



For Your Newsletter

Date: October 2016

Title: \$7M in Rebates to Reduce School Bus Diesel Emission

Word Count: 427

Earlier this month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the allocation of approximately \$7 million in rebate funds available to public and private schools that replace or retrofit older diesel-powered school buses with clean-burning alternative fuel systems.

This news comes at a time when school districts around the country are beginning to take action against the harmful effects that older diesel model school buses can have on the health of students, drivers and faculty members. With this incentive, the EPA hopes to give school districts that are considering a conversion to clean-burning alternative fuel systems, including propane autogas and compressed natural gas, the final push needed to begin replacing student transport vehicles.

Leander I.S.D. in Texas is just one example of a public school district that has already taken advantage of a government issued rebate for the 2016-2017 school year. The district, which recently launched 24 new buses powered by ROUSH CleanTech's propane autogas fuel systems, is now operating a total of 64 clean-burning, cost-effective alternative fuel models.

"We anticipate these new buses will lead LISD to a brighter future by helping to decrease our carbon footprint and reduce student exposure to harmful emissions," said Steve Stripling, director of transportation for the district. "Our older diesel buses didn't run as clean, and it was time to replace them with more environmentally friendly technology."

According to district officials, the school district received a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality financial grant that rebated 60 percent of the purchase price. In addition, it is expected that these vehicles will reduce annual nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by over 31,000 pounds, and particulate matter (PM) by over 630 pounds, two pollutants that have been linked to serious health problems, such as aggravated asthma and lung damage.

"In LISD, we constantly seek new ways to give our taxpayers a return on their investment, as well as to provide the safest and cleanest burning technology possible," said Stripling. "With the help of our grant reimbursement funds, we firmly believe that the decision to purchase a new propane-powered bus fleet ultimately helps us meet this goal."

Propane autogas is a nontoxic, non-carcinogenic and non-corrosive fuel. The Environmental Protection Agency classifies the fuel as a non-contaminant, and it's the leading alternative fuel in the United States and the third most commonly used vehicle fuel. About 25 million vehicles travel worldwide with propane in their fuel tank.

To learn more about the EPA's rebate program, visit www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/clean-diesel-rebates. Or, for more information on ROUSH CleanTech's deployments of alternative fuel systems in U.S. school districts, please visit www.roushcleantech.com.

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<https://roushcleantech.smugmug.com/Customervehicles/School-Buses/Leander-ISD-Texas>