

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP)
Texas Clean Fleet Program (TCFP)
Solicitation No. 582-10-92628**

**Questions and Answers
Updated - May 14, 2010**

This document provides answers to questions regarding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 Texas Clean Fleet Program *Request for Grant Applications* issued April 23, 2010. As the TCEQ receives questions about the program, we will periodically update this document. Updates will be made available on the TERP web site at www.terpgrants.org.

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Questions and Answers

1. How much money is available?

Approximately \$12 million are available under this grant round.

2. What is the estimated time frame for funds availability should an award be granted?

We are accepting applications until **5:00 pm (Central time), Wednesday, June 30, 2010**. Depending on the number of applications received and selected, the grant selections may be completed by early August. Contracts will then be sent to the successful applicants to review and sign. The timing on executing the grant contracts depends, in part, on how long the grant recipient takes to return the signed documents.

3. What are the grant requirements regarding heavy-duty engine certifications?

The engine on the new heavy-duty alternative fuel or hybrid vehicle must be certified under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's engine certification program. If an engine is certified to a NO_x Family Emissions Limit (FEL) that is higher or lower than the current emissions standard, the FEL emissions rate should be used.

4. Is there a limit or maximum on the total grant amount?

There is no maximum grant amount.

5. Is there a calculation for determining the amount of the award or is there a chart of predetermined amounts?

The *Request for Grant Applications* and the Application forms explain how to determine the maximum eligible grant amounts.

6. Is the TCFP available to help with grant assistance on 10 hybrid trucks?

Applicants must own and operate at least 100 vehicles in Texas and must apply to replace at least 25 diesel vehicles.

7. Can applicants combine vehicles being replaced under another grant program with vehicles to be replaced under this program to meet 25-vehicle threshold?

A grantee may propose to combine funding from other grant funding with the TCFP grant. However, all of the vehicles included in an application must be funded, at least in part, by the TCFP grant. Also, the emissions reductions achieved by the project must be assigned to the TCEQ. If the other grant program requires that creditable emissions reductions be assigned to that program, then the joint funding would not meet the requirements for this grant program.

10. Is a hydraulic assist hybrid system eligible under the Texas Clean Fleet Program?

Yes, hydraulic assist hybrid systems should meet the eligibility criteria.

11. Would a truck leasing company be considered an eligible entity assuming they operated 100 or more vehicles?

A leasing company may apply to replace vehicles the company owns. If a leasing company receives a grant, that company will be responsible for ensuring that the vehicle usage and location of use meets the requirements over the five-year activity life.

14. Can a Certificate of Origin be provided in lieu of a vehicle title?

No, a Certificate of Origin does not represent the title to the vehicle. The application must include copies of the vehicle titles showing current ownership by the applicant.

15. Please detail the date of purchase requirements under the Clean Fleet Program.

The new vehicles may not have been purchased prior to 90 days prior to the opening of the grant application period. The grant application period opened April 23, 2010, and the 90-day threshold is January 23, 2010. This provision pertains to the final payments made to complete the vehicle purchase.

16. Did any changes occur in the conversion factor tables regarding heavy duty diesel buses (transit, urban or school)?

Addendum No. 2 only changed the conversion factors on pages 28 and 29 of the *Request for Grant Applications*. The original table on Page 30, listing the conversion factors for school buses and transit buses was not changed.

17. What happens if a grant recipient is not able to complete all 25 purchases covered under the grant contract?

An approved grant must include the replacement of at least 25 vehicles. If a grant recipient does not complete all 25 replacements, the TCEQ may accept partial performance on a case-by-case basis, at its discretion.

18. What is the time period in which the purchases must be completed?

Applicants must intend on completing the purchases (delivery and payment) within a 12-month period. The grant contracts will have an expiration date of approximately 13-14 months after execution of the contract. The TCEQ may consider time extensions to the contracts, at its discretion. Grant recipients should keep TCEQ staff informed of any delays in receiving the new vehicles.

19. If the TCEQ selects applications for partial funding, would the best 25 vehicles be selected?

Under the competitive grant selection process, the TCEQ may offer to fund fewer vehicles than are included in the application. That decision could include consideration of which replacement activities would result in the greatest amount of emissions reductions.