



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.

DERA 2014: School Bus Replacement Rebates

The West Coast Collaborative (WCC) is pleased to announce the selection of 9 West Coast school bus fleets under the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) School Bus Rebate Program. These rebates will provide a total of \$755,000 in funding assistance to help replace pre-2007 model year diesel school buses in the states of California, Nevada, Oregon & Washington.

What are these projects?

US EPA will provide rebate incentives to selected applicants to replace 33 school buses powered by model year 2006, or older diesel engines with buses powered by a certified 2014, or newer model year engine, or that operate solely on electricity. Eligible replacement school buses may operate on ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD), battery-electric, hybrid-electric, or alternative fuel drive trains.

Why are these projects important?

The primary objective of these projects is to improve the environmental health of children by partnering with local school districts to replace legacy heavy-duty diesel school buses with newer, lower emitting buses. Exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with decreased lung function, retarded lung development, lost school & work days, increased hospital visits and can exacerbate the symptoms of asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia. These projects will reduce children's exposure to diesel emissions as well as the negative health effects associated with exposure. Expected unquantifiable benefits of these projects include increased awareness of the need to improve air quality, particularly among parents, school officials and others concerned with child health and welfare.

What are the Environmental Benefits?

Over the remaining lifetime of the 33 affected engines, these upgrades are estimated to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides

(NOx) by 47.6 tons, fine particulate matter (PM2.5) by 2.3 tons, hydrocarbons (HC) by 3.2 tons, and carbon monoxide (CO) by 13.8 tons. On an annual basis, the associated PM2.5 emissions reductions will generate over \$2 in monetary health benefits in the affected counties for every \$1 of DERA funding. Additionally, the reduction of PM2.5 emissions will also reduce black carbon (BC), which influences climate by directly absorbing light, reducing the reflectivity ("albedo") of snow and ice through deposition, and interacting with clouds.

Who are the Partners on this project?

These projects will be led by the 9 selected school bus fleets in US EPA Regions 9 & 10: Clovis Unified School District (CA), Culver City Unified School District (CA), Enterprise Elementary School District (CA), Puyallup School District #3 (WA), Reynolds School District #7 (OR), Southern Humboldt Unified School District (CA), Springfield School District #19 (OR), Town Ride Inc./Arcadia Unified School District (CA) and Washoe County School District (NV). These fleets will receive direct reimbursement from US EPA of \$20,000-25,000 per replaced bus by: 1) submitting a purchase order within 90 days of the selection letter; 2) taking delivery of the new vehicle within 9 months of the date of the selection letter; 3) scrapping the old buses according the program requirements; and 4) submitting a payment request form, proof of scrappage, invoice for the new bus, and the bill of lading within 9 months of the date of the selection letter.

What is the Collaborative?

The WCC is an ambitious partnership between leaders from federal, state, local, and tribal 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: Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, the Pacific Islands, Canada and Mexico. The WCC is part of the US EPA National Clean Diesel Campaign (www.epa.gov/cleandiesel).

How can I find out more information?

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