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ADEM Partners with ALDOT to Reduce Diesel Emissions

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is partnering with the Alabama Department of Transportation to utilize funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to reduce diesel emissions across the state. ADEM has been awarded \$1.7 million for the Clean Diesel Program and has chosen to apply those funds in areas that are exceeding, or are close to exceeding, the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

ALDOT utilizes a fleet of diesel vehicles to implement their transportation programs and they have stepped forward to install retrofit devices on many of these vehicles in order to reduce particulate emissions. Approximately 184 vehicles will be retrofitted with diesel emissions reduction devices such as Diesel Particulate Filters or Diesel Oxidation Catalyst Filters that have been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These devices, or other suitable alternative devices, will work to achieve the highest reductions in diesel emissions and ALDOT has agreed to have the project completed by September 30, 2010.

This partnership will not only assist in achieving improvements in air quality but will also allow contractors, vendors, and employers involved in the diesel retrofit industry to retain their current staff as well as create new jobs to stimulate the economy. Funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is designed to support the implementation of “shovel-ready” projects in an effort to create employment opportunities.

“The ability to establish a partnership with another state agency that will improve air quality and also assist in the recovery of our economy is very rewarding,” said ADEM Director Trey Glenn. “This project is just another example of state agencies working together and leveraging resources for the benefit of Alabama’s citizens.”

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