

May 20, 2009

The Honorable Norman Dicks
Subcommittee on Interior and Environment
Committee on Appropriations
Room B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael Simpson
Subcommittee on Interior and Environment
Committee on Appropriations
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Dicks and Ranking Member Simpson:

As a uniquely broad coalition of environmental, science-based, public health, industry, and state and local governmental groups, we request support in your Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) budget for two important health and environment programs. We respectfully request \$200 million to fully fund the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) and \$270 million for state and local air quality grants.

First, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the commitment your Committee has repeatedly shown to funding diesel emission reduction programs. We are incredibly grateful for the \$300 million in funding that you included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) as well as the \$75 million that you included in the fiscal year 2009 budget for diesel emission reductions. This funding will not only assist in cleaning the air and protecting public health, but it also presents a unique opportunity to stimulate the economy in a timely and targeted manner.

The first critical component of our request builds on the diesel retrofit program in the ARRA by funding DERA at the authorized level of \$200 million in FY10. As you know, diesel-powered vehicles and equipment play an important role in the nation's economy. DERA was enacted in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 with overwhelming bi-partisan support to help address emissions from the estimated 11 million existing diesel engines that are not affected by EPA's new engine rules. The purpose of DERA was to provide funding at \$1 billion over five years to finance the installation of retrofits on existing heavy-duty diesel vehicles and engines, thereby reducing their harmful emissions from these vehicles by 90 percent or more. Full funding for DERA is a 'win-win-win' that will create jobs, provide cost-effective health benefits, and reduce black carbon emissions that recent studies indicate contribute to global warming.

Investment in DERA is needed and fiscally responsible, yielding one of the greatest cost-benefit ratios of any federal program, according to the Office of Management and Budget's calculations. It will go a long way toward helping states and localities meet the nation's clean air standards by encouraging the use of cost-effective emissions reduction strategies. Furthermore, as the study from Keybridge Research demonstrates, funding DERA creates immediate jobs in sectors hit hardest by the economic downturn.

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Moreover, increasing the installation of clean diesel retrofits through significant funding for DERA can generate global warming benefits. Recent studies show that black carbon from diesel exhaust has significant global warming potential. Clean diesel retrofits reduce this black carbon by over 90%.

The second critical component of our request is an increase in funding for state and local air quality grants to \$270 million, a \$46 million increase above the FY09 appropriated level. State and local governments hold primary responsibility for preventing and controlling air pollution and rely on these grants to carry out their core obligations under the Clean Air Act, including monitoring air quality, assessing emissions impacts, permitting and inspecting sources and enforcing laws and regulations.

We urge increased grants because state and local air quality agencies are straining to maintain existing programs and address increasing responsibilities – such as developing State Implementation Plans to attain and maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards, implementing clean air rules, and addressing toxic air pollutants. At the same time, federal grants for these programs have decreased by approximately one-third in terms of purchasing power over the last 15 years. Recognizing that resources are limited, we are requesting a fraction of the amount that is needed by these agencies.

States and localities and environmental, health, user and industry groups all support greater funding for diesel retrofits because it is sound environmental, health and budgetary policy. We urge you to provide full funding for DERA at \$200 million, and request that state and local air quality grants be funded at \$270 million because these grants are vital to achieve and sustain clean air and protect public health across the nation.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Council of California
Alabama State Port Authority
Allied Grape Grower
Alternative Hybrid Locomotive Technologies, Inc.
(AHL-TECH)
American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA)
American Lung Association
American Lung Association in Alabama
American Lung Association in Alaska
American Lung Association in Arizona
American Lung Association in Arkansas
American Lung Association in California
American Lung Association in Colorado
American Lung Association in Connecticut
American Lung Association in Delaware
American Lung Association in Florida
American Lung Association in Georgia

American Lung Association in Idaho
American Lung Association in Illinois –
Greater Chicago
American Lung Association in Indiana
American Lung Association in Iowa
American Lung Association in Kansas
American Lung Association in Louisiana
American Lung Association in Maine
American Lung Association in Maryland
American Lung Association in Massachusetts
American Lung Association in Minnesota
American Lung Association in Mississippi
American Lung Association in Missouri
American Lung Association in Nebraska
American Lung Association in Nevada
American Lung Association in New Hampshire
American Lung Association in New Jersey

