



Environment Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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San Miguel County Completes Diesel Emission Reduction Project Funded Through President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), in partnership with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and San Miguel County, is pleased to announce the completion of the New Mexico Clean Diesel Project for San Miguel County New Mexico.

The NMED Air Quality Bureau was awarded a onetime Diesel Emissions Reduction Act grant funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to implement a diesel emissions reduction project in the State. The goals of New Mexico Clean Diesel Project are to reduce the amount of air pollution created by diesel-fueled heavy-duty while promoting economic recovery and creating jobs. This will help reduce pollution exposure for New Mexico residents.

In 2009, President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funded EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign distributing funding for the State Clean Diesel Grant Program. The NMED Air Quality Bureau administered grant funds for five diesel emissions reduction projects.

In San Miguel County, funds were used to replace four older, dirtier diesel-fueled trucks with four 2011 model year trucks that meet the most stringent emission standards for heavy-duty diesel-fueled on road trucks. This project was expanded to include the installation of ten diesel-fueled fired engine heaters.

Newer cleaner diesel-fueled trucks reduce diesel exhaust emissions of oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide by greater than ninety percent compared to the older, dirtier trucks. The fuel-fired heaters reduce the amount of time the trucks idle, especially in the early mornings during warm up, thus reducing exhaust emissions.

San Miguel County will be hosting a press event on Tuesday May 10, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. at the San Miguel County Public Works Yard at 10 Airport Road, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Les Montoya, County Manager said, "The County Public Works operation benefited greatly from the Clean Diesel Grant funding made available to replace the old equipment with new and efficient equipment. This enabled us to continue providing economical, safe and reliable service to the general public."

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