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# Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative e-Update: September 2011



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## Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Announces Availability of a New RFP for State Clean Diesel Projects

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is encouraging Michigan schools, municipalities, organizations, and businesses to apply for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant to replace old diesel engines with newer, cleaner-burning engines. Applications are being accepted now through November 16, 2011.

The DERA is part of the National Clean Diesel Campaign initiated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to help owners upgrade their equipment so that less efficient diesel engines are retired and replaced by cleaner-burning models. The DEQ is coordinating the grant process.

The grant provides options to replace entire engines, equipment or vehicles or to install exhaust control equipment on existing diesel engines. Both installation and replacement options improve air quality and reduce health risks for communities located in or near industrial pollution sources or high-use roadways.

The DEQ is encouraging all Michigan municipalities, townships and villages, county and non-profit agencies, school districts, municipal planning organizations, and private industries to apply for grant funds totaling approximately \$775,000. To assist with the grant application process, the DEQ is hosting a half-day training session in Lansing on October 13, 2011.

Vehicles eligible for the DERA grant include: school buses; medium and heavy duty trucks; municipal buses, and marine, agricultural, energy production, mining and construction vehicles, and equipment.

You can find more information and the application online by visiting Michigan's Clean Diesel Initiative Web site at [www.michigan.gov/air](http://www.michigan.gov/air) and selecting "Clean Diesel Initiative in Michigan" from the middle of the page. For further information, contact Donna Davis at [david8@michigan.gov](mailto:david8@michigan.gov) or 517-335-2784.

## **Indiana Department of Environmental Management Announces 2011 DieselWise Indiana Solicitation for Clean Diesel Projects**

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM's) DieselWise Indiana program is offering new grants through the Diesel Emission Reduction Act. Grants are due by October 31, 2011.

The diesel grants will be awarded to grantees whose projects are designed to reduce the volume of diesel emissions as well as human exposure to the emissions. On-road and non-road diesel-powered equipment projects are eligible for the grants. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. The total estimated funding is \$350,000. Applicants volunteering to provide financial or in-kind matches will be given preference.

Over the last six years, IDEM has awarded \$3.5 million in clean diesel grants for projects to lower diesel emissions in more than 2,500 vehicles across Indiana. DieselWise Indiana has worked with municipal, school, and public transportation entities to retrofit diesel engines and vehicles with technology that dramatically reduced harmful tailpipe emissions, conserved fossil fuels, and improved fuel efficiency. Other DieselWise projects have reduced diesel emissions from Indiana port and rail facilities. These efforts have dramatically reduced harmful diesel emissions and improved the quality of life for Hoosiers.

Diesel emissions are a concern for human health and air quality. Scientific studies show that exposure to diesel exhaust increases the risk for several serious health problems, including respiratory illnesses and cancer.

"The general public will benefit from these grants reducing diesel emissions, not just owners and operators of diesel-powered equipment," said IDEM Commissioner Thomas Easterly. "The grants allow diesel equipment owners to retrofit more vehicles in their fleet, which will prevent even more diesel emissions from going into our air."

To get more information about the diesel grant application requirements, visit IDEM's DieselWise Indiana website at: [www.idem.IN.gov/5255.htm](http://www.idem.IN.gov/5255.htm). Questions about the grant program can be directed to Shawn Seals at [sseals@idem.IN.gov](mailto:sseals@idem.IN.gov) or by phone at (317) 233-0425.

## **Reminder: Submit Your Applications for the Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative Leadership Awards By December 30, 2011**

The Midwest Clean Diesel Leadership Awards application period will remain open until Friday, December 30, 2011. The awards are reviewed by the MCDI Award Committee (EPA Region 5, The American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest, Illinois EPA, and Cummins, Inc.) and will be presented to selected awardees at the Midwest Clean Diesel 2012 Meeting at EPA Region 5's office in Chicago on April 12.

To review the MCDI Leadership Awards application criteria and to download and fill out an application, please visit our web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/midwestcleandiesel/leadershipgroup/lgawards.html>

## Save The Date: Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative 2012 Meeting: April 12-13, 2012

On April 12-13, 2012, the Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative will hold its 2012 Meeting. The MCDI 2012 Meeting is an opportunity to learn and hear more about a variety of clean diesel topics. With our lineup of informative presentations, expert panels, Q&A and training sessions, we will help you understand more about:

- Sources and opportunities for clean diesel funding
- Idle-reduction technology and ordinances
- Clean construction technology and ordinances
- Alternative fuels
- Grant applications and process (training session)
- Quantifying emissions reductions using EPA's Diesel Emission Quantifier (training session)

Mark your calendars for April 12-13 because registration will soon be opened for the event. We will announce registration through our web page and through emails from MCDI and our partners. If you received the email to read this e-Update, there is nothing more you need to do but wait for us to announce the opening of registration. If you would like to sign up for our email list to receive timely news and information from MCDI, please email Anthony Maietta at [maietta.anthony@epa.gov](mailto:maietta.anthony@epa.gov)

You are subscribed to the Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative e-mail list, a service brought to you by EPA Region 5 to inform you of news and related events on diesel programs in the Midwest. If you wish to have your name removed please email Anthony Maietta at [maietta.anthony@epa.gov](mailto:maietta.anthony@epa.gov)

