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Air District offering \$8 million to reduce pollution from diesel trucks

SAN FRANCISCO – In order to quickly reduce air pollution and the health risk from freight movement along busy traffic corridors, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, in cooperation with the California Air Resources Board, is seeking applications to retrofit, repower and replace older, heavyduty diesel trucks engaged in moving goods.

Goods movement is the transportation of for-sale products from the location of their manufacture or harvest to their final retail destination. This program is intended to accelerate the turnover of older, high-polluting, diesel vehicles used to transport goods and provide an incentive to replace these with newer, lower-emitting alternatives.

The \$8 million funding is available for truck retrofits, truck replacement, engine repower and electrification infrastructure for truck stops or distribution centers. Grant amounts range from \$5,000 to \$60,000, depending on the project. The District will be accepting applications now through April 30, 2011.

Project applications and requirements are available on the Air District's website at www.baaqmd.gov/goods. For assistance completing the online application, contact the program office at 415-749-4994 or via e-mail at grants@baaqmd.gov.

Application help sessions will be held at the Hayward Executive Airport, 22439 Skywest Drive, Suite B, Hayward, on the following dates:

Thursday, March 3, 2011 noon – 4 p.m. Friday, March 4, 2011 8 a.m. –1 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, 2011 noon – 4 p.m. Thursday, March 10, 2011 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the California Air Resources Board are also cohosting a comprehensive, day-long "one-stop" truck workshop to be held at the San Mateo County Events Center, 1346 Saratoga Drive, San Mateo. Diesel truck owners are invited to attend to learn about California's diesel truck regulations and grant funding opportunities.

Saturday, March 19, 2011 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.