



WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE
A public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: ARRA School Bus and Refuse Hauler Project

The West Coast Collaborative (WCC) is pleased to announce the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ's) completion of its project to retrofit and replace heavy-duty diesel school buses and refuse haulers. This project was implemented using \$1,730,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) grant funding combined with \$2,172,463 in leveraged funds from participating school districts.

What is the Project?

Idaho's ARRA diesel project focused on improving the air quality throughout the state. The project's primary goals were to reduce diesel emissions in areas of high population with poor air quality, and decrease children's exposure to harmful pollutants. The project retrofitted 80 privately owned medium-duty and heavy-duty diesel refuse haulers with Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DOC) and Closed Crankcase Ventilation (CCV) emission control devices, retrofitted 357 school buses with anti-idling devices (fuel operated heaters), and replaced 34 school buses with new vehicles meeting 2007 (or newer) engine emissions standards.

Why is this project important?

Each school day in Idaho, 2,378 buses transport more than 111,000 students. Diesel school buses routinely expose children to soot (particulate matter) and other harmful pollutants. Exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with decreased lung function and retarded lung development and can also exacerbate the symptoms of asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia. This is especially important in Idaho where asthma affects one in ten children and is the number one cause of school absenteeism. This project will reduce children's exposure to diesel emissions as well as the negative health affects associated with exposure.

What are the Environmental Benefits?

Over the lifetime of the project, the emissions of the 471 affected engines will be reduced by 15.6 particulate matter (PM) tons, 267.2 oxides of nitrogen (NOx) tons, 29.7 hydrocarbon (HC) tons, 97.1 carbon monoxide tons, and 6,221.5 carbon dioxide (CO₂) tons. In addition, this project will result in a lifetime diesel fuel savings of 560,499 gallons.

How was this project funded?

The WCC provided \$1,730,000 in ARRA grant funds to support this project. In addition, the participating school district partners provided leveraged funds totaling \$2,172,463.

Who are the Partners on this project?

The project was led by IDEQ, a state agency tasked with ensuring clean air, water, and land in the State of Idaho and protecting state citizens from the adverse health impacts of pollution, in partnership with school bus and refuse hauler fleets throughout the state. IDEQ received the ARRA grant award through the WCC, and distributed the grant funds to the participating fleets. IDEQ was also responsible for data monitoring and reporting for the project.

What is the Collaborative?

The WCC 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, the Pacific Islands, Canada, and Mexico. The WCC is part of the U.S. EPA National Clean Diesel Campaign (NCDC).

www.epa.gov/cleandiesel

How can I find out more information?

For more information on this project, please contact John Mikulin at U.S. EPA (mikulin.john@epa.gov / 415-972-3956). For more information on the WCC, please visit our website. www.westcoastcollaborative.org