



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.

DERA 2011: Fuel-Operated Heaters for School Buses in Idaho

Under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) 2011 State Clean Diesel Grant Program, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) received \$189,271 from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to install fuel-operated heaters that will reduce diesel school bus emissions.

What is the Project?

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) will install fuel-operated heaters on at least 32 heavy-duty diesel school buses to reduce idling and start up emissions.

Why is this project important?

School bus fleets operate largely in residential areas where children live and school facilities are located. This program will reduce the risk from toxic pollutants by reducing the exposure of school-age children to diesel emissions from school buses. The program area includes areas of high and medium population density, as well as small towns in rural areas.

What are the estimated environmental/economic benefits?

This project will reduce 0.46 tons of particulate matter (PM), 17 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and 566 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions over its operational life. The use of fuel operated heaters is expected to reduce not only emissions from idling, but start-up emissions as well. Additional reported benefits of these heaters are 3,571 gallons of diesel fuel saved, longer engine oil life, less wear-and-tear on the engine, and relatively easy installation and maintenance.

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, please contact John Mikulin at mikulin.john@epa.gov