

Zero-Emission Cargo Handling Equipment Pilot Project (CHE Pilot)

Purpose of the Project

- The project aims to improve air quality in the Portside Environmental Justice Communities by transitioning from diesel-powered cargo handling equipment to zero-emission equipment.
- This effort supports the CERP, MOU, and statewide clean-air and climate goals.

Why This Project Matters

- Zero-emission cargo handling equipment was ranked as a top community priority.
- The project supports the CERP goal of reducing diesel particulate matter by 80% by 2031.
- Reduced exposure to diesel pollution improves community health.

What the Project Will Do

- Provide financial incentives to replace diesel cargo handling equipment with zero-emission equipment.
- Support businesses in testing and deploying zero-emission technology at the Port.
- Reduce diesel emissions and improve air quality in nearby neighborhoods.

Community Benefits

- Cleaner air and reduced pollution emissions.
- Lower noise and improved working conditions.
- Potential long-term maintenance cost savings for equipment operators.
- Increased opportunities for education and community demonstration events.

Funding Amounts

- Initial total funding amount is \$3 million.
- Funding levels depend on what is done with old diesel equipment:
 - Scrapped/dismantled – up to 80%
 - Removed from California – up to 70%
 - Kept as back-up – up to 50%
 - Fleet expansion (purchase of new equipment without replacing old) – case-by-case
- Additional funding up to \$30,000 per charger may be available for charging infrastructure.

Participant Requirements

- Eligible applicants are Port tenants and operators currently using diesel cargo handling equipment.
- Participants must operate zero-emission equipment locally for at least three years.
- Participants must provide usage data and participate in community outreach events.

Overall Impact

- The CHE Pilot supports cleaner air, healthier neighborhoods, and the transition to zero-emission operations at the Port of San Diego.
- The project also implements CERP and MOU objectives and strengthens collaboration between community, agencies, and businesses toward achieving clean air goals