



NEWS

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State Awards \$3.4 Million in Air Quality Projects at Port of Oakland -- Air District Receives Early Action Funding from Prop. 1B

Oakland, Calif.-- The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the award of \$3.4 million to a program that will greatly reduce ship and truck emissions at the Port of Oakland. The California Air Resources Board announced late last Thursday that it has approved the Air District's early funding proposal for the California Goods Movement Bond, which was approved by voters in November 2006.

"The Air District has worked to target funding for communities with the most significant exposures," said Jack P. Broadbent, Executive Officer of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. "These projects will improve public health by reducing criteria and toxic air pollutants."

This money will fund two projects to reduce pollution in the West Oakland Community. One project will help fund the infrastructure for "cold ironing" at the two Oakland berths run by APL Shipping. "Cold ironing" is the practice of plugging into clean electrical power at the shore, so ships can turn off their diesel engines. It virtually eliminates harmful emissions from ships while they are docked.

The second project is a partnership between the Air District and the Port of Oakland to retrofit 75 port trucks with diesel particulate filters that reduce emissions of this pollutant by up to 85 percent. The Port of Oakland is providing \$400,000 in matching funds for this project.

"Reducing pollution is vital to the health of our neighbors and our region, and we are committed to doing our part to reduce truck pollution," said Port of Oakland Executive Director Omar Benjamin. "We continue to work closely with a broad coalition of business, community, governmental, and regulatory agencies to better address the public health issue of air quality."

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the public agency that is authorized to regulate stationary sources of air pollution in the nine Bay Area counties. For more information, visit www.baaqmd.gov.

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