beach) received $2,373,248 under EPA’s 2011 National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program to retrofit 35 pieces of equipment, replace one truck, and repower two harbor vessels. The Port of Long Beach provided an additional $548,000 in cost share funds for the project.

What is the project?
The project funds retrofits for 35 top handlers with CARB-verified Level 3 diesel particulate filters, the replacement of one yard truck, and the repower of one workboat and one crewboat with a total of 7 new engines meeting the latest standards.

Why is this project important?
The Port of Long Beach is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SoCAB). The basin has some of the worst air quality in the nation, which represents a serious health concern for its residents. Studies have shown that ten of thousands of people living in communities around ports face an increased risk of cancer, asthma, birth defects, and decreased lung function. The communities surrounding the ports are the closest to the docks and to the pollution emitted by harbor craft and cargo-handling equipment that supports goods movement. By reducing emissions from these vessels and pieces of cargo-handling equipment, this project improves air quality and provides immediate benefits to these communities.

What are the estimated environmental benefits?
By retrofitting, replacing, and repowering a total of 38 pieces of equipment/vessels, the project will achieve emissions reductions ahead of regulatory compliance dates and will reduce 203 tons of nitrogen oxides (NOx), 54 tons of carbon monoxide (CO), 4 tons of hydrocarbons (HC), and 7 tons of particulate matter (PM) emissions over the life of the project. The emissions will be tracked annually through the Port of Long Beach Emissions Inventory, which collects annual activity data from terminal operators.

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.

How can I find out more about the Collaborative?
For more information, on the West Coast Collaborative, please visit our website at www.westcoastcollaborative.org.