

News Release

For immediate release

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Attn: local news, business and assignment editors



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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District opens locomotive repower application period

\$2 million for cleaner engines

The Valley Air District is seeking applications to repower line-haul, medium horsepower or switch locomotives with \$2 million of available funding.

“The District’s grants program is continually expanding to address industries that need funding assistance in order to reduce emissions and improve our air quality,” said Samir Sheikh, the District’s grant program director. “Railroads are one of those segments.”

Funds are provided through the Diesel Emission Reduction Act from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A typical older locomotive emits about seven tons of nitrogen oxides (NOx) per year. A new locomotive with the cleanest technology available can reduce those emissions by 91 percent. In the Valley air basin, which is chronically affected by ozone and particulate pollution, sources such as locomotives can have a significant impact on air quality.

To be eligible for funding, a railroad must operate individual switch locomotives, MHP locomotives or intrastate line haul locomotives at least 50 percent of the time within the District’s boundaries.

The Request For Applications opens on April 10 and closes on May 25. Projects will be ranked and all applicants will be notified of their status. Unfunded applications will be kept active and may be funded as more funds become available.

For more information or to apply, contact the District’s Grants program at 559-230-6000 or visit http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/GrantPrograms.htm

For more information about the Air District, call a regional office in Fresno (559-230-6000), Modesto (559-557-6400) or Bakersfield (661-392-5500).