



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: California Air Resources Board School Bus Retrofit Project

The West Coast Collaborative (WCC) is pleased to announce the California Air Resources Board's (CARB's) completion of its project to retrofit heavy-duty diesel school buses operating throughout California. This project was implemented using \$317,185 in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant funding combined with over \$235,000 in leveraged funds from CARB, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) and participating school districts.

What is this project?

Retrofit 30 heavy-duty diesel school buses with certified diesel particulate filters (DPFs).

Why is this project important?

California suffers from some of the worst air quality in the U.S. as more than 90% of the state's residents live in areas with unhealthy air. School bus fleets operate largely in residential areas where children live and schools are located. This project will reduce the risk from toxic pollutants by reducing the exposure of school-age children and the surrounding community to diesel emissions from school buses. Retrofitting these school buses will reduce harmful diesel emissions, resulting in a reduction in children's exposure to diesel exhaust.

What are the environmental & health benefits?

Over the lifetime of the project, the emissions of the 30 affected engines will be reduced by 3.3 fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) tons, 6.3 hydrocarbon (HC) tons, and 46.5 carbon monoxide (CO) tons. On an annual basis, the associated PM_{2.5} emissions reductions will generate over \$5 in monetary health benefits in the affected counties for every \$1 spent on the project.

How was this project funded?

The WCC provided \$317,185 in DERA grant funds to support this project. \$229,988 in matching funds was contributed by CARB along with \$526 and \$4,927 in leveraged funds from SJVAPCD and participating school districts (respectively).

Who were the Partners on this project?

The project was led by CARB, the governing clean air agency in the State of California, which received the DERA grant award through the WCC. SJVAPCD conducted a competitive funding solicitation for CARB's DERA funds and distributed these funds to selected school districts. CARB was responsible for data monitoring and reporting for the project.

What is the West Coast Collaborative?

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

How can I find out more information?

For more information about this project, please contact John Mikulin at U.S. EPA (mikulin.john@epa.gov / 415-972-3956). For more information, on the WCC, please visit our website at www.westcoastcollaborative.org