



Beyond The Fumes...

Philadelphia Diesel Difference
(PDD) Newsletter

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"Beyond The Fumes..." is produced quarterly for use by PDD Working Group Members and interested members of the public to learn the latest regional news relating to clean diesel technologies and projects

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PDD Calendar

March 20: PDD Meeting, American College of Physicians, 6th and Race Sts. (10:00 am - noon)

April 17: PDD Meeting, American College of Physicians, 6th and Race Sts. (10:00 am - noon)

April 17: Ports Task Force Meeting, American College of Physicians, 6th and Race Sts. (12:30 - 1:30 pm)

May 10: Mid Atlantic Clean Ports Workshop, Park Hyatt Hotel, Broad and Walnut Sts. (Registration required)

"Forging Partnerships To Reduce Diesel Emissions"

www.cleanair.org/dieseldifference

Ports Task Force Gears Up for Green Projects

As noted in the Fall Newsletter, two separate grants have been awarded to the Clean Air Council through the Ports Task Force (formerly the ports subcommittee) of the Philadelphia Diesel Difference. One is a National Clean Diesel Campaign grant, which will be used to mitigate diesel emissions, most likely from off-road diesel fleets operating at port facilities. The other is the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) grant, which in its first phase will bring together stakeholders from the port and surrounding communities to identify specific environmental concerns at the Port of Philadelphia, and propose potential solutions. This grant program focuses on multiple media—in this case, air, water and land/brownfields and will



(Image Courtesy of DVRPC/PRPA)

last for two years. The Diesel Difference Ports Task Force looks forward to building partnerships between many diverse interest groups to develop a workable and sustainable plan for improving air quality near the ports.

PDD Seeks Committed Fleets with \$50 Million in Funding Proposed

In February, the White House released its FY 2007 budget proposal, which includes \$50 million for clean diesel projects supported under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA). The inclusion of significant funding for diesel initiatives

demonstrates the growing recognition among policymakers that clean diesel programs like retrofits, Auxiliary Power Units and Low-Emissions Fuels are cost-effective and highly worthwhile endeavors. The Clean Air Council and the Diesel

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FLEET FOCUS: Asthma BUSTers

Asthma BUSTers is one of Diesel Difference's most unique partners. This nonprofit organization, sponsored by Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, uses a 2-story British-style bus that functions as a mobile classroom, teaching students in the Philadelphia School District about the dangers of asthma. The group also helps to identify schoolchildren at risk for the disease and offers information about the many resources available for accessing treatment. Thanks to a donation from Lubrizol, the bus has now been retrofitted with a Diesel Oxidation Catalyst which will reduce particulate emissions by 20% and Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions by 50%. As a group dedicated to helping children and adults throughout the area breathe easier, Asthma BUSTers is proud to be doing its part to improve the quality of Philadelphia's air while serving as an example to other fleets.



(Image courtesy of Robert Neroni Photography)

Mid-Atlantic Diesel Collaborative Kicks Off in D.C.

On February 28th, the Mid-Atlantic Diesel Collaborative held its kickoff event in Washington, DC. Several members of the Philadelphia Diesel Difference Working Group were in attendance, including Brett Alkins of Johnson Matthey who gave a presentation covering the various types of Diesel technology that his company produces, and how each product works to reduce emissions. Other highlights included a showcase of regional successes, co-presented by another working group member, Arleen Shulman of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection. Among the projects noted in Arleen's presentation, the Diesel Difference was held up as an example of how cities can build workable public-private partnerships and get

active in promoting diesel projects. Dawn Fenton of the Diesel Technology Forum—who recently gave a presentation at the January Diesel Difference meeting—also joined the Kickoff's panel on Funding Opportunities. In the afternoon, the event's participants broke off into

smaller groups to conduct breakout sessions on Freight, School Buses, Ports, and Public Fleets/Urban Redevelopment. For a recap of the day's activities or for more information about the Collaborative, please visit <http://dieselmidatlantic.com>.



