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Air District offers grants for cleaner off-road equipment

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is launching a new Off-Road Equipment Replacement grant program to replace older, higher-polluting, primarily diesel-powered agricultural and construction equipment with newer, cleaner models through the new Off-Road Equipment Replacement Program.

"Older tractors, forklifts and bulldozers are some of the diesel-polluting equipment that can be replaced through these grants," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "This trade-in program allows owners of diesel equipment to help clean up the air."

Diesel particulate matter has been identified as a toxic air contaminant by the state of California based on its potential to cause cancer and other health problems. It is a significant contributor to air pollution-associated cancer risk throughout the Bay Area.

Through the Off-Road Equipment Replacement Program, owners who trade in their older, dirtier engines for newer, cleaner equipment with the cleanest available engines can receive up to 80 percent of the cost of the replacement. Grantees can also install a California Air Resources Board verified retrofit device and receive up to 100 percent of the cost.

Applications for this program will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested parties must work through an authorized dealership to participate in this program. Grant applications, the list of approved dealerships, and additional eligibility criteria can be found on the Carl Moyer Program portion of the Air District's website at www.baaqmd.gov/moyer. For further information, contact Mara Weibley, at 415-749-4965 or mweibley@baaqmd.gov.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the regional agency chartered with protecting air quality in the Bay Area. For more information, visit www.baaqmd.gov.