

NATIONAL IDLING REDUCTION NETWORK NEWS

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SOLICITATIONS FOR FUNDING AND AWARDS

Calling All Inventors for New Funding Opportunity

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Inventions & Innovation program (<http://www.eere.energy.gov/inventions>) is expected to release its next solicitation sometime in August 2005. The solicitation offers up to \$50,000 to inventors who have energy-related technologies in early-stage development. For those inventors who have prototypes and need assistance with commercialization, there is an opportunity for up to \$250,000. In the past, several commercially successful idling reduction technologies have been supported by this program. To receive e-mail notification of upcoming solicitation, subscribe to the Federal Grants Notification Service at <http://fedgrants.gov/grants/servlet/AppIRegAgency>. Enter your e-mail address, then select "Energy" as the Category of Funding Activity. Next, enter "81.036" as the CFDA Number for Inventions & Innovation. Then, select "Department of Energy" as the Agency. Finally, click "Subscribe to Mailing List." *Source:* Lisa Barnett, DOE, lisa.barnett@ee.doe.gov

FMCSA Looking Into E-Parking Truck Stop System

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is soliciting proposals under a Broad Agency Announcement to consider new and commercially available technologies that demonstrate a business case for an information service to convey real-time parking availability to truck drivers 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Awards for the "Smart Park" system will be for a maximum period of performance of 2 years. About \$2 million is available for projects. FMCSA said the proposals, which are open to businesses, truck stop associations, nonprofit organizations, educational and research institutions, and State and local government agencies, are due September 16, 2005. Further information is available at <http://www1.eps.gov/spg/DOT/DTMC75/00075/DTMC75%2D05%2DBAA%2D00001/SynopsisP.html> *Source:* *Transport Topics*, June 20, 2005, <http://www.ttnews.com/members/topNews/0013268.html>

Pennsylvania Opens Solicitation for Second Round of Small Business Advantage Grants

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has released a solicitation for its Small Business Advantage Grant Program, which is open to small business owners whose business or facility is located in Pennsylvania. This grant program has been extremely popular, awarding more than \$700,000 to 150 recipients across the State since being launched in July 2004. The program provides a 50-percent matching grant of up to \$7,500 for equipment or processes to reduce energy consumption and promote pollution prevention while helping to increase profitability for small businesses. Many trucking companies have received awards under this program to purchase auxiliary power units to reduce idling of their trucks.

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An eligible applicant must be a for-profit business enterprise that is a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other legal entity that has no more than 100 employees and is a separate legal business entity at the time the application is submitted. Applicants may be manufacturers or service providers. The project for which the grant applies must be located within the applicant's Pennsylvania facility. Grants are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Applications for the Small Business Advantage Grant Program will be accepted through January 6, 2006. Applications can be downloaded from the DEP's Web site at www.dep.state.pa.us, keyword: "SBAdvantage." To receive an application package by mail, call (717) 783-8411, or e-mail DEP at epadvantagegrant@state.pa.us.

EESI Seeks Nominations for "National Clean Bus Leaders"

Starting in 2004, the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) honored fleets in five States for their leadership in bringing cleaner buses and fuels to America's communities. Nominations are now open for this year's awards for transit agencies, school districts, or communities in the United States that are national clean bus leaders. Emphasis is on improvements to air quality and impacts on public health and energy security. Nominations are due on Friday, August 31, 2005. Please contact Shefali Ranganathan at (202) 662-1883 or sranganathan@eesi.org for further information.

SOLICITATION AWARDS

NYSERDA Announces Awards from Its Recent PON

Under the first round of Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 920, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) recently approved \$1.6M to fund 12 advanced transportation technology product development projects. Of interest to the readers of this newsletter, two of the projects include the integration of a shore power-capable tractor equipped with a hybrid-electric transport refrigeration unit and a New York City refuse fleet demonstration of hydraulic-hybrid technology. NYSERDA expects that \$1 M will be available for the second round of proposals, which are due on October 5, 2005. Further information on PON 920 is available on the NYSERDA website at <http://www.nyserda.org/Funding/funding.asp?i=2> Source: Joe Tario, NYSERDA

CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, AND WORKSHOPS

CAPCOA to Host Free Diesel Emissions Conference in Sacramento

The California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association (CAPCOA) is hosting a free diesel emissions reductions technical conference for public agency and utility fleets on August 15-16, 2005, in Sacramento, California.

