



Monthly Email Update –June 2009

Grants

Grants to Replace Aging Diesel Engines

Mecklenburg County Air Quality

Application Due Date: June 30, 2009

Third round of funding for "Grants to Replace Aging Diesel Engines" (GRADE) Project for 2009 opened May 1, 2009. GRADE offers funding to pay for replacing aging construction equipment or repowering old equipment with a new engine. This project specifically targets nitrogen oxides (NOx) that contribute to the ozone problem in the Charlotte region. Any company that operates off-road construction equipment in the North Carolina portion of the Charlotte Non-Attainment Region is eligible to apply for funding to clean up that equipment. More information at

<http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/LUESA/Air+Quality/GRADE.htm>

Rural Energy For America Program Grants (REAP Grants)

US Department of Agriculture

Application Due Date: July 31, 2009

The REAP/Feasibility Grant Program will provide grants for energy audits and renewable energy development assistance. It also provides funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to conduct feasibility study for a renewable energy system. For all projects, the system must be located in a rural area, must be technically feasible, and must be owned by the applicant. Grants up to \$50,000 available. More details at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/REAPFEAS.htm>

Events/Conferences:

Cummins 2010 Emissions Training

June 16, 2009 at 4:00 pm

Charlotte Truck Center

4633 Equipment Drive, Charlotte, NC 28221

Training will provide update on Cummins content, cover basic concept of system operation, maintenance, and issues related to urea fluid. See also flyer attached. Training is free but please RSVP to Dave Navey at dnavay@charlottetruckcenter.com.

Virtual Energy Forum Offers a Free, Two-Day Clean Energy Conference

June 24-25, 2009

Online at <http://virtualenergyforum.com/>

The world's largest online conference for renewable energy and energy-efficient practices in businesses will be held for free on June 24 and 25 and will feature such speakers as Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute, Fred Krupp of the Environmental Defense Fund, and Mark Ginsberg of DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. DOE will host a Global Green Cities track during the event.

Charting the Course for Electric Transportation

July 28, 2009

RTI's MCNC campus

3021 Cornwallis Rd., Durham, NC

A road mapping meeting to further NC Get Ready by planning, prioritizing and implementing the steps involved in expanding use of electric vehicles in NC. RSVP to cleantransportation@ncsu.edu

Other Items of Interest:

In 2008, U.S. Transportation Related Carbon Dioxide Emissions Decline 5.2%

U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels decreased by 2.8% in 2008, according to estimates released by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). This is the largest annual decline since the EIA began reporting on greenhouse gas emissions. Transportation-related emissions, which account for about a third of total energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, decreased by 5.2% in 2008—again the largest annual decline since 1990. Within the transportation sector, motor gasoline accounts for 58.7% of CO2 emissions and diesel fuel accounts for 23.2% of CO2 emissions. Factors that contributed to the decline include: increased energy prices (in 2008, gasoline and diesel prices were at their all-time peak level); lower consumer income (near the end of the year, despite lower energy prices, gasoline and diesel demand was dampened by a drop in consumer income); and lower economic growth (in 2008, GDP growth was a modest 1.1%. In the fourth quarter, GDP fell at an annual rate of 6.3%).

Source: US Energy-Related Carbon Dioxide Emissions Declined by 2.8% in 2008; Transportation-Related Emissions Down 5.2%, Green Car Congress

Commodity Prices a Speed Trap for Biodiesel Production

Interesting article about recent biodiesel production troubles from BioBased News at <http://biobasednews.com/node/21620>

Restructured GM to Build a New Small Car in the United States

General Motors Corporation (GM) declared bankruptcy, and as part of the company's restructuring, it plans to revive one of its idled U.S. factories for the production of a future small car. The new small car will add to a group of small and fuel-efficient vehicles that the company is planning to roll out in the near future, including the Chevrolet Cruze and GM's plug-in hybrid vehicle, the Chevy Volt. The retooled plant will be capable of building 160,000 cars annually, including both small and compact vehicles, but GM has not yet decided which of its manufacturing plants will be retooled.

Vermont first to pass renewable energy feed-in law

Vermont has become the first U.S. state to adapt a full system of renewable energy feed-in tariffs, a program that closely resembles Ontario's Green Energy Act passed into law in mid-May. The new legislation puts in place a "standard offer" that will establish minimum rates to be paid by electric customers for various renewable sources in long-term fixed-price contracts. See the rest of this article at *BioMass Magazine* at http://www.biomassmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=2745