



San Joaquin Valley  
Air Pollution  
Control District

## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### AIR DISTRICT GRANTS PROMOTE REDUCED EMISSIONS THROUGH ALTERNATIVE FUEL TECHNOLOGIES

**March 31, 2005** - More than \$900,000 in grants from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District helped develop an alternative fuel station and Park 'n' Ride in west Fresno County that will be dedicated Friday.

The new liquefied natural gas and compressed natural gas (L/CNG) facility will be formally dedicated at 11 a.m. Friday, April 1, at the Southwest Education Support Center in Caruthers (16644 S. Elm Ave., at the corner of Elkhorn and Highway 41). The L/CNG fueling station will serve the 29 clean-burning CNG school buses of the Southwest Transportation Agency as well as vehicles in the company's LNG fleet. The general public also can use the fueling station and the Park 'n' Ride.

Reducing vehicle emissions by promoting the use of alternative fuel technologies, and encouraging alternative transportation measures to replace single occupant vehicle trips is a goal of the District. More than \$9 million in grants have been awarded over the past five years for alternative fuel vehicles, infrastructure development, and other projects that reduce motor vehicle emissions. The grants are funded through the District's Heavy Duty Engine and REMOVE (Reduce Motor Vehicle Emissions) programs.

Diesel-fueled trucks, buses, trains and planes emit nitrogen oxides (NOx) that add to the Valley's air-pollution problem. Breathing diesel exhaust is harmful, especially for children. LNG and CNG are two cleaner-burning alternative fuels increasing in popularity but fuel access often is an issue. In 2004, three other alternative fueling stations were constructed with grants from the Valley Air District's Heavy-Duty Engine Program.

- **Tracy** – Tracy Unified School District was awarded \$140,000 for a fueling station currently serving six buses. A \$75,000 grant helped fund a fueling station at Jefferson School District that serves its CNG bus as well as one from Jerusalem School District. Both districts plan to add to their alternative fuel fleets as funding allows.
- **Lodi** – Lodi Unified School District received a \$400,000 grant for a fast-fill station that serves 15 vehicles.
- **Bakersfield** – Greenfield Union School District was awarded a \$58,000 grant for a fueling station currently serving four buses.