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An overview of the proposed CARB Public Fleet regulation, available pollution control technologies, and the use of lower polluting technologies for heavy-duty diesel vehicles owned or operated by public agencies will be provided. For more information, please go to: http://www.caltrux.org/downloads/pdf/Public_Downloads/General/CAPCOA.pdf

Carl Moyer Workshop Notice and Agenda Now Available

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) will be discussing revisions to its Carl Moyer grant program at a workshop in Sacramento on August 17-19, 2005. The workshop will also be webcast. The session on August 17 will cover idling reduction strategies, such as truck stop electrification. For further information, please go to <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/moyer/wkshpnotice071405.pdf>

11th DEER Conference to be Held in Chicago on August 21-25

DOE is hosting its 11th Diesel Engine Emissions Reduction (DEER) Conference on August 21-25, 2005, at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, Illinois. DEER has been DOE's primary mechanism for the public exchange of state-of-the-art clean diesel research and development. Presentations will be on high-efficiency clean combustion technologies, health and environmental effects, fuels and lubricants, emission control, and waste heat utilization. For further information, please go to <http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/resources/conferences/deer/index.shtml>

Date for CARB Hearing on Proposed Heavy-Duty Vehicle Idling Rule Changed

The CARB public hearing scheduled for a September 15-16, 2005, Board meeting for the proposed Heavy-Duty Diesel Vehicle Idling Reduction Regulation has been postponed to the October 20-21 CARB hearing. The October CARB hearing will be held in Sacramento at the California Environmental Protection Agency building at 1001 "I" Street, Sacramento, CA 95812. *Source:* Dan Hawelti, ARB, dhawelti@arb.ca.gov

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Wends Its Way through Congress

The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2005 recently passed the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. This bill, introduced in the Senate by Senator George V. Voinovich (R-OH), would authorize \$1 billion available over 5 years for grants and loans to reduce emissions from diesel vehicles. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would be authorized to use 70 percent of the funds for diesel retrofit (repowering or new diesel engines) or idling reduction programs. Eligible diesel-powered vehicles would be buses, medium- and heavy-duty trucks, marine engine, locomotives, and nonroad engines or vehicles used for construction, cargo

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handling, agriculture, mining, or energy production. For further information, please see *Fleet Owner Newsline*, July 22, 2005,

http://fleetowner.com/news/diesel_retrofit_voinovich_engine_bill_072105/ and

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_bills&docid=f:s1265is.txt.pdf)

[bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_bills&docid=f:s1265is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_bills&docid=f:s1265is.txt.pdf)

Texas Governor Stalls Idling Regs by Signing Bill into Law

Governor Rick Perry signed a bill June 17, 2005, to override some idling rules in Texas. The new law takes effect Sept. 1, 2005, and it allows truckers to idle their rigs during Federal Hours of Service-mandated rest periods until September 1, 2007. This date corresponds with stringent diesel emission reductions slated to start at that time. The new rule, previously HB1540, also prohibits and limits adoption or enforcement of rules that ban trucks and other vehicles from idling when necessary to power a heater or air-conditioner while a driver is using the vehicle's sleeper berth for a mandated rest period. It overrides a recent Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ruling permitting cities to opt into a rule that outlaws idling for more than 5 minutes for any reason in a truck. Existing state law prohibits idling for longer than 5 minutes from April 1 to October 31 in Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties. The new rule does not change that. It also prohibits idling while using a vehicle's sleeper berth within 1,000 feet of a public school while class is in session. Violators could be fined up to \$500. For further information, please see *Land Line* magazine, June 22, 2005,

http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2005/Jun05/062205.htm and

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlo/79R/billtext/HB01540F.HTM>

Texas Counties to Begin Enforcing Idling Restrictions

As of August 1, 2005, truckers driving in or through the five counties surrounding Austin, Texas, will be subject to enforcement of State idling restrictions. According to the Central Texas Clean Air Coalition, the rules state that vehicles weighing more than 14,000 pounds will not be allowed to idle for more than 5 minutes during ozone season, which is from April 1 through October 31. However, there are several exemptions that apply directly to truck drivers, including: Vehicles idling in traffic congestion; military, emergency or law enforcement vehicles; vehicle owners that have rented or leased a vehicle to someone they do not employ; vehicles that require the motor to run as a power source for mechanical operations; and truck drivers who are idling to run air-conditioning or heaters during a federally mandated rest period.

