

The DERA Option: Eligible Mitigation Action #10

Environmental Mitigation Trust of the Volkswagen Settlement

Factsheet for Tribal Entities

Background

The U.S. government and Volkswagen (VW) resolved allegations that VW violated the Clean Air Act by selling approximately 590,000 vehicles equipped with defeat devices. As part of this settlement, VW is required to provide \$2.7 billion for the 2.0 liter violating vehicles and \$225 million for the 3.0 liter violating vehicles into an Environmental Mitigation Trust to fully remediate the amount of excess NOx emissions from the illegal vehicles. The trust will be administered by Wilmington Trust. Provisions of the trust may be found in the Environmental Mitigation Trust Agreement for Indian Tribe Beneficiaries.

States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaskan Native Villages (referred to as “tribal entities” throughout this document) may become beneficiaries to the trust. Tribal entities become beneficiaries when their Certification for Beneficiary Status (available in Appendix D-3 of the trust agreement) is approved by the trustee. Appendix D-1B of the trust agreement provides an allocation of funds into the Tribal Trust Allocation of approximately \$55 million. Appendix D-2 of the trust agreement provides a list of Eligible Mitigation Actions (EMAs) that beneficiaries can implement.

Eligible Mitigation Actions 1-9 may be implemented directly by a beneficiary; eligibility determinations and funding requests under EMAs 1-9 will be handled exclusively by the beneficiary. The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) can provide technical assistance to tribes for EMAs 1-9 or provide assistance in filling out paperwork for the trust.

EMA 10 (the DERA Option) allows tribal entities to use trust funds as non-federal voluntary matching funds on EPA’s 2021 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Tribal Grants. This document serves to distinguish between EMAs 1-9 and the DERA Option for tribal entities choosing to implement the DERA Option. Although the 2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Request for Applications (RFA) will now offer a separate funding and competition for insular area governments, VW funding is only available to federally recognized Indian Tribes through the VW Indian Tribe Trust Agreement. The 2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area RFA has no mandatory cost share requirement.

Eligible Mitigation Actions

The information in the table below summarizes the eligible vehicles and equipment, emissions reduction actions, and applicable funding limits allowed under EMAs 1-9 and the DERA Option. There are some differences between the options in terms of project eligibility and funding limits for certain types of projects. Activities allowed under the DERA Option that are not eligible under EMAs 1-9 are highlighted. Tribal entities may split their trust funds between EMAs 1-9 and the DERA Option as they choose. Under EMAs 1-9, only a certain portion of the cost of an activity is eligible for funding through the trust. The trust funding limits (percentages) in column 1 represent the maximum portion of the costs that can be covered with trust funds under EMAs 1-9. The rest of the cost must be borne from other sources of funds.

Under EMA 10, the DERA Option, no matching funds are required under EPA’s 2021 DERA Tribal Grants. Voluntary cost-share is discussed in more detail below under **“Implementing the DERA Option.”**

Full details on EMAs 1-9 may be found in Appendix D-2 of the trust agreement, and full details on eligible DERA activities may be found in the applicable EPA 2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Grants Request for Applications.

Comparison of EMAs 1-9 and EMA 10 (DERA Option)

VW EMAs 1-9 Eligible Activities and Mitigation Trust Funding Limits	VW EMA 10 (DERA Option) Eligible Activities and DERA Funding Limits*
<p> Class 4-7 Local Freight Truck Class 8 Local Freight Trucks Class 8 Port Drayage Trucks Engine Model Year 1992-2009 Engine Replacement: 40-75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement: 25-75% non-gov, 100% gov Engine Model Year 2010-2012 only where State regulations already require upgrades to 1992-2009 engine model year trucks Engine Replacement: 40-75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement: 25-75% non-gov, 100% gov </p>	<p> Class 5-8 All Diesel Highway Vehicles Engine Model Year 2006 and older Engine Replacement: 100% Vehicle Replacement: 100% Retrofits +/- Aero, LRR Tires: 100% Idle Reduction: 100% Clean Alternative Fuel Conversion: 100% Engine Model Year 2007-2009 Engine Replacement (All-electric): 100% Vehicle Replacement (All-electric): 100% Retrofits +/- Aero, LRR Tires: 100% Idle Reduction (no APUs or generators): 100% Clean Alternative Fuel Conversion: 100% </p>
<p> Class 4-8 School Bus Class 4-8 Shuttle or Transit Bus Engine Model year 2009 or Older Engine Replacement: 40-75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement: 25-75% non-gov, 100% gov Engine Model Year 2010-2012 only where State regulations already require upgrades to 1992-2009 engine model year buses Engine Replacement: 40-75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement: 25-75% non-gov, 100% gov </p>	<p> Type A, B, C, D Diesel School Bus Class 5-8 Diesel Shuttle, Transit or Other Bus Engine Model Year 2006 and older Engine Replacement: 100% Vehicle Replacement: 100% Retrofits +/- Aero, LRR Tires: 100% Idle Reduction: 100% Clean Alternative Fuel Conversion: 100% Engine Model Year 2007-2009 Engine Replacement (All-electric): 100% Vehicle Replacement (All-electric): 100% Retrofits +/- Aero, LRR Tires: 100% Idle Reduction (no APUs or generators): 100% Clean Alternative Fuel Conversion: 100% </p>

