



WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE

A public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions

The goal of the Collaborative is to leverage significant federal funds to reduce emissions from the most polluting diesel sources in the most affected communities. The Collaborative seeks to significantly improve air quality and public health by targeting the highest polluting engines with the most cost effective control strategies.

Kern County Superintendent of Schools - Leading the Way to Cleaner Air

The West Coast Collaborative selected the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, under the Diesel Emissions Reductions Act, \$540,000, in February 2009 to replace six existing diesel school buses with compressed natural gas (CNG) powered school buses.

What is the Project?

The total project cost is \$1,800,000 for six CNG fuel burning school buses that will replace diesel burning school buses. Kern County superintendent of Schools and Delano Union School District will provide \$340,000, while the Rose Foundation contributing \$200,000 for the remaining portion of the funding.

Why is this project important?

Replacement of school buses with alternatively fueled CNG engines will provide significant improvements to Kern County's air quality bus specifically to the children who are riding diesel school buses daily. Both districts transport medically fragile children who travel long

distances who are already at a higher risk for respiratory illnesses. These environmental risks are significant for this high risk population in addition to the long term impact of reducing air pollution in the community at large.

What are the estimated environmental benefits?

CNG school buses will not only replace old problematic diesel buses, but also provide a direct cost savings to school districts by using CNG versus diesel. In addition to the immediate cost savings, lifetime benefits include reduction of NOx by 14.31 tons, PM by 2.31 tons, and hydrocarbons by 0.9 tons. CNG is a technology that is cost efficient in the long term.

What is the Collaborative?

The West Coast Collaborative is an ambitious partnership between leaders from federal, state, and local government, the private sector, and environmental groups committed to reducing diesel emissions along the West Coast. Partners come from all over Western North America, including California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Hawaii, Canada and Mexico. The Collaborative is part of the National Clean Diesel Campaign (www.epa.gov/cleandiesel).

How can I find out more about the Collaborative?

For more information, on the West Coast Collaborative, please visit our website at www.westcoastcollaborative.org. For more information about this project or about the Public Fleets Sector in general, please contact Grace Cheng: cheng.grace@epa.gov