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 2016: Replacing Three Diesel Switcher Locomotives in the Bay Area

The West Coast Collaborative (WCC) is pleased to announce the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD) receipt of a United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant to replace 3 diesel switcher locomotives operating in goods movement service in the San Francisco Bay Area. This project will be implemented using \$1,420,263 in DERA grant funding combined with \$4,278,662 in matching funds from Proposition 1B Goods Movement Bond funds administered by BAAQMD, and from the project partners, the Richmond Pacific Railroad Corporation and the Port of San Francisco.

What is the Project?

This project will replace one uncontrolled and two Tier 0 switcher locomotives with three Tier 4 locomotives.

Why is this project important?

Exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with decreased lung function and can also exacerbate the symptoms of asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia. This project will reduce human exposure to diesel emissions as well as the negative health effects associated with exposure. The locomotives to be replaced under this project operate full-time within the San Francisco Bay Area. This project will provide long-term environmental health benefits to local communities and the San Francisco Bay air shed.

What are the Environmental Benefits?

Over the remaining lifetime of the 3 affected locomotives, these replacements are estimated to reduce emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) by 328 tons, fine particulate matter (PM2.5) by 7 tons, and hydrocarbons (HC) by 17 tons. Additionally, the 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 administered by BAAQMD, a regional agency with jurisdiction over air quality in the San Francisco Bay Area. BAAQMD received the DERA grant award through the WCC, and will distribute the grant funds to its project partners, the Richmond Pacific Railroad Corporation and the Port of San Francisco. BAAQMD 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. The WCC is part of the US EPA National Clean Diesel Campaign (www.epa.gov/cleandiesel).

How can I find out more Information?

For more information on this project, please contact Francisco Dóñez at US EPA (donez.francisco@epa.qov or 213-244-1834). For more information on the WCC, please visit our website. www.westcoastcollaborative.org