WEST COAST COLLABORATIVE
A public-private partnership to reduce diesel emissions

The goal of the Collaborative is to leverage federal funds to strategically reduce emissions from the most polluting diesel sources in impacted communities. The Collaborative seeks to improve air quality and public health by targeting the highest polluting engines with the most cost effective control strategies.

DERA 2019: Alaska Energy Authority – Alaska Clean Diesel Project

Under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA), the EPA awarded the Alaska Energy Authority a $473,262 grant with Fiscal Year 2019 funding. DERA funds will be used to issue up to five subawards to replace up to twenty-five (25) prime power diesel generator engines in rural Alaska communities. The grant will replace antiquated mechanically governed and lower tier prime power diesel genset engines with newer, more fuel-efficient Tier 2 and Tier 3 marine and low PM emitting nonroad engines. The project will be implemented with a cost share of $473,262 from Alaska Energy Authority for a total project cost of $946,524.

What is the Project?

The Alaska Energy Authority will work with rural Alaska communities that are not connected to the electrical grid and must generate their own electricity, of which, small diesel power plants are used for this purpose. These plants have at least one diesel engine running continuously. Rural Alaska communities rely on these engines for their prime power; however, many of these power plants use older technology and high-emitting engines. This program's efforts to replace these high-emitting genset engines with newer, lower-emitting nonroad engines will support reduced diesel emissions and improved air quality in rural Alaska communities.

Why is this Project Important?

Power generation in rural Alaska depends on diesel-powered engines, often operating in the center of a village, close to homes, workplaces, and the community school. The proximity of power plants to these community buildings means that residents are exposed to diesel emissions generated by these engines, which may pose an increased health risk. Research shows that there is no safe level of exposure to diesel particulate matter. This generator replacement effort will reduce diesel consumption, energy costs, diesel emissions, and health risks related to diesel particulate matter.

What are the Estimated Environmental Benefits?

The generator replacements in these rural Alaska communities can achieve significant reductions in particulate matter (PM) pollution by replacing existing equipment with cleaner Tier 2 and Tier 3 marine engines, and low-emitting PM nonroad engines. The new electronically controlled certified marine engines and low PM emitting nonroad engines will also reduce fuel consumption associated with reductions in exhaust emissions.

How is this Project Funded?

Alaska Energy Authority will continue to consult with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), Division of Air Quality, and the Alaska Denali Commission to support and expand the reach of the DERA program statewide. The West Coast Collaborative is a partnership between leaders from federal, tribal, state, and local government, the private sector, and environmental groups committed to reducing diesel emissions along the West Coast and is part of the National Clean Diesel Campaign: www.epa.gov/cleandiesel

Where can I find more information?

For more information on the West Coast Collaborative, please visit our website at: www.westcoastcollaborative.org. For more information about this project, please contact Lucita Valiere at valiere.lucita@epa.gov