2017 IDEQ – State Clean Diesel Program

Under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) 2017 State Clean Diesel Grant Program, the U.S.EPA West Coast Collaborative awarded the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) $340,614 to replace 2 vehicles and install 50 retrofit devices that will reduce diesel school bus emissions.

What is the Project?
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) will retrofit 10 school buses, 8 construction vehicles, 8 city/county vehicles, 3 private business owner vehicles and 11 private agricultural vehicles with retrofit devices that reduce diesel emissions and save fuel. IDEQ will also replace 2 buses. The school buses will operate in priority areas and airsheds with non-attainment or exceedances of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Why is this project important?
School bus fleets operate largely in residential areas where children live and school facilities are located. This project will reduce the risk from toxic pollutants by reducing the exposure of school-age children to diesel emissions from school buses. The project will focus on buses in the Silver Valley of Idaho, where the town of Pinehurst has been designated as non-attainment for PM2.5. The project will also achieve significant reduction in diesel emissions when they install they install 50 emission control devices on various vehicles.

What are the estimated environmental/economic benefits?
This project will reduce 5.19 tons of PM, 5.17 tons of NOx, 5.96 tons of HC, 27.28 tons of CO, and 132.11 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) over the life-time of the buses and other vehicles. The use of fuel operated heaters in School Buses is expected to reduce emissions from operation, idling, and start-up as well. Additional benefits include 744 gallons of diesel fuel saved annually.

How is this project funded?
This project is funded by EPA and the State Clean Diesel Program.

Who are the partners in this project?
IDEQ will continue to partner with interested school districts that are interested in participating in the Diesel Emission Reduction Program (DERP).

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 (www.epa.gov/cleandiesel).

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.

For more information about this project please contact Debbie Kline at kline.debbie@epa.gov or 206-553-1236.