The exemptions were OK'd by the Texas Legislature earlier this year and are in effect until 2007. Previous State laws allowed cities and counties to opt into a rule to outlaw idling for more than 5 minutes for any reason in a truck. Members of the clean air coalition, which includes five counties and seven cities in the Austin area, will sign an agreement to enforce the regulations on August 1. Eight other counties around the Houston area already enforce the rules.

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For further information, please see *Land Line* magazine, July 26, 2005, http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2005/Jul05/072605.htm#2 Source: Paul Abelson, *Land Line* magazine

Pennsylvania County Using Peer Pressure for Idling Enforcement

The Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Health Department – with a service area that includes Pittsburgh – implemented a new regulation that prohibits trucks and buses from idling their diesel engines for longer than 5 minutes. Violators will face fines of up to \$500. However, exceptions will be made for vehicles that are picking up passengers, warming their engines, or running heating and air-conditioning for sleeping inside trucks' cabs, *The Associated Press* reported. Despite being a regulation, officials with the Health Department said they want to enforce the idling restriction by word-of-mouth in the neighborhood. For further information, please see *Land Line* magazine, July 18, 2005, http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2005/Jul05/071805.htm#2

Concord, N.C., Adopts Idling Reduction Policy for City Employees

The City of Concord in the Greater Charlotte Region of North Carolina has adopted an idling reduction policy effective June 1, 2005. This policy applies to all City of Concord employees that operate City-owned gasoline- or diesel-powered vehicles or equipment. In general, once a vehicle becomes stationary for longer than 2 minutes, the engine is to be turned-off unless it falls within one of almost a dozen exemptions. These exemptions range from cooling a vehicle for a K-9 unit to idling in traffic to operating heating or air-conditioning on transit, commuter, and airport buses for passengers. Please contact Jason Wagner, Centralina Council of Governments at (704) 348-2707 or jwagner@centralina.org for further information. Source: Jason Wagner

Watch for Comment Period for Proposed Model Idling Reduction Regulation

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently completed its series of five workshops around the country to facilitate the development of a model idling reduction regulation that could be implemented by States and localities interested in regulating truck idling. EPA is not regulating idling and is not specifically recommending that States or localities pass idling regulations. The agency hopes, however, that those who do choose to regulate idling might adopt this model in an effort to make such regulations more consistent from State to State. The next step will be for EPA to distill what it learned during the workshops from State environmental officials, trucking industry representatives, and others into a draft model and background information for public comment. EPA expects to publish this draft model in the *Federal Register* in the fall of 2005.

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The comment period will be approximately 1 month. *Source:* Michael Zatz, EPA, zatz.michael@epa.gov

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Agenda Established to Reduce Diesel Emissions from Rail Yards

CARB announced on June 24, 2005, that it has established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Union Pacific Railroad (UP) and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF). This voluntary agreement obligates the railroads to significantly reduce diesel emissions in and around rail yards in California. Among the most important elements of the agreement are provisions that will significantly clean up the State's biggest rail yards. One of these provisions is a State-wide idling-reduction program to eliminate all non-essential idling through the use of idling reduction devices and operational changes. Another provision requires that more than 99 percent of all intrastate locomotives must be equipped with automatic idling reduction devices by June 30, 2008. UP says that it expects to spend about \$20 million over the next 3 years to implement the various aspects of this emissions reduction program. Further information is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/offroad/loco/loco.htm>, <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/offroad/loco/062305dpmrymou.pdf>, and http://www.uprr.com/newsinfo/railroad/2005/0624_carb.shtml *Source:* David Brann, Electro-Motive Diesel, and Dimitri Stanich, CARB

Rockland County, N.Y., Considers Ticketing All Idling Vehicles

According to the July 1, 2005, *Journal News*, Rockland County (N.Y.) Executive C. Scott Vanderhoef is proposing that Sheriff's Patrol and village and town police departments in the county would be able to issue tickets to drivers who idle their cars, sport utility vehicles, vans, buses, trucks, or other vehicles longer than 3 minutes. Emergency vehicles would be exempt. Currently in Rockland, a driver can only receive a violation notice from the County Health Department after an agency worker personally witnesses and documents an idling incident. Vanderhoef said more could be done to curb idling if a law were created to allow police to help because they have a larger work force. Police officers could issue tickets requiring drivers to appear before the County Board of Health, which could set a fine of up to \$1,000 per idling incident. *Source:* Joe Tario, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

California Community Follows Through on Truck Parking Ban

The North County Times reported that Riverside County officials have approved a plan to ban parking on neighborhood streets in unincorporated communities within the county.

