

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.

Los Angeles Public Works Diesel Exhaust After-Treatment Retrofit Project

The West Coast Collaborative is pleased to announce \$160,000 in Environmental Protection Agency funding and \$243,650 in matching funds from Public Works and its partners for the Los Angeles Public Works Diesel Exhaust After-Treatment Retrofit Project.

What is the Los Angeles Public Works Diesel Exhaust After-Treatment Retrofit Project?

The project is an effort by the Los Angeles Department of Public Works and its partners aimed towards reducing diesel emissions by installing of Level 2¹ after-market diesel retrofit devices on up to 13 off-road construction equipment vehicles.

Why is this project important?

Los Angeles County is located mostly within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and within parts of the Antelope Valley Air District. The EPA has consistently identified the SCAQMD as having some of the nation's worst air quality. According to SCAQMD, Los Angeles County has significant levels of particulate matter (PM) in its air. Presently, PM is one of the leading pollutants in California, negatively affecting air quality throughout the state.

Construction vehicles are a considerable source of PM emissions. The 2004 Estimated Annual Average Emissions released by California Air Resources Board (CARB) specified that off-road equipment and construction vehicles are responsible for an estimated 36 percent of PM emissions in SCAQMD.

What public health issues are associated with diesel exhaust?

Exposure to PM is associated with an increased risk of premature death, increased incidences of heart and lung disease, and adverse respiratory symptoms such as asthma. Exposure to diesel emissions over a long period of time may also pose a lung cancer hazard to humans.

What are the estimated environmental benefits of this project?

Based on each engine's estimated PM emissions, annual hours of operation, an expected reduction of half of all baseline emissions, and assuming a five-year project life, estimated environmental benefits of this project include annual emissions reductions amounting to 2,299 pounds of PM per year.

How is this project funded?

Through EPA, the Collaborative is providing \$160,000 in support of this project. In addition, the Los Angeles Department of Public works and its partners will contribute \$243,650 in matching funds.

Who are the partners on this project?

The Los Angeles Department of Public Works sought a private sector partnership, including a device manufacturer and distributor, who entered the public partnership in order to provide a device well-suited towards construction vehicles.

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

¹ Level 2 verification is for those technologies achieving at least 50 percent or greater reduction in particulate matter.

and Mexico. The Collaborative is part of EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign (www.epa.gov/cleandiesel).

How can I find out more about the Collaborative?

For more information about the West Coast Collaborative, please contact Peter Murchie (murchie.peter@epa.gov, 503-326-6554) or visit our Web site at www.westcoastcollaborative.org.