



WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE

Public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions

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

School Buses and Public Fleets Retrofits in Idaho

The West Coast Collaborative funded the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) \$1,730,000, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, in April 2009, to retrofit school buses and state-owned, heavy duty diesel vehicles across the state in order to reduce harmful diesel emissions.

What is the Project?

Retrofits devices will be installed on approximately 100 privately owned medium-duty and heavy-duty diesel engine refuse trucks. Additionally, the project will include the installation of anti-idling technologies on 200 school buses and will also fund the replacement of 25 school buses with certified replacement vehicles.

Why is this project important?

Each school day in Idaho, 2,378 buses transport more than 111,000 students. Diesel school buses routinely expose children to soot (particulate matter) and other harmful pollutants. Exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with decreased lung function and retarded lung development and can also exacerbate the symptoms of asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia. This is especially important in Idaho where asthma affects one in ten children and is the number one cause of school absenteeism.

This project will reduce children's exposure to diesel emissions as well as the negative health affects associated with exposure.

What are the estimated environmental benefits?

Over a seven-year period, this project will eliminate approximately 100 tons of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), 278 tons of carbon monoxide, and 18.4 tons of particulate matter.

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:

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