

July 30, 2012

Ms. Rebecca Bennett  
Director, Local Programs  
FHWA, CA Division  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

CML-5169(035)  
Diesel Particulate Filter Purchase

Subject: Buy America – Partial Waiver Request

Dear Ms. Bennett,

The City of El Centro requests approval of a Partial Waiver Request of the Buy America requirements stipulated in 23 CFR 635.410 for the purchase of 10 Diesel Particulate Filters (DPF) funded through the CMAQ program.

The purpose of this project is to acquire DPF's to provide California Air Resources Board (CARB) verified emission reduction retrofit systems to our existing diesel fleet in order to reduce the total amount of air pollutants being generated in the City of El Centro.

Without the requested CMAQ funding, the retrofit of our vehicles will not be feasible. The City does not have the funding to purchase a new compliant diesel fleet and retrofit is the most cost effective way to reduce air contaminants from our fleet. A partial waiver is necessary since there are no DPF's available that satisfy the Buy America requirement.

The following information is provided in support of this request:

- Project Number: CML-5169(035)
- Project Description: Purchase of ten (10) DPF's
- Project Cost, Waiver item: The total estimated cost to purchase and install ten (10) DPF's has been determined to be \$174,000. A partial waiver is requested for acquisition of the DPF's since it is known that portions of the DPF are produced outside the United States.
- Cost Waiver Item: The manufacturer and model of the DBF is Clearie Horizon Active Diesel Particulate Filter with Electric Heater Regeneration. The estimated cost of each is \$17,400 installed for a total of \$174,000. A total of \$174,000 is programmed in the FTIP for this acquisition.
- Country of Origin of the project.
  - DPF is assembled at the Claire Advanced Emission Controls facility in San Diego, California.

***Department of Public Works • Engineering Division***

***1275 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 337-5182 Fax (760) 337-3856***

Buy America-Partial Waiver Request

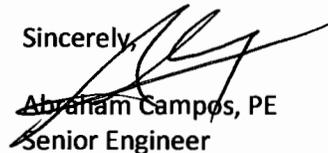
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- The individual parts are obtained from various countries.
- Reason for the Waiver Request: A waiver is being requested because portions of the DPF's are manufactured outside the United States. No DPF's are fully manufactured in the United States.
- A description of the efforts made to locate a domestically manufactured product: An intensive web search was made to identify hybrid vehicles that satisfy the Buy America requirement. Only the systems approved by CARB at [www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/vt/cvt.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/vt/cvt.htm) are considered, and of those only a few are applicable to our fleet. We contacted each of the applicable and verified systems, many of which were wholly manufactured outside of the United States. All systems included parts manufactured outside the United States.
- An analysis of re-design of the project using alternative or approved equal domestic product: No DPF's are made from any manufacturer that is CARB verified that qualifies for the Buy America requirement. All filters include parts or steel produced outside of the United States. There is no redesign option as retrofit is the only solution to avoid purchase of new fleet.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please call me at 760.337.5182 or e-mail me at [acampos@cityofelcentro.org](mailto:acampos@cityofelcentro.org).

Sincerely,



Abraham Campos, PE  
Senior Engineer

cc: Terry Hagen, PE – City Engineer/Public Works Director