Air District puts clean trucks on the road

The Valley Air District recently completed a year-long process to replace 548 high-polluting diesel trucks and will make $62 million available in 2011 for more diesel replacement and retrofitting projects. Applications for new truck replacement and retrofits will be accepted beginning in March.

The District has aggressively pursued state and federal funding for clean air projects throughout the Valley resulting in a 10-fold increase in available funding over the past five years. “These funds are critical not only to the health of Valley residents through cleaner air, but also to the Valley's economic vitality,” said Seyed Sadredin, the District’s executive director. “Strategic use of these funds will expedite clean air efforts in the Valley while helping residents and businesses,” he added.

2,900 applications for diesel emission-reduction grants were reviewed in 2010 as part of the grant process. The District also expects new funding generated from recently enacted DMV fees to be used for these and other programs targeted at reducing emissions from mobile sources.

Mobile sources account for the majority of the Valley's air pollution. Trucks, passenger vehicles and buses produce 56.8 percent of total nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions in the air basin. Last year, the District’s truck grants removed more than 6,000 tons of NOx.

For more information Districts incentive grants, please call 559-230-5800 or visit www.valleyair.org.