



NEWS

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Air District offering \$9.9 million to reduce pollution from diesel trucks

SAN FRANCISCO - In order to reduce air pollution 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 repower or replace older, non-port, diesel-powered trucks engaged in goods movement in California.

"Funding projects that reduce diesel pollution has proven to be an extremely effective way of reducing health risks in communities near freeways and other busy transportation corridors," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Diesel exhaust is a major health concern, and our goods movement grant program provides an important tool for protecting public health in many of our most highly impacted neighborhoods."

Goods movement is the transportation of products for commercial purposes from the location of their manufacture or harvest to their final retail destination. Traffic involved in goods movement is a major source of diesel exhaust, which accounts for over 70 percent of the cancer risk from toxic air pollution in the Bay Area. This funding program is intended to accelerate the turnover of older, high-polluting diesel vehicles used to transport goods by providing an incentive to replace these with newer, lower-emitting equipment or to repower engines to emit less pollution. Trucks primarily engaged in goods movement around maritime and rail ports in California are not eligible for this program.

The \$9.9 million in funding is available to repower engines in existing trucks, to replace older trucks with ones equipped with 2010 or newer engines, or to install electrification infrastructure for truck stops or distribution centers. Grant amounts range from \$10,000 to \$50,000, depending on the project.

The District will hold two solicitation periods online through the program's website:

Main solicitation – August 26, 2013 through October 10, 2013

Back-up solicitation – October 11, 2013 through November 8, 2013

Applications submitted during the main solicitation will be given priority for funding. Projects will be funded in rank order based on the amount of emissions reductions from the project. Applications submitted during the back-up solicitation will be ranked and considered for funding if funds remain available after all main solicitation projects have been offered a funding opportunity.

Project applications and more information about the program and its 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 (select option 1) 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 CA 94541 during August and September 2013. Visit www.baaqmd.gov/goods for dates and details.

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.

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