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The Riverside County Board of Supervisors said it was responding to growing concern from residents about increasing traffic from the nearby ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Starting August 1, 2005, truck owners could be cited, fined, and have their vehicles impounded. Fines of \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for a second offense, and \$750 for a third have been proposed. The plan suggests the county work with regional and State regulators to fine diesel vehicle drivers who idle for longer than 5 minutes. Several major highways – Interstates 10, 15, and 215 – pass through Riverside County en route to the ports. The county is also home to more than 70 warehouses, which bring hundreds of rigs to the area daily. For more information, please see *Land Line* magazine, June 29, 2005, http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2005/Jun05/062905.htm#6

Aspen, Colo., Offers Sweet Reward to Stop Idling

The city of Aspen is using a free cookie at Paradise Bakery to try to get people to learn more about global warming, look at how their own lifestyle affects it, and hopefully take action. The city recently launched a program called *Idling Isn't Cool*. It targets people who let their cars idle while they run an errand or warm it up in cold weather. A small, laminated placard with a picture of Earth sweating from heat will be placed on windshields of idling cars by environmental health specialists while they are walking through town. "Turning off your engine when you are not driving is one of the easiest things you can do to lessen your contribution to global warming," the placard reads. The placard claims that letting a car idle for 30 seconds is enough to get engine oil circulating. It also states that a city ordinance makes it illegal to idle an engine for 5 minutes or more.

It then makes an offer the city environmental health department hopes people cannot refuse. People are directed to use one of several websites to fill out a "carbon calculator" — a short list of questions that determines how much carbon a person's lifestyle habits pump into the air. When a person brings back the placard and the results of the carbon test to the environmental health department, he or she is given a voucher for a free cookie. To calculate personal carbon emissions, go to the city's website, www.aspenglobalwarming.com/calculate.cfm. The site will provide several links to websites with a carbon calculator. *Source:* Joe Tario, NYSERDA

Cindy Tuck Appointed New CARB Chairman

On June 28, 2005, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed Cindy Tuck to the position of chairman of the California Air Resources Board. Ms. Tuck brings more than 20 years of experience of direct air-quality experience to the post. She earned a J.D. from the McGeorge School of Law at the University of the Pacific, an M.S. in Environmental Engineering, and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois. The ARB's 11 members are appointed by the Governor. Five are experts in fields such as medicine, chemistry, physics, meteorology, engineering, business, and law. Five others are elected officials who represent regional air

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pollution control agencies- one each from the Los Angeles region, San Francisco Bay Area, San Diego, and the San Joaquin Valley, and one represents the other districts. The Chairman is the only full-time member.

http://www.governor.ca.gov/state/govsite/gov_htmldisplay.jsp?BV_SessionID=@@@@0410199826.1121799306@@@&BV_EngineID=ccciaddfehgklljcfngcfkmdffidfng.0&sTitle=Governor+Arnold+Schwarzenegger+Appoints+Cind&sFilePath=/govsite/press_release/2005_06/20050628_GAAS27205_TuckToARB.html&sCatTitle=Press+Release

Back Issues of National Idling Reduction Network News Available On-Line

If you are a new subscriber or have misplaced an issue of this newsletter, all issues are now located at http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/resources/fcvt_national_idling.shtml.

Summary of State Anti-Idling Regulations

Look at the document at the following site for the most up-to-date list of regulations in States and municipalities that cover anti-idling regulations (http://www.atrionline.org/research/results/idling_chart.pdf), although it does not include the changes in Pittsburgh and Texas. If your State or municipality has changed anything listed here or if it is in error, please let us know, and we'll make sure to inform our readership. This newsletter is also a place to let people know that you are thinking of adding or changing regulations and are soliciting comments.

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Terry Levinson, editor • (202) 488-2472 • tlevinson@anl.gov