

# NATIONAL IDLING REDUCTION NETWORK NEWS

November 2004



## **National Idling Reduction Network News Moves to New Website**

Starting this month, past and the current issues of the *National Idling Reduction Network News* can be found at [http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/resources/fcvt\\_newsletters.shtml](http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/resources/fcvt_newsletters.shtml). Please change your bookmarks to this new site.

## **Volunteers Still Needed for National Idling Reduction Plan**

The Technology Development Working Group is still undersubscribed with volunteers who have knowledge of the bus, rail, marine, and off-road industries. If you work on research and development in these sectors, Uncle Sam needs you! Please contact Lee Slezak ([lee.slezak@ee.doe.gov](mailto:lee.slezak@ee.doe.gov) or 202-586-2335) or Linda Gaines ([lgaines@anl.gov](mailto:lgaines@anl.gov) or 630-252-4919) if you are interested in joining us in writing this plan. Your time commitment would be only a few hours over the next few months for conference calls.

## **No Follow-On Meeting to National Idling Reduction Planning Conference**

Interest in idling reduction that was generated at the National Idling Reduction Planning Conference in Albany this past May is still going strong. Some of you have inquired about whether we will hold a follow-on meeting as we had originally planned at which we were going to "roll out" the National Idling Reduction Plan. The short answer is "No." Our plans have changed, and we have decided that it would be more effective to roll out the National Idling Reduction Plan at conferences sponsored by other organizations. Stay tuned, and we'll keep you informed about when and where we plan to roll out the National Idling Reduction Plan starting early next year.

## **Faster Freight/Cleaner Air Conference to be Held on December 8-9**

The Oakland Marriott City Center & Convention Center in Oakland, California, will be the location of the Faster Freight/Cleaner Air Conference on December 8-9, 2004. The conference is billed as an expo on improving goods movement in Northern California. Speakers will present success stories and examples of the infrastructure improvement strategies, business practices, and clean transportation technologies that will be required by the goods movement industry to meet this increased demand, while at the same time improve efficiency and reduce the cumulative impacts upon our air quality. Registration ranges from \$25-\$150, depending on the affiliation of the registrant. Further information is available at [http://www.ffca2004.com/index.php?option=com\\_frontpage&Itemid=37](http://www.ffca2004.com/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=37). Source: Brewster Boyd, Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting

# NATIONAL IDLING REDUCTION NETWORK NEWS

November 2004



## Central Texas Clean Cities Program Co-Sponsors Idling Reduction Conference on December 15

On December 15, 2004, Central Texas Clean Cities will co-sponsor an Idling Reduction and SmartWay Transportation Partnership Conference. Additional sponsors are the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Texas State Energy Conservation Office, the Texas Department of Transportation, and Austin Energy. It will be held at the Hilton Austin Airport Hotel. Registration is \$50 before December 10 and \$60 after that date. For further information, please contact Stacy Neef at Central Texas Clean Cities ([stacy.neef@austinenergy.com](mailto:stacy.neef@austinenergy.com) or 512-482-5343).

## Massachusetts School Bus Companies Fined for Excessive Idling

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has cracked down on enforcing the Commonwealth's idling reduction regulations that limit most idling to no more than 5 minutes. Eleven bus companies were cited after inspectors visited 34 schools in 20 communities in September and October. Almost 10 percent of the 411 buses that inspectors observed were in violation of this regulation, which allows only 3 exceptions. None of the exceptions applied in these cases. Further information can be found at <http://www.masslive.com/metrowest/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-6/1100956049299574.xml>. Source: Joe Tario, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

## EPA Issues \$109,120 Fine for Idling Trucks in Massachusetts

In August 2004, the EPA fined a North Andover, Massachusetts, furniture company \$109,120 for violating the Commonwealth's anti-idling regulation. The EPA charges that Material Installations, a distributor of pre-manufactured office furniture, repeatedly let its diesel-engine delivery trucks idle. Between August 2003 and March 2004, the trucks idled for close to 1,000 minutes, EPA said. On two occasions, trucks were left idling for more than an hour. EPA also issued a violation notice to the company for similar violations in June 2004. Massachusetts regulations, which prohibit the idling of any motor vehicle for more than 5 minutes, are part of its efforts to comply with Federal air quality standards. For more information, please see <http://boston.bizjournals.com/boston/stories/2004/08/23/daily28.html>. Source: Glen Marshall, Peterbilt Motors Co.

