WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE
A public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions

The goal of the West Coast 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 2013: Reducing Diesel Emissions from Power Generating Units with Cleaner Fuel in the Saipan

The West Coast Collaborative (WCC) is pleased to announce the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's (CUC's) receipt of a United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) State Clean Diesel Program grant to retrofit two power generating units to enable fueling with Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) rather than heavy fuel oil (HFO). This project will be implemented using $26,677 in DERA grant funding, and leveraging $17,785 from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands' CUC.

What is the Project?

This project will be implemented through a partnership between the U.S. EPA and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands' Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CNMI CUC) to retrofit two power generating units for fueling with ULSD.

Why is this project important?

This project's primary objective is to improve air quality and reduce exposure to diesel emissions. 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 project will reduce children's exposure to diesel emissions as well as the negative health effects associated with exposure. Expected unquantifiable benefits of the project include increased awareness of the need to improve air quality.

What are the Environmental Benefits?

The use of ULSD in 2 power generating units in Saipan will significantly reduce emissions of fine particulate matter (PM2.5), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and hydrocarbons (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), and Sulfur dioxide (SO2). Additionally, a reduction of PM2.5 emissions will also reduce black carbon (BC), which influences climate by directly absorbing light, reducing the reflectivity ("albedo") of snow and ice through deposition, and interacting with clouds.

Who are the Partners on this project?

The project will be led by Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, a state agency tasked with protecting air quality in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation will be responsible for data monitoring and reporting for the project.

What is the Collaborative?

The WCC is an ambitious partnership between leaders from federal, state, local, and tribal 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: Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, the Pacific Islands, Canada and Mexico, and Asian-Pacific. The WCC 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 on the WCC, please visit our website. www.westcoastcollaborative.org