

December 1, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

As a uniquely broad coalition of environmental and public health, industry, and state and local governmental groups, we are writing to request support in your Fiscal Year 2008 budget for two important environmental programs. We urge you to provide \$49.5 million for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (the level proposed in the FY2007 budget) and increase funding by \$25 million over the FY2006 appropriated level of \$220.3 million for state and local air quality grants.

Diesel powered vehicles and equipment play an important role in the nation's economy and are getting cleaner every day. The Administration has developed programs to help address emissions from the estimated 11 million existing diesel engines that are not affected by the model year 2007 engine standards. The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA), as authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, is designed to provide significant emissions reductions from these existing engines whether publicly or privately owned. As included in the FY2007 budget, we urge you to again provide \$49.5 million for DERA and consolidate the other clean diesel programs, including the Clean School Bus USA Program, Diesel Truck Retrofit and Fleet Modernization Program, Engine Idling Reduction Program and National Clean Diesel Campaign, with the intent that they be carried out as authorized within DERA. However, we request that you do not limit the program to nonattainment areas.

This investment is needed and fiscally responsible, yielding one of the greatest cost-benefit ratios of any federal program according to the Office of Management and Budget's calculations. It will go a long way toward helping states and localities meet the nation's clean air standards by encouraging the use of cost-effective emissions reduction strategies. Furthermore, similar to existing federal and state programs, the federal contribution will likely be dwarfed by the funding leveraged from other sources.

Additionally, we request that you increase funding for state and local air quality grants by \$25 million above the FY2006 appropriated level of \$220.3 million. State and local governments hold primary responsibility for preventing and controlling air pollution and rely on these grants to carry out their core obligations under the Clean Air Act, including monitoring air quality, assessing emissions impacts, developing comprehensive state implementation plans, permitting and inspecting sources, enforcing laws and regulations, and conducting public education and outreach.

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We urge increased funding because state and local air quality agencies are under-funded and face increasing responsibilities – such as attaining and maintaining National Ambient Air Quality Standards, implementing clean air rules, and addressing toxic air pollutants.

States and localities and environmental, health, user, and industry groups all support \$49.5 million for the DERA program because it is sound environmental, economic, and budgetary policy. Similarly, we believe that state and local air quality grants should be funded at \$245.3 million because these grants are vital to achieve and sustain clean, healthful air across the nation.

Sincerely,

American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA)	Clean Water Action - Connecticut
American Bottom Conservancy	Clean Water Action - Massachusetts
American Lung Association	Clean Water Action - Pennsylvania
American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago	Clean Water Action - Rhode Island
American Lung Association of New York State, Inc.	Clean Water Action, Texas Office
American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest (ALAUM)	Community Bus Services, Inc
American Road and Transportation Builders Association	Commuter Challenge
Anderson Clayton Corporation	Corning Incorporated
Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)	County Line Gin, Inc.
Association of Equipment Manufacturers	CSX
Austin Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR)	Cummins Inc.
Autotherm Division Enthal Systems Inc.	Daimler-Chrysler
BASF Catalyst LLC	Deere and Company
Bay Area Air Quality Management District	Delphi Catalyst
Beck Bus Transportation	Detroit Diesel Corporation
Bluewater Network - a division of Friends of the Earth	Diesel Technology Forum (DTF)
Broadview Cooperative Gin, Inc.	Donaldson Company
Buttonwillow Ginning Co.	Don't Waste Arizona, Inc
California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA)	Dos Palos Cooperative Gin, Inc.
California Cotton Ginners Association	Durham School Services LLC
California Cotton Growers Association	Earth Day Coalition's Clean Cities Program
Campbell Maritime, Inc.	Eaton Corporation
Carolinas Clean Air Coalition	Educational Bus Transportation, Inc.
Caterpillar Inc.	Elbow Enterprises, Inc.
Central Valley Coop	Emissions Control Technology Association (ECTA)
Chestnut Ridge Transportation, Inc.	Emisstar
Citizen Action - Illinois	Engine Control Systems
Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future	Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA)
City of Chicago	Environment Illinois
Clean Air Coalition of Harvey, Illinois	Environment Northeast
Clean Air Task Force (CATF)	Environment Texas
Clean Air Watch	Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS)
Clean Diesel Technologies, Inc.	Environmental Defense
Clean Fuels Ohio	Environmental Law and Policy Center
Clean Water Action	Extengine Transport Systems, LLC
	Family Christian Health Center of Harvey, Illinois
	Farmers Cooperative Gin, Inc.

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Farmers Firebaugh Ginning Co.
Galveston-Houston Association for
Smog Prevention (GHASP)
Global Community Monitor
Green Environmental Coalition
Group Against Smog and Pollution (Pittsburgh)
Health & Environmental Justice - St. Louis
Honeywell
Huron Ginning Company, Inc.
IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Illinois Parent Teacher Association
Illinois School Transportation Association
International Truck and Engine Corporation
Izaak Walton League of America (Midwest Office)
Jaco Transportation, Inc.
Johnson Matthey
Kent Environmental Council
Kerman Coop Gin
Kern Delta-Weedpatch Cotton Ginning Co.
Krapf Bus Companies
M.A.Turbo/Engine Ltd
Madera Cooperative Gin, Inc
Manufacturers of Emission
Controls Association (MECA)
Metro 4, Inc.
Mid State Bus Service, Inc.
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)
Mid-Valley Cotton Growers, Inc.
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
Modern Ginning Company
Mothers and Others for Clean Air
Municipal Waste Management Association
National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT)
National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA)
National Association of State Directors of Pupil
Transportation Services
National Association of Waterfront Employees (NAWE)
National Refinery Reform Campaign
National School Transportation Association
New Jersey Environmental Federation
NGK Automotive Ceramics USA, Inc.
NGVAmerica
Northeast States for Coordinated Air
Use Management (NESCAUM)
Ohio Bus Association

Ohio Environmental Council
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Panoche Ginning Company
Port of San Francisco
Port of Seattle
Port of Tacoma
Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
Purem Abgassystemme GmbH & Co.
Regional Air Pollution Control Agency
Robert Bosch Corporation
Sacramento Metropolitan Air
Quality Management District
San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District
School Bus, Inc.
Semi-Tropic Cooperative Gin
Shurepower, LLC
Sierra Club National
Southeastern States Air Resource Managers, Inc.
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Southern Environmental Law Center
Sunrise Southwest
Sunrise Transportation
Sustainable Energy and Economic
Development (SEED) Coalition
Tenneco Automotive
Texas Center for Policy Studies (TCPS)
Texas Public Citizen
The Britz Gins
The TransGroup, LLC
The U.S. Conference of Mayors
Thomas Built Buses, Inc.
Tri-City Growers, Inc.
Tule River Cooperative Gin, Inc.
Umicore Autocat USA Inc.
Union of Concerned Scientists
United Motorcoach Association
United States Chamber of Commerce
Volkswagon
Volvo Powertrain North America
Washington Public Ports Association
Washington State Department of Ecology
Westhaven Cotton Co.
Westside Farmers Cooperative Gin, Inc.
Wisconsin Clean Cities - Southeast Area, Inc.