## New Jersey Conducts Anti-Idling Campaign for School Buses

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has begun an anti-idling campaign for school buses throughout the State. Nearly 30 New Jersey school districts and bus contractors have already signed the "No Idling Pledge," in which they volunteer to implement best practices, such as turning off engines while loading or unloading students, using the newest buses for the longest routes, and completing bus driver training. School bus retrofits have begun in the City of Newark and are also planned for Vineland, New Jersey.

# NATIONAL IDLING REDUCTION NETWORK NEWS

November 2004



NJDEP has also launched [www.StopTheSoot.org](http://www.StopTheSoot.org), which describes current anti-idling efforts, such as enhanced enforcement of the State's 3-minute idling law, voluntary retrofits by state contractors, and installation of IdleAire technology at the Paulsboro truck stop. For more information, please contact Melinda Dower of the NJDEP Diesel Risk Reduction Team ([melinda.dower@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:melinda.dower@dep.state.nj.us) or 609-292-1122).

## EPA Region 10 Funding Opportunity Closes Soon

The Request for Initial Proposals for the EPA Region 10 Regional Geographic Initiative (RGI) will close on December 15, 2004. The RGI funds projects that fill critical gaps in the EPA's ability to protect human health and the environment. These projects should address places, sectors or innovative projects, and focus on strategic priorities. Projects should also demonstrate State, local and/or other stakeholder participation, and identify opportunities for leveraging other sources of funding. In Region 10, RGI funding supports projects in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Region 10 RGI projects are generally funded in the \$10,000-\$50,000 range. No match is required unless required by a specific statute used to make the award. Matching funds, leveraging of funds, in-kind contributions, and other forms of leveraging strengthen proposals. Further information is available at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/ecocomm.nsf/bd5af81c438305ea88256b58006146ea/5d102290a6655a5288256c87007ba933?OpenDocument#Eligibility>. Source: Brewster Boyd, Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting

## New Anti-Idling Regulations Enacted in Pittsburgh Area

In August 2004, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, enacted an anti-idling regulation that applies to all diesel-powered heavy vehicles and locomotives in Pittsburgh and environs. The first set of rules issued under this regulation applies to school buses and was effective on October 10. Idling of school buses is now limited to no more than 5 minutes, unless the operation of the school bus falls within 6 exemptions. Among these exemptions is allowing for heating and cooling the bus during cold and hot weather, respectively, for 20 out of every 60 minutes. Penalties range up to \$500 for the third and subsequent offenses. For further information, please contact Tom Lattner at [tlattner@achd.net](mailto:tlattner@achd.net) or see <http://www.achd.net/airqual/pubs/pdf/sbireg.pdf>. Source: Arleen Shulman, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

## Summary of State Anti-Idling Regulations

Here is the current list of regulations in States and municipalities that cover anti-idling regulations (<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/smartway/documents/statelaws.pdf>). **However, it needs to be updated with the information in the above paragraph.**

# NATIONAL IDLING REDUCTION NETWORK NEWS

November 2004



If your State or municipality has changed anything listed here, 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.

Argonne National Laboratory, with facilities in the States of Illinois and Idaho, is owned by the United States Government and operated by The University of Chicago under the provisions of a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy.

## DISCLAIMER

This newsletter was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor The University of Chicago, nor any of their employees or officers, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of document authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof, Argonne National Laboratory, or the University of Chicago.

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