

News Release

For immediate release

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San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



For: local news, ag, business and assignment editors

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Air District accepting applications for \$60 million in heavy-duty diesel truck funds *Program expands; free workshops assist applicants*

A new round of incentive funding to replace, repower and retrofit heavy-duty, diesel-powered trucks, reducing air pollution from freight movement through the Valley, is available beginning March 7.

More truck owners are now eligible for \$60 million in additional Proposition 1B funding. The District is holding free, regional workshops to assist owners in completing their applications. Spanish-language translators will also be available.

“There is a strong demand for help in reducing heavy-duty diesel truck emissions,” said Samir Sheikh, the director of the District’s Strategies and Incentives Program.

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.

Initial funds were quickly exhausted, signaling a critical need for fresh funds by heavy-duty truck owners. The program has also been expanded to allow Class 7 along with Class 8 truck owners to upgrade to newer, less-polluting vehicles.

Applications will be taken March 7 through April 29, 2011. Free workshops will be held in each of the three Air District regions to assist applicants:

- **In Fresno**, Tuesday, April 5, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.; 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., in the San Joaquin Room
- **In Bakersfield**, Wednesday, April 6, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; 34946 Flyover Court, in the VTC Room
- **In Modesto**, Thursday, April 7, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; 4800 Enterprise Way, in the Magnolia Room

-more-

Expanded Prop 1B funding opens

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Applications are available at www.valleyair.org or by calling the Air District's Strategies and Incentives department at 559-230-5800. District staff is also available at that number to assist applicants.

For more information about the Valley Air District, call a regional office: in Fresno, 559-230-6000; in Bakersfield, 661-392-5500; and in Modesto, 209-557-6400.