(C)

Melissa Velez-Morales

From:	Masser, Michelle
Sent:	Thursday, October 27, 2016 8:59 AM
To:	Harris, Laura
Cc:	Melissa Velez-Morales
Subject:	FW: NJDEP Press Release - Christie Administration Announces Grant Program to Reduce Diesel Emissions
Attachments:	Diesel Emission Grant Announced.docx

Correspondence

Michelle Masser
Township Clerk
Mount Olive Township
PO Box 450
204 Flanders Drakestown Road
Budd Lake, NJ 07828
clerk@mtolivetwp.org
973-691-0900 X7291

From: Rogers, Joseph [mailto:Joseph.Rogers@dep.nj.gov] **On Behalf Of** Pflugh, Kerry
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 8:41 AM
To: Pflugh, Kerry <Kerry.Pflugh@dep.nj.gov>
Subject: NJDEP Press Release - Christie Administration Announces Grant Program to Reduce Diesel Emissions

Dear Municipal Clerk:

Please see that NJDEP Press Release concerning the $3 million grant program to reduce construction Equipment Diesel Emissions.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly

Regards,

Kerry Kirk Pflugh
Director
Office of Local Government Assistance
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
401 E. State Street
P.O. Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402
Office: 609-633-7700
Cell – 609-575-3806
email: kerry.pflugh@dep.nj.gov

www.nj.gov/dep/

NOTE: This E-mail is protected by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. Sections 2510-2521. This E-Mail and its contents may be Privileged & Confidential due to the Attorney -Client Privilege, Attorney Work Product, Deliberative Process or under the New Jersey Open Public Records Act. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, please notify the sender, delete it and do not read, act upon, print, disclose, copy, retain or redistribute it.

DEP NEWS RELEASE
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 26, 2016
www.nj.gov/dep

Contact: Lawrence Hajna (609) 984-1795
Bob Considine (609) 292-2994
Caryn Shinske (609) 984-1795

CHRISTIE ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHES $3 MILLION GRANT PROGRAM TO REDUCE CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT DIESEL EMISSIONS

PROGRAM IS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE OF ITS KIND EVER IN NEW JERSEY

(16/P104) TRENTON – As part of its ongoing efforts to improve air quality in New Jersey, the Christie Administration is launching a grant program with more than $3 million in available funding to help owners of off-road construction equipment install pollution-control devices or replace this equipment with newer models, Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin announced today.

This is the first time the state has undertaken such a comprehensive effort to help owners reduce emissions from off-road construction equipment such as excavators, backhoes and bulldozers by voluntarily retrofitting or replacing this equipment, a significant source of harmful soot particles and nitrogen oxides.

The DEP is funding the New Jersey Clean Construction Program grants using money from a variety of sources including the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Highway Administration via Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.

The DEP has already assisted municipal, county and state agencies retrofit thousands of school buses, public and private commercial buses, and publicly owned on-road and off-road vehicles. The DEP also implemented a pilot program to reduce diesel emissions from construction vehicles at state construction sites.

Grant money for the commercial off-road construction vehicle retrofit program can be used for the full cost of a diesel-emissions control system retrofit or up to 30 percent of the cost of

replacement equipment, not to exceed $100,000.

"The Christie Administration has long been committed to improving air quality in New Jersey through a variety of strategies and programs," Commissioner Martin said. "The construction-vehicle upgrades and equipment replacements funded by this program will improve air quality, especially in localized areas near construction sites. It complements our very successful efforts in retrofitting thousands of diesel-powered vehicles across the state."

The Christie Administration has now nearly completed the retrofit of nearly 10,000 school and transit buses, as well as 1,300 garbage trucks and more than 2,000 pieces of diesel-powered equipment owned by government entities.

Exhaust from diesel engines is particularly harmful to public health because it contains fine particles, or soot, that is smaller than 2.5 micrometers (or 1/30th the width of a strand of hair) that can be inhaled into the deepest part of the lungs, where these toxins can enter the bloodstream. Scientific studies have shown that inhalation of fine particles can cause a wide range of health problems, including asthma, bronchitis, cancer and premature death.

"The DEP is ready to work with applicants who qualify for these new funds and walk them through each step of the application, review and award process," said Paul Baldauf, DEP's Assistant Commissioner for Air Quality, Energy and Sustainability. "Our review of these applications will in particular focus on addressing some of the oldest and most polluting equipment and helping improve air quality for our most sensitive populations."

Furthermore, this program provides incentives to the construction industry to remove from service equipment that emits a high level of harmful pollutants but otherwise might not be replaced for many more years.

Eligible applicants must use their equipment in New Jersey at least 50 percent of the time. Any off-road equipment that is replaced using funds provided under the program must be taken permanently out of service and scrapped. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis until funding has been depleted.

In addition to reducing emissions of fine particles at construction sites, the program will also benefit the environment and public health by reducing emissions of nitrogen oxide, a pollutant that contributes to the formation of smog, also known as ground-level ozone.

For information on how to apply, visit: www.stopthesoot.org/eoi.htm

To learn more about the DEP's Air Quality, Energy and Sustainability program, visit: www.nj.gov/dep/aqes/

###