

Comments to consider to finalize Connecticut's diesel plan:

Clean Up all School Buses:

Why: Children are affected by this pollution. It triggers asthma attacks. Pollution inside the buses can be higher than outside.

What: Retire dirtiest buses that are 1993 and older. Require pollution controls to keep emissions from the engine from entering the passenger compartment of the buses. Retrofit all existing buses with a basic pollution control like diesel oxidation catalysts (DOCs) to reduce particulate matter by September 1, 2010. Provide financial assistance to provide more expensive and more effective pollution controls to some of the hardest hit urban areas on the state like Hartford and New Haven.

Doing nothing and waiting for districts to eventually buy cleaner buses should not be an option!

Clean up all Transit Buses:

Why: Concentrated in heavily polluted urban areas .

What: By December 2010, either replace older buses with cleaner models (2007 or later); OR retrofit older engines with pollution controls (known as diesel particulate filters) that will reduce dangerous particulate matter pollution at least 85%.

Doing nothing and waiting for the state to eventually buy cleaner buses should not be an option!

Clean up State-Funded Construction Equipment:

Why: Many projects in urban areas where they expose vulnerable populations. Construction vehicles are large and highly polluting.

What: By July 2006, upgrade state construction contracts for projects over \$5 million to mandate the use "on-road" diesel fuel, which is less-polluting, and mandate the installation of basic pollution controls on all large equipment. This type of contract is already used on the New Haven Q-Bridge project.

Clean up Garbage Trucks:

Why: Garbage trucks spend a lot of time idling in communities throughout CT.

What: DEP should recommend a waste disposal vehicle replacement and retrofit program.

Create a Diesel Clean-up Fund: Private diesel owners will need help to retrofit or replace their dirtier engines. CT should follow Texas and California and create a fund to clean up diesel engines, and should consider funding it using fuel taxes or other user fees.

Thank you

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