



WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE

A public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions

The goal of the West Coast 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.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Clean School Bus USA Tribal Retrofit 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 heavy-duty diesel school buses. This project was implemented using \$223,410 in U.S. EPA Clean School Bus USA grant funding combined with \$11,749 in state funds.

What is the Project?

95 heavy-duty diesel school bus engines were retrofitted with Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DOC) and/or Closed Crankcase Ventilation (CCV) verified retrofit technologies. School buses were chosen from the school districts serving Native American populations in the Panhandle Region of Idaho.

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 effects associated with exposure.

What are the Environmental Benefits?

Over the lifetime of the project, the emissions of the 95 affected engines will be reduced by 2.3 particulate matter (PM) tons, 7.3 hydrocarbon (HC) tons, and 37.1 carbon monoxide (CO) tons.

How was this project funded?

The WCC provided \$223,410 in U.S. EPA Clean School Bus USA grant funds to support this project. In addition, IDEQ contributed \$11,749 in state funds.

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 participating school bus fleets. IDEQ received the Clean School Bus USA grant award through the WCC, and distributed the grant funds to the participating school districts serving the Kootenai, Nez Perce, and Coeur d'Alene tribes in the Idaho Panhandle. 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