



NEWS

For Immediate Release
July 6, 2009

Contact: Aaron Richardson
415.749.4900

Air District offers \$9 million for grant projects that reduce air pollution!

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has over nine million dollars available for local grant projects that reduce harmful diesel pollution.

Diesel exhaust is a significant health concern throughout the Bay Area and has been listed as a toxic air contaminant by the state of California.

“During challenging economic times, grant funds provide an excellent opportunity for businesses and agencies to buy newer and more reliable equipment,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “This funding can help owners to comply early with State and federal regulations, and most importantly, to clean up the air in our most impacted neighborhoods.”

On April 15, 2009, \$20 million in grant funds became available through the Air District's Carl Moyer Air Quality Attainment Program, which reduces toxic and smog-forming emissions from aging heavy-duty diesel engines, such as those used in trucks, locomotives, marine vessels and agricultural and off-road equipment. In July, the Air District will add a new Voucher Incentive Program component to the Carl Moyer Program, making an additional \$2.4 million available for on-road fleets of three or fewer vehicles to replace their old trucks with newer, cleaner vehicles.

This funding is being awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, and to date over \$13 million dollars has been allocated to eligible projects, such as:

- Crew and Supply Vessel Operator - \$274,156 to repower two main engines in a Crew and Supply vessel. (Emission reductions estimated at 2 tons per year of ozone precursors and particulate matter.)
- Fremont Paving, Inc. - \$264,398 to repower and retrofit two twin-engine scrapers and one grader. (Emission reductions are estimated at 6 tons per year.)
- Gallo Family Vineyards - \$183,060 to repower six stationary irrigation pump engines. (Emission reductions estimated at 4 tons per year.)

This leaves approximately \$9 million dollars for emission reduction projects. Owners and operators of trucks, ships, locomotives and agricultural and off-road equipment can apply for funding to:

- Retrofit existing diesel engines with emission control devices
- Replace old diesel engines with cleaner engines in existing vehicles or equipment
- Purchase new vehicles or equipment with emissions that meet or exceed state and federal standards

- more -

Air District offers \$9 million for grant projects that reduce air pollution...Page 2

The Air District is accepting applications for projects throughout its nine-county San Francisco Bay Area jurisdiction, but will prioritize projects that reduce emissions in communities that are significantly impacted by diesel emissions. Highest priority will be given to the following six highly impacted communities: Concord, Eastern San Francisco, Redwood City/East Palo Alto, Richmond/San Pablo, San Jose, and Western Alameda County.

For more information please visit www.baaqmd.gov/moyer or call the grants hotline at (415) 749-4994. **Application forms are available on the Air District's website at www.baaqmd.gov/moyer.**

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

#