



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 18, 2009

CONTACT: Ana Sandoval
415.749.4900 (office)
415.794.9804 (cell)

\$4.8 million clean air grant to reduce emissions at the Port of Oakland

First "cold ironing" shoreside electrification project begins

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District and global shipping company APL today announced a landmark \$11 million project to cut vessel emissions and improve West Oakland's air quality.

Armed with \$4.8 million in air quality grants, the world's fifth-largest container carrier said it will retrofit its terminal and vessels to begin "cold-ironing" next year at the Port of Oakland. "Cold-ironing" is an industry term for turning off a ship's 2,000 horse power diesel generators at berth and connecting instead to electrical sources ashore. This enables vessels to maintain power in port while eliminating exhaust emissions.

"Diesel emissions from port operations have a serious health impact in the West Oakland community," said Jack Broadbent, Executive Officer of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. "APL is getting a head start to reduce emissions well before the state deadline."

Cold-ironing will cut more than 50,000 pounds of nitrogen oxide emissions – a leading component of smog -- from ships berthed in Oakland and 1,500 pounds of particulate matter annually. APL will be the first and only carrier or terminal operator at the port to cold-iron vessels.

"Our job is to move the world's trade," said APL Americas Region President John Bowe in making the announcement. "Thanks to our partnership with the Air Quality District, we're proving that we can do it in a way that's sensitive to our neighbors in the community."

Starting this month, APL will begin outfitting five vessels that call regularly in Oakland for cold-ironing. Late next summer, APL will launch a four-month construction project to electrify berths at its Global Gateway Central marine terminal in Oakland. When that work is completed, cold-ironing will begin.

Cold-ironing is considered one of the most effective ways to curb emissions from vessels at port and improve coastal air quality. Regulations mandating cold-ironing in California take effect in 2014. But APL is beginning three years sooner.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency chartered with protecting air quality in the Bay Area. For more information, visit www.baaqmd.gov.

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