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## MEDIA ADVISORY

**DATE:** June 18, 2020

**CONTACT:** Ralph Borrmann - 415.760.0285

### **\$35 million in new funding for zero-emission projects in California**

*Funding for airport ground support and port cargo handling equipment, forklifts, marine vessel engines and shore power projects*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the availability of \$35 million in Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust funding statewide for the following projects:

- Scrap and replace airport ground support equipment, port cargo handling equipment and forklifts with new zero-emission technologies;
- Scrap and repower marine engines for ferries, tugboats, and towboats with new zero-emission, all-electric or fuel-cell, technologies; and
- Install shore power at berths that serve ocean-going vessels.

The funding is being offered statewide through a competitive solicitation and applications will be ranked on potential reductions of NOx emissions. All funded equipment and vehicles must operate in California. A complete listing of all eligibility and funding requirements are detailed in the program solicitation. At least 75 percent of the \$35 million allocation is expected to benefit disadvantaged and low-income communities. A separate solicitation for this category offering an additional \$35 million is tentatively scheduled to be released in mid-2022.

Applications are being accepted online at [www.CaliforniaVWTrust.org](http://www.CaliforniaVWTrust.org) and the application deadline is 1 p.m. PDT, August 31, 2020.

The VW Environmental Mitigation Trust is a nationwide program that provides funding for states to fully mitigate the excess NOx emissions caused by VW's use of illegal emissions testing defeat devices in VW diesel vehicles. In California, the Zero-Emission Freight and Marine, or ZEF&M, along with four other categories will provide VW Environmental Mitigation Trust funding to eligible projects. The four other categories and the regional air quality agencies assigned to administer the funds statewide on behalf of the California Air Resources Board include:

- [Zero-emission transit, school and shuttle bus projects](#), administered statewide by San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- [Zero-emission class 8 freight & port drayage trucks](#), administered statewide by South Coast Air Quality Management District
- Light-duty zero-emission vehicle infrastructure ([charging stations](#) and [hydrogen fueling stations](#)), administered statewide by Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- [Combustion freight and marine projects](#), administered statewide by South Coast Air Quality Management District

The [California Air Resources Board](#) estimates that the funding for all five categories will result in over 10,000 tons of NOx reductions over a 10-year period which will fully mitigate the NOx impacts caused by the VW defeat devices.

For more information on the VW Environmental Mitigation Trust and details on eligibility requirements for the ZEF&M category, visit [www.californiavwtrust.org](http://www.californiavwtrust.org).

CARB is the lead agency in California for cleaning up the air and fighting climate change to attain and maintain health-based air quality standards. Its mission is to promote and protect public health, welfare, and ecological resources through the effective reduction of air and climate pollutants while recognizing and considering effects on the economy.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is serving as administrator of the funding for the ZEF&M category in partnership with CARB. The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

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*Air District Communications Office*  
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