VW EMAs 1-9 Eligible Activities and Mitigation Trust Funding Limits	VW EMA 10 (DERA Option) Eligible Activities and DERA Funding Limits*
Freight Switchers 1000+ hours per year Pre-Tier 4 Engine Replacement: 40-75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement: 25-75% non-gov, 100% gov	Diesel Locomotives 1000+ hours per year Unregulated - Tier 2 Line Haul and Switcher Tier 2+ Switcher Engine Replacement: 100% Remanufacture: 100% Vehicle Replacement: 100% Retrofits: 100% Idle Reduction/Shorepower: 100% Tier 2+ Line Haul Retrofits: 100% Idle Reduction/Shorepower: 100% Remanufacture: 100%
Ferries/Tugs Unregulated-Tier 2 Ferry and Tug Engines Engine Replacement/Reman/Upgrade: 40-75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement: 25-75% non-gov, 100% gov	Marine Diesel Engines 1000+ hours per year Unregulated-Tier 2 Marine Engines Engine Replacement/Reman/Upgrade: 100%
Ocean Going Vessel and Great Lakes Vessels Shorepower Costs associated with the shore-side system and installation Non-government Owned: 25% Government Owned: 100%	Marine Shore Power Connection Systems Costs associated with the shore-side system and installation: 100%
	Electrified Parking Spaces (EPS) Costs associated with the equipment and installation to provide off-board electrical power to heating/cooling/electrical systems of hoteling trucks, or to plug-in trailer refrigeration systems: 100%

VW EMAs 1-9 Eligible Activities and Mitigation Trust Funding Limits	VW EMA 10 (DERA Option) Eligible Activities and DERA Funding Limits*
Airport Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Tier 0-Tier 2 Diesel engines Uncertified, or certified to 3 g/bhp-hr or higher emissions, spark ignition engines Engine Replacement (All-electric): 75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement (All-electric): 75% non-gov, 100% gov	Nonroad Diesel Engines Construction, Cargo Handling (Ports and Airports), Agriculture, Mining, Energy Production 500+ hours per year Tier 0-Tier 3 Engine Replacement: 100% Vehicle/Equipment Replacement (Diesel, Alt Fuel, Hybrid): 100% Vehicle/Equipment Replacement (All-electric): 100% Retrofits: 100% Engine Replacement (Diesel, Alt Fuel): 100% Engine Replacement (All-electric): 100% Engine Upgrade: 100%
Forklifts and Port Cargo Handling Equipment Forklifts, reach stackers, side loaders, and top loaders with >8000lbs lift capacity Rubber-tired gantry cranes, straddle carriers, shuttle carriers, terminal tractors Engine Replacement (All-electric): 75% non-gov, 100% gov Vehicle Replacement (All-electric): 75% non-gov, 100% gov	
Light Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Supply Equipment A State may use up to fifteen percent (15%) of its allocation of Trust Funds on costs for the acquisition, installation, operation and maintenance of new light duty zero emission vehicle supply equipment for projects as specified in Appendix D-2, EMA #9.	

***Notes**

- Project eligibility criteria for the DERA Option are subject to change pending final program guidance issued by EPA for the 2021 DERA Tribal Grants.
- Items that are highlighted are allowed under the DERA Option and are not eligible under EMAs 1-9.

Implementing the DERA Option

As defined in Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations Section 200.99, voluntary committed cost sharing (or matching) means funds specifically pledged on a voluntary basis in the proposal’s budget or the Federal award on the part of the non-Federal entity and that becomes a binding requirement of Federal award. Under the DERA Option, tribal entities may use trust funds as their non-federal voluntary match on EPA’s 2021 DERA Tribal Grants.

Any voluntary matching funds provided by the tribal entity, including mitigation trust funds, are subject to the DERA funding limits defined in the applicable 2021 DERA Tribal Grants guidance. Voluntary funds may cover expenses such as personnel, fringe benefits, travel, contractual services, and a portion of equipment and supplies.

2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Grants Request for Applications

The for 2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Grants Request for Applications (RFA) will open early April. Applications should be submitted through www.grants.gov.

Tribal entities applying for a 2021 DERA Tribal Grant and planning to use trust funds for the voluntary match must submit an application for federal funding through www.grants.gov under the 2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Grants RFA and must submit all required trust paperwork to Wilmington Trust by the deadlines identified in the trust agreement. **Please review the tribal trust agreement for the dates to provide required trust paperwork to Wilmington Trust.**

The deadline for certified beneficiaries to the trust to submit a Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Action Certification form found in Appendix D-4 of the trust for the third round of trust funding is August 30, 2021. Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Action Certification forms should be sent to Wilmington Trust, not EPA. The Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Certification form requires DERA Option applicants to attach their DERA workplan or a Notice of Intent to Participate. EPA recommends that applicants seeking to use the DERA Option attach their DERA workplan to their Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Certification form because the deadline to apply for DERA falls before the deadline to apply to the trust, so the DERA workplan will already be complete.

Section 5.2.12 of the trust agreement also states that applicants seeking funds for the DERA Option should deliver a copy of their DERA selection letter from EPA to the trustee at the time the Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Action Certification form is due. DERA applicants who have been selected for a DERA award will have their letters in advance of the Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Action Certification form deadline. EPA intends to notify selectees of awards prior to the VW official beneficiary allocation date.

ITEP can provide assistance in completing the necessary paperwork for the Beneficiary Eligible Mitigation Action Certification.

Tribal entities may apply for the DERA Option each year that DERA funding is available.

Reporting Requirements

Recipients of DERA grants must submit reports as required under the DERA grant terms and conditions to EPA. A tribal entity implementing the DERA Option may submit its DERA reports to the trustee to fulfill its reporting requirement for any portion of its trust funds utilized under the DERA Option.

Resources

2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Grants Request for Applications: <https://www.epa.gov/dera/tribal>

Tribal Beneficiary Trust Agreement: <https://www.vwenvironmentalmitigationtrust.com/media/19>

ITEP website: <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Home/>

Questions

Please submit questions related to Appendix D of the VW Consent Decree to the DERA helpline with the subject line "VW Question- Tribes."

DERA Helpline: dera@epa.gov | 1-866-623-2322