



NEWS

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Air District allocates additional \$5 million dollars to reduce truck-related emissions

SAN FRANCISCO – Today the Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced that it will allocate \$5 million dollars to fund more of the truck replacement applications received during the recent Goods Movement Program solicitation. The funds will be used to assist Bay Area truck owners in meeting the state's approaching air quality mandates.

In 2008, the California Air Resources Board approved a truck and bus regulation to significantly reduce particulate matter and oxides of nitrogen emissions from diesel vehicles operating within California. The regulation applies to nearly all older diesel-fueled trucks and buses weighing more than 14,000 pounds and requires them to reduce emissions by either installing a particulate filter, a new engine or replacing the truck.

Reducing particulate emissions from heavy-duty diesel engines is one of the most important air quality challenges today. Trucks and buses are a major source of toxic diesel pollution and greenhouse gases in the Bay Area and account for approximately 70 percent of the overall cancer risk from toxic air pollution.

Over the last five years, the Air District has made a concerted effort to work with truckers and fleet owners in facilitating compliance with the law. Over \$32 million dollars in incentive funding has been distributed towards installing particulate filters, installing new engines and replacing older on-road trucks. Approximately 90 tons of truck-related particulate pollution has been reduced thus far.

The Bay Area has long been known for implementing innovative air pollution control strategies and solutions, which are often emulated elsewhere in the world. Since diesel truck engines can last for many decades, these accelerated clean-up measures bring cleaner air to Bay Area communities now, rather than waiting for trucks to be replaced gradually over several decades as they age.

The reduction of diesel emissions from trucks has already translated into a 50 percent reduction in toxic particulate emissions in heavily impacted communities such as West Oakland.

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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