

News Release

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For: local news, business and assignment editors



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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District Board awards \$1.2 million for new technologies

New grant program encourages emission-reduction innovation

The Valley Air District's Governing Board has awarded \$1.2 million in the first round of funding for new technologies that will reduce emissions in innovative ways.

The Technology Advancement Program (TAP) awards funding for projects in renewable energy, waste to energy and mobile sources. Six proposals, submitted during a competitive Request for Proposals process last summer, were approved at the Dec. 16 board meeting:

- Engine, Fuel, and Emissions Engineering, Inc – \$151,499 to demonstrate an improved compact selective catalytic-reduction system for use on a dairy biogas system
- Tenneco Automotive Operating Company, Inc. -- \$300,000 to demonstrate a hydrocarbon lean NO_x catalyst system in off-road construction engines
- Terex Corp. -- \$258,000 to convert a wheel loader to plug-in hybrid operation, and identify fuel savings and emission reductions
- City of Fresno -- \$140,000 to retrofit parallel hydraulic hybrid drive trains onto one existing and one new liquefied natural gas-powered refuse trucks
- Solar Storage Company -- \$250,000 to demonstrate a renewable solar power-generation system as an alternative option for remote, diesel-powered, agricultural irrigation-pumping systems
- FlexEnergy -- \$100,501 to demonstrate an ultra-low NO_x system capable of accepting low-quality gas

“Our hope is that, with this investment in the Valley’s economy, we will be able to promote the area as a top choice for green jobs and businesses,” said Seyed Sadredin, the District’s executive director and air pollution control officer.

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The initial funding included \$900,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Governing Board also authorized an additional \$1.4 million in funding to be available in 2011 (including \$400,000 from the EPA). The District will open another competitive RFP early next year.

“This program is a valuable tool to stimulate innovation in ways that will directly help to improve the Valley’s air quality, and to also support the Valley’s dynamic and growing alternative energy-development community,” said Samir Sheikh, the District’s director of Strategies and Incentives.

Complete information and guidelines for TAP are available at
http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/TAP/tap_idx.htm.

For more information about the Air District, call a regional office in Modesto (209) 557-6400, Fresno (559) 230-6000, or Bakersfield (661) 392-5500.