

## EPA awards \$71,000 to Bay Area Water Transit Authority



West Coast Diesel Collaborative event at the Ferry Building in San Francisco, CA

For Immediate Release: September 30, 2004  
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**SAN FRANCISCO** At an event announcing a \$71,000 grant to reduce diesel pollution from Bay Area ferries, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency joined with a consortium of federal, state and local government agencies, non-profits and industry to kick off an unprecedented effort to reduce diesel emissions from trucks, ships, locomotives and other diesel sources along the West Coast.

Organized as the *West Coast Diesel Emissions Reductions Collaborative*, more than 400 interests are working together to find voluntary solutions, incentives and shared approaches to reducing diesel pollution in California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska sooner than federally mandated deadlines. Interests from British Columbia and Mexico have also joined this effort.

"The collaborative projects announced today will provide immediate health benefits for residents of the West Coast, especially for our children," said Wayne Natri, EPA's administrator for the Pacific Southwest region. "Replacing old diesel engines with newer, cleaner models -- as well as providing cleaner fuel will quicken the pace toward the new EPA standards, providing a healthier, cleaner environment for everyone."

"The Bay Area Air District supports the goals of the West Coast Diesel Collaborative," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. "Diesel exhaust represents the most pervasive and harmful airborne contaminant in the air today. Reducing diesel emissions will improve public health. The Purinox project being launched today advances our mutual goal of protecting health and we welcome the collaboration that this represents."

"Golden Gate National Recreation Area is very pleased to see that EPA is

assisting the Blue and Gold Fleet to take the next step forward in its history of sustainable practices through this important Grant. Both the EPA and the Blue and Gold Fleet are important partners with the National Park Service in exploring new methods of sustainable practices as it relates to our park operations," said Brian O'Neill, general superintendent of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Steve Castleberry, CEO of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority, said, "We are proud to be a recipient of this money. Two million passengers per year ride these boats to Alcatraz. By using this alternative fuel, passengers will see clean-burning smoke stacks and we will provide a healthier environment for the entire Bay. Parks are one of our most valuable resources and this allows people to visit them in an environmentally responsible way."

The \$71,000 grant is one of eight announcements along the West Coast totaling more than \$6 million in funding from federal, state, local, non-profit and industry participants toward diesel pollution reduction. The collaborative goal is to ultimately secure \$100 million through this public/private partnership to address and solve the diesel pollution problems in the west, and aimed at getting voluntary diesel reductions sooner than the deadlines set by the EPA's stringent new diesel standards that begin to take effect in 2008.

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority is working with the Blue and Gold Fleet and Lubrizol

Corporation to evaluate the emissions reduction potential of PuriNOx Technology, a low emissions fuel additive that can reduce nitrogen oxides emissions by up to 30 percent and particulate matter emissions up to 65 percent. In addition, Lubrizol Corporation is providing \$12,000 for emissions testing and fuel filter replacements.