

News Release

For immediate release

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San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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Truckers can expect more grant funding ***State awards Valley Air District another \$45 million***

Truckers traveling through the San Joaquin Valley can anticipate another round of critical funding from the voter-approved Proposition 1B to become available in coming months, thanks to a new allocation approved last week by the state Air Resources Board for replacing and retrofitting older diesel fired trucks.

Citing the Valley Air District's efficiencies in administering past grants and the current state of readiness to disburse this new funding, the ARB awarded the District \$45.5 million, including \$5.5 million temporarily redirected to the Valley from other regions.

"This new funding is sorely needed to help the air basin reduce harmful pollution, the majority of which is caused by vehicle traffic, including heavy-duty trucks," said Seyed Sadredin, the Air District's executive director and air pollution control officer. "We are ready and able to disburse these funds quickly and the reductions in emissions will help the rest of the state as well, since many of these trucks travel to other regions."

Diesel emissions are a significant factor in the Valley's struggle to meet health-based, clean-air standards. The state's two major goods-movement corridors, Highway 99 and Interstate 5, bisect the air basin.

The first round of Prop 1B funding, distributed last year, was quickly exhausted because of overwhelming demand. Sadredin said he expects the new allocation to be equally popular.

"The investment by the business community has brought us a long way toward cleaner air, and programs such as this are critical in order for the Valley to meet its clean air goals," he said.

The application period will open within the next few months. Interested owners and operators can contact the Air District's Strategies and Incentives Program at 559-230-5800 for more information.

For more information about the Air District's other incentive programs, visit http://valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/GrantPrograms.htm.