(Images courtesy of EPA)



**Mid-Atlantic
Diesel Collaborative**
on the route to cleaner air

Budget, (cont'd from Page 1)

Difference look forward to seeing DERA funds appropriated by Congress, and will continue to work in advance to bring DERA grants to fleets in the Philadelphia area. To that end, two letters were recently sent by PDD—one to CEOs of local corporations that operate vehicle fleets in and around Philadelphia, and one to local public works directors of nearby municipalities. PDD staff have been following up on these letters in a series of one-on-one meetings, and have already obtained advance commitments to retrofit over 200 vehicles in the area, contingent on the future availability of grant funding. Check future issues of “Beyond the Fumes...” for updates on this important ongoing initiative. For more information, please contact Alison Tracy at Alison.Tracy@phila.gov.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR:

As the Philadelphia Diesel Difference moves toward its third year, I am reminded that we embarked upon this initiative to reduce the health risks to our community from air emissions associated with diesel engines. I believe we have set a good foundation for achieving further progress. In the past year, we have secured new sources of funding for clean diesel projects, coordinated with local fleets to bring retrofit projects to fruition, and reached out to community stakeholders to bring new partners on board. Notably, the anti-idling partnership established between Air Management Services and the Philadelphia Parking Authority has resulted in hundreds of idling citations, and an increased awareness by diesel fleet owners and others about the importance of obeying idling codes. Other exciting developments this year have included preparing for implementation of diesel retrofit and clean fuel projects for Philadelphia School District buses and the City’s vehicle fleet. Both are set to begin in the coming months.

I would like to thank all the Working Group members and others who have contributed to these successes. I look forward to working with you in the coming years to expand upon these accomplishments and improve air quality in the city. In the near future, we will be continuing our efforts to recruit willing local fleets and facilitate grants for them to retrofit their vehicles, while giving recognition to our current partners who are using clean diesel technologies. We will also be working with the newly-formed Mid-Atlantic Diesel Collaborative to support their activities and bring more resources to our region.

-Morris Fine, Chair, Philadelphia Diesel Difference

Philly Clean School Bus Initiative Takes Off

The School District of Philadelphia is making some impressive strides toward a clean diesel future, with the help from the Clean Air Council and Air Management Services. The District’s School Buses have already begun running on Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) Fuel—well before the fuel is nationally mandated for on-road vehicles later this year. In addition, funding is now becoming

available for the School District to purchase retrofit kits for many of its yellow buses. By combining clean diesel fuel with emissions reduction technologies the pollution emanating from bus tailpipes will be drastically reduced, creating a cleaner, healthier environment for the hundreds of schoolchildren who ride those buses each day. The School District and



the Diesel Difference look forward to full implementation of the two programs in the coming months.

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The Philadelphia Diesel Difference Vision

The Philadelphia Diesel Difference (PDD) Working Group has been formed to help build a coalition of diverse partners with a mutual interest in reducing air pollution from diesel engines in the greater Philadelphia area through voluntary programs and the use of innovative strategies including market-based approaches.

PDD is coordinated by the City of Philadelphia's Air Management Services (AMS) and Clean Air Council. Its operational costs are paid through a contract between AMS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



Member News

Clean Air Guardians



Clean Air Protector



Clean Air Advocate



PennFuture will be exhibiting at the PA Clean Energy Expo on March 31 and April 1 at the Bryce Jordan Center in State College, PA. Hours are: Friday 10am to 7pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm. Exhibits and workshops at the event will focus on "Harvesting New Energy Sources" including vehicles, clean electric production and energy efficient home technologies. Parking and admission are free.

Sprague Energy is an industry leader in the supply of clean fuels. Sprague will have been supplying Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel fuel for 6 1/2 years by the time the EPA mandate takes effect this fall, and it distributes biodiesel and ethanol including E85 blends. For further information please call 877-723-3425.

Clean Air Partners



PDD raised \$5900 in membership dues for 2005. Dues are used to pay for the costs of administering the PDD Program. If your organization is interested in making a contribution, email Eric at echeung@cleanair.org. Every issue will offer short news briefs on selected members.