DERA 2018: Tugboat Engine Replacements and Non-Road Equipment Replacement at the Port of Los Angeles

The West Coast Collaborative (WCC) is pleased to announce the City of Los Angeles, Harbor Department (LAHD) receipt of a United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant to replace a diesel sweeper operating at the Port of Los Angeles, and four diesel engines on two tugboats operating in San Pedro Bay. This project will be implemented using $279,750 in DERA grant funding combined with $544,250 in matching funds from LAHD and their project partners.

What is the Project?
This project will replace one model year 2009 diesel sweeper with two engines, operating at the Port of Los Angeles, with a new Tier 4 diesel sweeper. The project will also replace four total Tier 2 diesel auxiliary engines, on two tugboats operating in San Pedro Bay, with new Tier 4 diesel engines.

Why is this project important?
Exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with decreased lung function and can also exacerbate the symptoms of asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia. This project will reduce human exposure to diesel emissions as well as the negative health effects associated with exposure. The equipment to be replaced under this project operates full-time within the South Coast air basin, which faces significant air quality challenges and remain in non-attainment for ozone and particulate matter. The South Coast is also designated by US EPA as an air toxics assessment area where much of the population is exposed to more than 2.0 μg/m³ of diesel particulate matter emissions. People living in the census tracts surrounding the Port of Los Angeles face an increased risk of cancer, asthma, birth defects, and decreased lung function.

What are the Environmental Benefits?
Over the remaining lifetime of the affected engines, these replacements are estimated to reduce emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) by 11 tons, particulate matter (PM) by 1.2 tons, hydrocarbons (HC) by 1.1 tons, and carbon monoxide (CO) by 1 ton. 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?
The project will be administered by the LAHD, a city agency with jurisdiction over transportation and environmental issues for the Port of Los Angeles. LAHD received the DERA grant award through the WCC, and will distribute the grant funds to project partners Crowley Marine Services, Inc. and Yusen Terminals Incorporated. LAHD will be responsible for data monitoring and reporting for the project, and for working with partners to scrap the replaced engines and equipment.

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 this project, please contact Francisco Dóñez at US EPA (donez.francisco@epa.gov or 213-244-1834). For more information on the WCC, please visit our website. www.westcoastcollaborative.org