

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

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The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

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New Mexico Environment Department awards Acme Iron and Metal \$434,659 in DERA grant funding for equipment upgrade

DERA funding helps businesses reduce emissions, upgrade equipment

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) awarded Acme Iron and Metal \$434,659 in grant funding to reduce harmful diesel exhaust emissions from older dirtier diesel-fueled non-road equipment. Grant funding is from the NMED through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA). This grant provides partial funding for the replacement of one diesel-fueled rubber-tire scrap metal material handler with an “E” Electric material handler with zero emissions.

Acme Iron and Metal operates several locations within the Albuquerque metro area and one in Roswell. This unit will be located in Albuquerque’s South Valley. Albuquerque has ozone concentrations approaching levels considered unhealthy by the EPA. The shift to electric equipment immediately eliminates all local emissions associated with the combustion of diesel fuel at this site. This project has direct health benefits for equipment operators, other employees within the recycling facility operation, and residents in the community surrounding the facility. There will be a total lifetime diesel fuel reduction of 29,090 gallons and the added benefit of removing 327 tons of carbon dioxide emissions, aligning with Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham’s emission reduction goals. In addition, there will be a 100% reduction in oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) emissions from the combustion of diesel fuel. NO_x contributes to the formation of ozone, and both ozone and particulate matter contribute to the formation of smog. Both can cause respiratory problems, especially in vulnerable populations like children, the elderly and those with respiratory illnesses. This project will have immediate and long-lasting positive impacts on the community.

NMED and EPA want to assist additional New Mexico businesses while improving air quality and public health in our state. If you are interested in receiving DERA funding for diesel emission reduction projects in New Mexico, visit <https://www.env.nm.gov/air-quality/diesel/>, or call 505-476-4300.

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