

News Release

For immediate release
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District funds nearly \$3 million in new technology projects *Technology Advancement Program stimulates creativity for reducing emissions*

The Valley Air District’s Governing Board granted \$2,947,694 to 12 projects targeted at reducing the Valley’s air quality emissions through new technology. The board also authorized an additional \$3 million for an additional round of funding to bring more technology-advancement entrepreneurs in the Valley.

The latest competitive request for proposals to the Technology Advancement Program resulted in submissions ranging from an all-electric agricultural sprayer to a natural gas conversion kit for locomotive engines, an emission-reducing raisin tray burning system to a cleaner composting system. District staff carefully evaluated the proposals for a variety of criteria, including relevance to attainment plans, co-benefits, cost-effectiveness, funding requested and leveraging, and project readiness. Funding was recommended for a dozen.

“We are encouraged by the response we received to this funding availability,” said Seyed Sadredin, the District’s executive director and air pollution control officer.

The TAP program’s primary goal is to advance technology and accelerate deployment of innovative clean-air technologies that can bring about emission reductions as rapidly as practicable. The newly funded projects and amounts are:

- \$350,000 for Pure Power Technologies’ proposal to demonstrate a non-urea NOx reduction retrofit system for diesel trucks;
- \$300,000 for California Bioenergy’s proposal to demonstrate advanced two-stage controls to a biogas engine system to achieve near-zero NOx;
- \$258,000 for U.S. Hybrid Corp.’s proposal to demonstrate a plug-in hybrid wheel loader in a dairy application, and \$292,830 for their demonstration of a plug-in hybrid propane/electric work truck;
- \$75,580 for Energy Conversions Inc.’s proposal to demonstrate a natural gas conversion kit for two-stroke diesel locomotive engines;
- \$370,534 for Electricore Inc.’s proposal to demonstrate a fully autonomous agricultural sprayer based on a zero-emission, all-electric vehicle platform;

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- \$28,250 for Sun-Maid Growers of California's proposal to demonstrate an emission-reducing raisin tray burning system;
- \$300,000 for Thermata's proposal to demonstrate a concentrating solar steam system to offset boiler fuel consumption and emissions;
- \$250,000 for Leva Energy Inc.'s proposal to demonstrate a power-generating burner that recovers wasted energy through a microturbine;
- \$242,500 for the City of Manteca's proposal to demonstrate a serial hybrid hydraulic refuse truck;
- \$230,000 for the Association of Compost Producer's proposal to demonstrate a positively aerated static compost pile system;
- \$350,000 for PG&E Fleet Engineering's proposal to demonstrate an extended range electric drive Class 6 bucket truck with electric worksite operation capacity.

"Not only are these new projects innovations that will help clean up the Valley, but they are also vital to supporting the Valley's technology development community and economic vitality," Sadredin said.

A new request for proposals will be released by the District in 2012. For more information about the Technology Advancement Program or to subscribe to a free mailing list for notification of program developments, visit http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/TAP/tap_idx.htm.