

Clean Diesel Retrofit Incentives Grants

The State of Oregon helps with incentives for retrofitting older diesel engines.

Oregonians interested in reducing harmful emissions from their heavy duty diesel engines may qualify for financial assistance with help from the state of Oregon.

What is a retrofit?

Retrofit means to upgrade currently operating diesel engines with new advanced exhaust controls to reduce the most harmful pollutants with the greatest impact to public health and environment.

Background

Diesel is the dominant fuel used by the commercial transportation sector. Diesel engines also power most non-road equipment such as construction, agricultural, marine and locomotives.

While diesel engines offer fuel economy, power and durability, diesel emissions are a major contributor to unhealthy levels of fine particles and ozone (or “smog”) as well as air toxics. Fine particles have been associated with an increased risk of premature death, hospital admissions for heart and lung disease, increased adverse respiratory symptoms such as asthma, and other adverse effects. Long-term exposure to diesel exhaust may pose a lung cancer hazard to humans.



Many Oregon school buses have been retrofitted.

Diesel emission reductions represent one of the most important opportunities to achieve rapid and cost-effective health and environmental benefits in Oregon.

The techniques and technologies to reduce diesel emissions range in cost and application and include cleaner fuels (cleaner diesel and

biodiesel), anti-idling programs, exhaust catalysts and other emission control technologies, vehicle replacement and even repowering old engines.



Many types of diesel engines can be retrofitted.

Qualifying retrofit

Federal grants may support retrofits and other engine upgrades in a variety of circumstances. Each project solicitation is designed to meet specific program goals that may change over time. For the most recent notice, see <http://www.epa.gov/air/grants/rfp-epa-oar-otaq-11-01.pdf>.

These grants can be very competitive and the odds of securing a grant can be long. Nonetheless, DEQ is committed to assisting every Oregon grant applicant in preparing the strongest application possible for their project. We can provide strategy review, project design, partner recruitment assistance, data analysis, grant writing and even in some cases apply for and manage the grant on your behalf.

For projects where DEQ is the grant administrator, specific state requirements apply. In this case, the retrofit:

- Equips a diesel engine with new after-market emissions reducing parts or technology that meets the cost effectiveness threshold.
- Reduces diesel particulate matter emissions by 25 percent or more.
- Uses the most effective passively regenerated emission control technology available for the retrofitted equipment and specific application.
- Uses:
 - Technologies verified on June 19, 2008, by the U.S. Environmental



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Protection Agency or California Air Resources Board, or

- Any device that DEQ determines has been through comparable emission verification testing.
- Will be used in Oregon three years following the retrofit at least 50 percent of the total miles driven or hours operated.
- Must be installed by a Qualified Installer.
- Installed after June 19, 2008.



Many Oregon trucks have been retrofitted.

Eligible costs

Eligible costs include the retrofit equipment, supplies directly related to the installation of the retrofit equipment, and labor for the installation. For grants, eligible costs exclude any work completed prior to signing a grant agreement.

Cost effectiveness threshold

The cost effectiveness threshold is \$250,000 per ton of diesel particulate matter reduced. The DEQ will only grant funds or tax credits for the costs under the cost effectiveness threshold. The application includes a spreadsheet for calculating the cost effectiveness threshold of your retrofit(s).

Qualified installers

The retrofit must be installed by a qualified installer, which is defined as either:

1. A Clean Diesel Service Provider listed on the Clean Diesel Web page, or
2. An employee of the applicant, if the applicant and vendor of the retrofit technology both verify that the employee will install the retrofit to meet warranty conditions and possesses the necessary skill to install the retrofit correctly.

The West Coast Collaborative

EPA's partnership program to support clean diesel efforts with additional funding resources and technical information:

<http://westcoastcollaborative.org/>

SmartWay Transport

Are you in the freight movement industry and want to know more about fuel saving advances and how they can make a difference in your business? Go to EPA's Smart Way Transport program: <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/>.

Alternative formats

Alternative formats (Braille, large type) of this document can be made available. Contact DEQ's Office of Communications & Outreach, Portland, at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 569