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American Lung Association in New Mexico
American Lung Association in New York State, Inc.
American Lung Association in North Carolina
American Lung Association in North Dakota
American Lung Association in Ohio
American Lung Association in Oklahoma
American Lung Association in Pennsylvania
American Lung Association in Rhode Island
American Lung Association in South Carolina
American Lung Association in South Dakota
American Lung Association in Tennessee
American Lung Association in Texas
American Lung Association in Utah
American Lung Association in Vermont
American Lung Association in Virginia
American Lung Association in Washington
American Lung Association in West Virginia
American Lung Association in Wisconsin
American Lung Association of New England
American Lung Association of the Central States
American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest
(ALAUM)
American Trucking Associations
Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)
Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania
Audubon Society, RI
Autotherm Division Enthel Systems, Inc
A-Z Bus Sales Inc.
Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council
BASF Catalyst LLC
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates
Beaverton Schools Transportation
Bettendorf Trucking
Blue Diamond of California
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
Brattain International Trucks
Breathe California
Brett Hulsey, Dane County Supervisor
(Madison, WI)
Building Industry Association of
Fresno/Madera Counties
Caldwell County Health Department (NC)
California Aerial Applicators Association
California Ag Irrigation Association
California Air Resources Board
California Association of Wheat Growers
California Association of Winegrape Growers
California Bean Shippers Association
California Cattlemen's Association
California Citrus Mutual
California Cotton Ginners Association
California Cotton Growers Association
California Dairies Inc.
California Dairy Campaign
California Farm Bureau Federation
California Forestry Association
California Grain and Feed Association
California Grape and Tree Fruit League
California Groundwater Association
California Pear Growers Association
California Rice Commission
California Seed Association
California State Floral Association
California Trucking Association
California Warehouse Association
California Women for Agriculture
CALSTART
Canary Coalition
Cantwell Power Solutions
Cantwell Power Solutions, LLC
Capital Clean Cities of Connecticut
Carolinas Clean Air Coalition
Cascade Sierra Solutions
Catalytic Solutions, Inc.
Caterpillar Inc.
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Stockton
(Stockton, CA)
CED Consulting LLC
Central Point School District 6
Charlotte Area Bicycle Alliance
Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition
Chicago International Trucks
Chicago Metropolitan Association of the United
Church of Christ
Citizen Action- Illinois
Citizens' Environmental Coalition
Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future
City of Orange
City of Pittsburgh Mayor, Luke Ravenstahl
City of Portland (Oregon)
Clean Air Board of Central Pennsylvania
Clean Air Council
Clean Air Task Force (CATF)
Clean Air Watch
Clean BioFuels Coalition Of Mississippi
Clean Fuels Ohio
Clean Water Action -- Michigan
Clean Water Action -- Rhode Island
Clean Water Action- Connecticut
Clean Water Action- Maryland
Clean Water Action- Massachusetts
Clean Water Action- National
Clean Water and Air Matter

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Clear Skies Unlimited
Cleveland County Asthma Coalition (NC)
Coalition for Clean Air
Coalition of Labor and Business
Coastal Conservation League
Commissioner Cogen, of Multnomah
County, District 2
Communities for Clean Ports/EndOil
Community Bus Services, Inc
Commuter Challenge
Corning Incorporated
Craufurd Manufacturing, LLC
Cummins Inc.
Davidson County Asthma Coalition
Dell Transportation
Diesel Technology Forum (DTF)
Donaldson Co., Inc
Doug Hodson Trucking Co
Dousman Transport Company, Inc.
Durham School Services LLC
E Global Solutions, Inc., (EGS)
Earth Day Coalition
East Bay Clean Cities Coalition
East Michigan Environmental Action Council
Eaton Corporation
Educational Bus Transportation, Inc.
Emissions Control Technology Association (ECTA)
Emissstar LLC
Energy Law Wisconsin
Engine Control Systems Limited
Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA)
Environment Georgia
Environment Massachusetts
Environment North Carolina
Environment Northeast
Environmental Advocates of New York
Environmental Council of Rhode Island
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Health Watch
Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island
Flatiron Power Systems
Freight Wing Inc
Fresno County Farm Bureau
Fresno Metro Ministry
Friends of the Earth
Friends of the Moshassuck
Frigette Truck Climate Systems
GE Transportation
Genesee Region Clean Communities Coalition
Georgia Mining Association
Georgia PIRG
Gladstein, Neandross & Associates
Gordon Trucking, Inc
Granite State Clean Cities Coalition
Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities
Greater Philadelphia Clean Cities Program
Greater Sacramento Regional Clean Air Coalition
Green Diesel Wisconsin Foundation
Green Law
Green Party of Rhode Island
Groundwork Lawrence (Lawrence, MA)
Group Against Smog and Pollution (GASP)
Hendrickson Bus Corporation
Human Action Community Organization
Huntington Coach Corporation
HUSS LLC
Ibiden USA, Inc
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Idle Free Systems, Inc.
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition
Illinois Student Environmental Coalition
Imperial Valley Vegetable Growers Association
Inland Power Group
Insight Environmental
Ironman Parts & Services
Johnson Matthey, Inc
Kern County Farm Bureau
Kings County Farm Bureau
Krapf Bus Companies
KyotoUSA
Lake Erie-Allegheny Earthforce
Land and Water Partnership
Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority
Left Brain
Madera County Farm Bureau
Makah Tribe
Manufacturers Council of Central Valley
Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association
(MECA)
Marine Oil Technology
Medford Climate Action Network (Medford, MA)
Merced County Farm Bureau
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus –
Clean Air Counts Campaign
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
MIRATECH Corporation
Miriam Cardiology, Inc. (Thomas Crain, MD)
Mothers & Others for Clean Air
Narragansett Bay and Estuaries Program
National Association for Pupil Transportation
(NAPT)
National Association of Clean Air Agencies
(NACAA)

