



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 2, 2012 CONTACT: Ralph Borrmann 415.749.4900

Last chance for drayage truck funding

Air District provides application assistance to diesel truck owners

SAN FRANCISCO –The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is offering application assistance to port truck owners who are eligible to apply for funding to replace older heavy-duty diesel trucks through the California Air Resources Board's Proposition 1B Goods Movement Bond Program.

"This program is crucial to reducing health risks from exposure to diesel particulates in West Oakland and the Bay Area," said Damian Breen, director of Strategic Incentives for the Air District. "We are happy to provide assistance to truckers so that they can get applications in to get money which will help them comply with new regulations earlier than the state deadline."

A 2008 health risk assessment performed by the California Air Resources Board and the Air District identified West Oakland as having a cancer health risk of three times the Bay Area average. This is principally due to diesel trucks operating at the Port of Oakland and along Bay Area highways.

To clean up these trucks, CARB announced the availability of up to \$46 million in funding to replace 1,700 trucks operating at the Port of Oakland and Northern California railyards in December 2011. Eligible truck owners should have received a letter from CARB with an invitation to apply for funding to replace their 1994-2003 engine drayage truck.

Funding is available only to owners of drayage trucks appearing on the CARB Priority Drayage Truck Eligibility List available at:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/bonds/gmbond/docs/prop_1b_goods_movement_2011_priority_drayage_truck_e ligibility_list.pdf.

Applications for this program are being received by CARB in Sacramento and the Air District is not accepting applications on their behalf. Applications must be submitted to CARB by February 9, 2012.

Air District staff and invited lenders will hold two information and application assistance events at the OT411 Trucker Information Center located at 11 Burma Road, at the Port of Oakland on Thursday, February 2, and Monday, February 6, from 1 to 5 p.m.

For additional questions regarding the program, applicants can call 916-44-GOODS or email <u>gmbond@arb.ca.gov</u>.

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