

Mid-Atlantic Diesel Collaborative Call Notes
October 6, 2011 Call

The call was organized by MARAMA staff under the direction of EPA region III Bill Jones. Call participants, members of the Diesel Collaborative Forum Leaders and the Diesel Collaborative Technical Review Committee were invited to participate in the call. The focus of the call was to review the different diesel reduction programs in each of the state and local agencies. Participants were asked review the different programs, talk about some of the highlights and some of the issues they have faced with their diesel programs. The following is a summary of the presentation points made by the 7 members.

Yogesh Doshi – Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) – discussed the following programs and projects in Virginia:

- Idling Program – VADEQ participated in the MWCOG Idle Reduction Recognition Program which rewarded truck drivers for turning their engines off. The program designed and anti-idle printed materials that were circulated in various locations and truck drivers were nominated for gift certificates for exhibiting idle reduction behavior.
- Fuel Switching-
- Biodiesel Projects-

Lonnie Richmond- Maryland State (MDE) - presented slides and the following information relating to MDE use of grant funds for diesel programs:

- ARRA State Clean Diesel Grant funds spent \$ 1,730,000 on an Idle Reduction Program, Maryland School Bus Program, and Port of Baltimore Clean Diesel Project.
- Mr. Richmond discussed retrofit issues such as limited choices for certain engines, workmanship and quality control, and heat retention for passive DPF's issues
- DERA Clean Diesel Projects-more school buses, retrofits of on- road and off- road vehicles, provided vouchers for up to 50% off for the Maryland Idle Reduction Technology Grant Program, and funded WCOG's Idle Reduction Program.

Renu Chakrabarty – West Virginia- discussed the following diesel projects:

- Idle Reduction program which started in 2007 was launched with money from a lawsuit settlement.
- DERA in 2011 is funding school bus replacements.
- Attended a special event Road-e-o using the new replacement school buses to raise awareness of air pollution issues and publically recognizing the school system for participation in the National Clean Diesel Campaign via the DERA 2010 program.
- Representatives from a company working in the Marcellus shale approached WV about partnership for Natural Gas buses. WV is not planning to pursue this partnership, but was curious if other states have had similar requests.

Tom Lattner – Allegheny County – presented the following information regarding EPA funded programs and projects in Pennsylvania:

- EPA funded diesel projects – local transit (2 hybrids, 9 repowers), switcher locomotive repower,
- Worked with the Construction Alliance of Western PA for 40 repowers/retrofits of off-road equipment.
- Worked with Clean Air Fund on retrofit projects. Mr. Lattner found it difficult to interest schools in school bus projects.
- Worked in the Liberty Clairton area to retrofit municipal vehicles.
- Mr. Lattner reported that Carnegie Mellon and University of Pittsburgh are working on a diesel PM study in the City of Pittsburgh.
- ACHD will be starting a program soon to retrofit construction equipment in Allegheny County. The program will focus on Small Business Construction Companies.

Phil Wheeler – Delaware – supplied the following information regarding diesel programs in the state of Delaware:

- DE completed all ARRA Diesel Projects
- DE had programs for truck stop electrification, currently working on tug repower with a tier 3 engine and DPF and DOC retrofits for the Parks Division and the Department of Transportation.
- Penalty funds for were used to pay for 19 school bus retrofits with no charge to the school districts.
- Currently working with the Clean Air Council to develop an anti-idling campaign website.
- Mr. Wheeler asked the participants if they have thought about the re-sale of the buses with the retrofits on them.

Chris Trostle – Pennsylvania- presented the following information about the diesel program and grant project accomplishments:

- One tug repower project with a tier 2 Caterpillar engine was completed and they got about 47 tons of NOx reduction.
- PA has had some difficulty with their ARRA projects. One of the ARRA projects was with U.S. Air for an electric ground support equipment project, but the project has not proceeded as planned.
- The area is interested in launching a dray truck program
- PA recently advertised the availability of \$561,000 for diesel emission reduction projects. PA hopes to get some proposals that reduce emissions from drayage trucks. PA representatives spoke with the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association about this in hopes that PMTA can promote some interest to achieve that end.

Auran Awan – Washington, DC- discussed the following diesel grant projects:

- Grant funds are used to do replace 10 heavy duty diesel vehicles with 10 alternative fuel vehicles, such as street sweepers, trash compactors, and snow plow trucks.

- Funds are used to create an anti-idling ad campaign which includes installing 447 official regulatory no-idling signs in the District; radio advertisements and educational documentary; and advertisement in industry and trade publications.

Paula Krall of the EPA introduced Ellen Wentworth the new DERA Grants project officer. Ms. Krall stated that all grant related information such as budgets, revisions, workplan changes, quarterly reports will go to her. Ms. Krall also informed the group that DERA State Grants will end September 30, 2012 and that a grant closeout final report will be needed at the end of that period. It is anticipated that there will be a webinar focusing on the DERA grant close out.

Ms. Krall also stated that DERA II has been reauthorized for the coming year to fund projects.