

**Blue Skyways Collaborative
On-Road Subcommittee**

Conference Call
January 29, 2008
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT

Call-in number: 866-299-3188
Participant Code: 214-665-6763



MINUTES

1. Updates (Clean School Bus, BSC personnel, DERA budget)

- a. **BSC Clean School Bus grants.** 14 eligible entities applied for the approximately \$1.36 million in BSC Clean School Bus funding. Thank you for your hard work in your preparing your funding applications!!! It was very competitive!!

The following 8 entities in the BSC area were informed that they have been selected as one of the entities to submit a formal application for Blue Skyways Collaborative, Clean School Bus USA grant: Alamo Area COG (San Antonio area), Capitol Area COG (Austin area), Community Partnerships of the Ozarks (Springfield, MO), Houston-Galveston Area COG, Howe ISD (OK), Iowa Foundation for Educational Administration (Clive, IA), Minnesota Environment Initiative, North Central Texas COG (DFW). Congratulations!!

Please note: Only a duly authorized grant officer can bind the Federal government following approval of your final application. The award will not be official and final until a notice of award approval is issued by the EPA award official and affirmed by your organization. Please do not publicly announce this award until the final notice of approval is issued.

- b. **Blue Skyways National Clean Diesel Campaign (NCDC) funding.** (\$225K) CENSARA and EPA are developing the RFP, which CENSARA will be posting. In general, we expect that project proposals must be in the form of a study, pilot or demonstration. See RFP for specific requirements.
- c. **Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) funding.** Congress appropriated \$50 million in funds nationally for DERA programs for Federal FY08. DERA will **replace** Clean School Bus and NCDC funding. Region 6 will provide details on DERA programs and funding as they become available.

2. Ongoing/Upcoming BSC OnRoad efforts

- a. **Reflash** – On the December OnRoad call, ODEQ, KDHE, TCEQ planned to proceed with contacting a few OEM’s, large fleets and owner/operators to better understand barriers. The group probably should develop materials to send the OEMs or fleet operators/owners. Suggest we work together to develop a form letter and then each state can send it with their letterhead. Erika had mentioned said she was willing to work on a draft if need be and Ruben asked the call participants to contribute information for the reflash communication materials. Please also provide a list of which OEM's, large fleets and independent owner/operators you have connection with and would be willing to contact. Then we can see if we have the categories covered sufficiently. We could also come up with a list of questions that too ask the various groups so we get answers to similar questions. If there are others who are interested in participating, please contact Ruben.
 - b. **Project Updates** – Many OnRoad projects have been commenced and conducted since Blue Skyways was initiated. It would be beneficial to discuss the progress and lessons learned on OnRoad projects to date, so the whole subcommittee can benefit from our separate project experiences. This would be a topic for future BSC calls. Ruben said he would see if he could provide the group a list of BSC OnRoad projects. Please be prepared to give project updates or to volunteer to discuss specific lessons learned!!
 - c. **CMAQ/Other Non-EPA funding support.** – The BSC wants to know who’s been successful supporting OnRoad efforts with non-EPA funds, Ruben asked the group – and in particular the COGs/locals, that have been able to fund OnRoad efforts with CMAQ or other non-EPA funds to provide that information to Region 6 or to contact Ruben to discuss.
 - d. **BSC Partnership Application Updates** - Many of our BSC OnRoad participants who became full BSC partners with projects outlined in their BSC partnership applications. BSC wishes to obtain updates on those specific projects. Ruben will be sending a form to facilitate these updates.
3. **Tech Topic.** TTI study to expand Mobile 6 emission estimates at high speeds. Thank you Joe and Mohomad for your presentation!! and for the new data! See slides/report previously provided and contact TTI with any questions.
 4. **Information provided to BSC OnRoad subcommittee via email:**
 - a. Notice: Alternative Fuels and Vehicles Expo
 - b. Notice: Inland Ports Across America (IPANA) meeting
 - c. Notice Alternative Fuels and Vehicles webinar
 - d. Notice: National Clean Diesel Campaign (NCDC) event calendar
 - e. EPA Update: Diesel Particulate Matter
 - f. Article: Iowa State: Hybrid School buses
 - g. Article: Clean Energy CNG efforts
 - h. Article: USA TODAY: Truckers push for national idling laws
 - i. Article: Freight hauler climate study and weblink to report