

[REDACTED]

From: Robin Cox [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2018 12:22 PM
To: VWSettle
Subject: Public Comments for VW Settlement

Dear TCEQ,

Thank you for allowing public comments.

Most important, as good stewards of resources, I believe we need to allocate the VW Funds based on the biggest NOx reduction per dollar spent:

Please consider the following:

- "Clean" Diesel is not clean driven at slower speeds that are often encountered in congested traffic which is typical of Non-Attainment areas. (A major contributing factor for mobile sources of pollution)
"Clean" Diesel may be ok for driving at 75 MPH from San Antonio to El Paso so that the catalytic converter becomes hot enough to reduce emissions...but not at 5-15 MPH on I 35 in downtown Austin or in typical Houston traffic.
- Electric vehicles are the most expensive per pound/ton of NOx reduced. The child labor issues (Republic of Congo) of mining of cobalt needed for batteries and the great ecological damage committed by mining Rare earth minerals need to be seriously taken into consideration. (There is an attempt by electric battery industry to shift away from mining Cobalt in Republic of Congo to avoid the child labor problems but this will also drive up cost)
- A significant portion of funds (25% to 33% funds) should go toward School bus/ISD's alternative fuel buses especially in Near/Non-attainment areas. (For reasons of stop and start issues with diesel) And because hundreds of thousands of kids are on these buses every school day. This is a two- for- one solution, help clean our air while protecting our kids.
- Government fleets (State, County, Municipal) (25-33% funds) should be a priority. Especially municipal waste trucks driven through our neighborhoods.
- Private fleets operating large Class 6-7-8 tractor/trailers (25-33% funds) and priority for those operating 100% in Near/Non-attainment areas.

However, I suggest that private fleets be limited initially to five Class 8 "VW" vehicle grants so that smaller fleets can begin to diversify their fuel sources and begin expanding into cleaner alternative fuel.

This would promote greater competition among fleets to purchase more alternative fueled vehicles due to lower operating cost.

- I suggest NO funds from VW Settlement be allocated to infrastructure for two reasons.
 - 1) VW has already allocated a minimum of \$ 800 million via Electrify America to set up electric infrastructure charging stations across America.
 - 2) No CNG infrastructure needed from VW Settlement funds since there are already programs in place from TERP and Clean Cities to assist in these areas.

- National Security Reasons- Natural Gas/propane is the only true fuel source with the lowest cost that allows us complete energy and economic independence. As long as Crude oil prices are at great risk of Middle East wars, supply disruptions and other negative world events, our diesel and gasoline prices will remain vulnerable. Even with Texas producing more of its own crude oil ...the price is STILL effected by these events...Natural Gas is not.

Let Texas be the leader in transitioning our troops home... instead of stationed in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States protecting their wealth and oil shipments to China.

Highest regards,

Robin Cox

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