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National Association of Manufacturers	Rush Truck Center -- Alice (TX)
National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS)	Rush Truck Center -- Ardmore (OK)
National Education Association of Rhode Island	Rush Truck Center -- Atlanta (GA)
National Ground Water Association	Rush Truck Center -- Austin (TX)
National PTA	Rush Truck Center -- Chandler (AZ)
National School Transportation Association (NSTA)	Rush Truck Center -- Dallas (TX)
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)	Rush Truck Center -- Denver (CO)
NC Asthma Program- NC Division of Public Health	Rush Truck Center -- El Centro (CA)
NC Conservation Network	Rush Truck Center -- El Paso (TX)
NCWARN	Rush Truck Center -- Escondido (CA)
Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM)	Rush Truck Center -- Flagstaff (AZ)
New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)	Rush Truck Center -- Fontana (CA)
NextEnergy's Detroit Area Clean Cities Coalition	Rush Truck Center -- Fort Worth (TX)
NGK Automotive Ceramics USA, Inc.	Rush Truck Center -- Greeley (CO)
Nisei Farmers League	Rush Truck Center -- Haines City (FL)
North Carolina State Ports Authority	Rush Truck Center -- Houston (TX)
Northern Colorado Clean Cities	Rush Truck Center -- Jacksonville (FL)
Nuestras Raíces (Holyoke, MA)	Rush Truck Center -- Laredo (TX)
Ohio Environmental Council	Rush Truck Center -- Las Cruces (NM)
Ohio Network of Chemically Injured	Rush Truck Center -- Lufkin (TX)
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality	Rush Truck Center -- Mobile (AL)
Oregon Environmental Council	Rush Truck Center -- Nashville (TN)
Oregon Toxics Alliance	Rush Truck Center -- Nashville (TN)
Oregon Trucking Associations	Rush Truck Center -- Oklahoma City (OK)
Pacific Egg and Poultry	Rush Truck Center -- Orlando (FL)
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association	Rush Truck Center -- Pharr (TX)
Pacifica Marine, Inc.	Rush Truck Center -- Phoenix (AZ)
People for Community Recovery	Rush Truck Center -- Pico Rivera (CA)
Pitt County Memorial Hospital- Pediatric Asthma Program (NC)	Rush Truck Center -- San Antonio (TX)
Port of Everett	Rush Truck Center -- San Diego (CA)
Port of Oakland	Rush Truck Center -- Sealy (TX)
Port of Pittsburgh Commission	Rush Truck Center -- Sylmar (CA)
Port of Portland (OR)	Rush Truck Center -- Tampa (FL)
Port of Seattle	Rush Truck Center -- Texarkana (TX)
Port of Tacoma	Rush Truck Center -- Tucson (AZ)
Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	Rush Truck Center -- Tulsa (OK)
Quantum Sphere Inc	Rush Truck Center -- Tyler (TX)
Regional Air Pollution Control Agency	Rush Truck Center -- Waco (TX)
Renewable Energy Long Island (RELI)	Rush Truck Center -- Winter Garden (FL)
Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Rhode Island Sierra Club	San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation
RI Blueways Alliance	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
RJ Corman Railroad Group	San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District
Rose Foundation for Communities & the Environment	Save the Air in Nevada County (Nevada County, CA)
Rush Truck Center -- Abilene (TX)	Scholastic Bus Company, NY
Rush Truck Center -- Albuquerque (NM)	School Bus, Inc.
	Shorepower Technologies
	Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter
	Sierra Club, Pennsylvania Chapter
	South Carolina State Ports Authority

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South Coast Air Quality Management District
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Southern Environmental Law Center
Southwest Clean Air Agency
Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency
Stanislaus County Farm Bureau
StarOilco
State Representative Deb Kennedy, Michigan State
House of Representatives
State Representative Sarah Roberts, Michigan State
House of Representatives
Student Xpress
Sunrise Bus Company
Sunrise Southwest, LLC
Sunrise Transportation, Inc.
Sustainable Energy Alliance of Long Island
Sustainable South Bronx
Tacoma Rail
The Halton Company, Caterpillar Dealer
The Stay
The TransGroup, LLC
Trinity Alternative Energy Corp

South Shore Clean Cities
Tulare County Farm Bureau
Twin Cities Clean Cities Coalition
Umicore Autocat USA Inc.
Unifrax Corporation
Union County Asthma Coalition (NC)
Union of Concerned Scientists
United Motorcoach Association
United States Chamber of Commerce
Valley Power Systems
Vector Environmental, Inc.
Washington State Department of Ecology
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
Western Plant Health Association
Western Riverside Council of Governments
Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition
Western United Dairymen
Westport Innovations Inc.
WI. Engine Manufacturers & Distributors Alliance
(WEMDA)
Wisconsin Clean Cities - Southeast Area, Inc.
Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority