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Ohio EPA Accepting Applications for Diesel Emission Reduction Grants

Ohio EPA is requesting applications through March 30 for funding from a new Diesel Emission Reduction Grant (DERG) program. Grants are intended to reduce Ohioans' exposure to diesel exhaust emissions and to help improve air quality in counties and areas of the state that are not currently meeting national standards.

The Agency expects to award up to \$10 million in May and another \$10 million this fall for clean diesel projects. Both public sector and private sector fleets are encouraged to apply. Private sector fleets must apply through a public sector partner. Eligible projects include:

- Replacement of diesel vehicles or equipment with new vehicles or equipment that meet higher emission standards;
- Removing the diesel engine from a piece of equipment and replacing it with a new, rebuilt or remanufactured engine that meets higher emission standards;
- Adding verified emission reduction technologies such as diesel oxidation catalysts and diesel particulate filters to existing vehicles and equipment; and
- Adding verified anti-idle technologies such as auxiliary power units and direct-fired heaters to existing diesel vehicles and equipment.

Selected projects will receive reimbursement of up to 80 percent of their allowable costs, and must provide a non-federal funding match of at least 20 percent. Eligible vehicles and equipment must operate at least 65 percent of the time in the [eligible counties](#).

The Request for proposals and grant application materials are posted at www.epa.ohio.gov/oeef/derg.aspx. Applications are due at 5 p.m. on March 30, 2012. Prospective applicants may talk with program staff members or submit questions to derg@epa.state.oh.us. Ohio EPA will also schedule conference calls on March 8 and March 14 to take questions from prospective applicants and vendors.

Ohio EPA and the Ohio Department of Transportation are working in partnership to distribute these Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds awarded to Ohio by the Federal Highway Administration.

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www.epa.ohio.gov