

## Vehicle Buy Back Program Frequently Asked Questions

Updated July 13, 2010

### **Q. Are diesel vehicles eligible, even though they have not been required to take Smog Checks?**

A. Diesel vehicles are eligible for the program.

### **Q. When will the program start accepting younger cars?**

A. There is no set schedule for expanding the model years that are eligible to participate in the program. The Air District makes such changes based on variables such as demand, funding availability, and cost-effectiveness.

### **Q. Why does a vehicle have to be registered and not failing its required Smog Check if it's just going to be scrapped?**

A. The Air District's Vehicle Buy Back Program must follow State regulations, which require that vehicles comply with applicable Smog Check requirements and that vehicles that are within 60 days of the next required Smog Check to take and pass Smog. The goal of the program is to take vehicles off the road that are reasonably expected to keep operating for the next few years. Only vehicles that are roadworthy, registered and not failing their Smog Check can meet this requirement and earn public funding.

### **Q. When will the program end?**

A. As of July 13, 2010, the Air District plans to operate the program until an expanded State Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) comes on line, or December 31, 2010, whichever occurs earlier. Note that there is never a guarantee of funding or program operation, which is subject to change without notice. Visit [www.smogcheck.ca.gov](http://www.smogcheck.ca.gov) or call 1-800-952-5210 for details on the State CAP.

### **Q. How do I get paid?**

A. It depends on the dismantler used. Pick-N-Pull issues checks on the spot. Environmental Engineering Studies mails checks, generally the next business day.

### **Q. What paperwork do I need to provide?**

A. *First, contact the dismantler, who will inform you of the requirements.* Note the following. The DMV Registration printout can be obtained only by the vehicle owner at a DMV office, and currently costs \$5. In general, it must cover 24 months; if you have owned the vehicle less than 24 months, discuss this with the dismantler. Any items noted as "prior suspense" on the printout count against the registration period. Make sure the DMV does not provide you a "junk" certificate, which will make your vehicle ineligible for the program. Again, contact an approved dismantler to learn more.

### **Q. What if I have owned the vehicle for less than 2 years?**

A. The vehicle may still be eligible if DMV records show that it has been registered in the Bay Area for the past 2 years. However, owners cannot get previous owners' registration information from the DMV, for privacy reasons. One contract dismantler,

Environmental Engineering Studies, is able to access the DMV data for previous owners; contact them at 1-866-925-9390.

**Q. How do I participate, or find out if my car is eligible?**

A. If you would like to sell your vehicle in:

- Fairfield, Newark, Oakland, Richmond, San Jose, or Windsor, call Pick N Pull toll free at 1(800) 727-2708.

For sites in:

- American Canyon, Fairfield, Hayward, Newark, East Palo Alto, Pittsburg, Richmond, Rodeo, San Francisco, San Jose, San Leandro, Santa Rosa, or Vallejo, call Environmental Engineering Studies, toll free at 1(866) 725-9390.