



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EPA Provides Funding in Clean Diesel Upgrades Alabama State Port Authority to Reduce Diesel Emissions at its Terminal Railway

Mobile, Ala. – October 24, 2011. The EPA Region 4 has awarded a \$953,921.00 grant to the Alabama State Port Authority to improve air quality by rapid deployment of clean diesel technologies through assistance funding from the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) of 2010. The Port Authority will use \$1.5 million to repower a current 1980 GM EMD MP-15 diesel-electric switching locomotive with state of the art GenSet technology. The repowered locomotive will utilize EPA certified off-road industrial diesel engines that meet the Agency's locomotive emission regulations for 2012 under Tier 3, and with the addition of diesel particulate filters, meet Railroad Tier 4 compliant standards established by the EPA and are recognized by the California Air Resources Board as an Ultra-Low Emitting Locomotive (ULEL). Upon receiving the Notice of Funding, the Port Authority estimates the locomotive conversion will take approximately six to eight months to complete.

The project will retrofit one of ten locomotives that power the public seaport's short line railroad at the Port of Mobile. The Alabama State Port Authority Terminal Railway provides switching services for five national railroads, rail ferries, and manufacturers located at the Port of Mobile.

Both the EPA and the Port Authority continually seek out programs such as DERA that leverage significant resources to reduce diesel emissions, improve public health, and promote clean diesel technology. "EPA is pleased to support the Alabama State Port Authority's actions to improve air quality and public health for the citizens of Mobile," said EPA Regional Administrator Gwen Keyes Fleming. "Reducing diesel emissions will bring cleaner, healthier air for workers and surrounding neighborhoods."

James K. Lyons, Director and Chief Executive Officer for the Alabama State Port Authority, was appreciative of the opportunity provided by the EPA. "The grant will accelerate our efforts to reduce diesel emissions and compliments a number of emission reduction efforts in the seaport," stated Lyons. To date, the Alabama State Port Authority has converted to flex fuel and hybrid vehicles in its police and administrative vehicle fleets and has deployed electric cranes and lift machinery in its new terminals in an effort to reduce the port's overall carbon footprint.

Diesel engine exhaust has been linked to health risks, including aggravated asthma and other respiratory symptoms. The Port Authority's goal is to significantly reduce existing NO_x,

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particulate matter and hydrocarbon locomotive emissions by up to 95%, and reduce fuel consumption by 50% to 70% with this locomotive repower. Due to the ULEL's highly favorable economic impact on fuel savings, tractive effort capability, noise reduction, and reduced maintenance cost, the Port Authority will realize a fast overall return on investment which will allow future budget allocations for additional locomotive repowers. "This program and the EPA grant help us aggressively pursue emissions reduction associated with our rail operations," said Lyons.

The Alabama State Port Authority, headquartered in Mobile, Ala., owns and operates the State of Alabama's deepwater port facilities at the Port of Mobile and its public facilities handled 24 million tons of cargo last year. The Authority's container, general cargo and bulk facilities have immediate access to two interstate systems, five Class 1 railroads, and nearly 15,000 miles of inland waterway connections. Learn more at www.asdd.com.

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