

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 1, 2025

AGENDA NO. 3

**PROPOSAL:** Issue Program Announcements for Battery Electric Class 8 Trucks, Cargo Handling Equipment and Charging Infrastructure for INVEST CLEAN Program

**SYNOPSIS:** In September 2024 the Board recognized an award of \$499,997,415 from the U.S. EPA titled Infrastructure, Vehicles, and Equipment Strategy for Climate, Equity, Air Quality, and National Competitiveness (INVEST CLEAN). The program comprises four incentive measures, including the deployment of battery-electric Class 8 trucks and last-mile freight vehicles, cargo handling equipment, switcher locomotives, and charging infrastructure. A total of up to \$178,500,000, \$28,000,000, and \$20,600,000 for the Infrastructure, Class 8 Freight Vehicle Deployment and Cargo Handling Equipment Measures, respectively, will be reimbursed from the U.S. EPA INVEST CLEAN grant and administered from the U.S. EPA CPRG Special Revenue Fund (90). SCAG will implement the Last-Mile Freight Program totaling \$50 million in rebates. These actions are to: 1) issue and, if necessary, re-issue Program Announcements for Battery Electric Class 8 Trucks, Cargo Handling Equipment, and Charging Infrastructure under INVEST CLEAN; and 2) authorize the Executive Officer to execute contracts for eligible projects selected through these solicitations from the U.S. EPA CPRG Special Revenue Fund (90).

**COMMITTEE:** Technology, June 20, 2025; Recommended for Approval

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

1. Issue, and if necessary, re-issue PA #2026-01 for Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment, PA#2026-02 for Battery Electric Class 8 Trucks, and PA #2026-03 for Charging Infrastructure under INVEST CLEAN; and

2. Based on the results of the Program Announcements, authorize the Executive Officer to execute agreements with applicants for eligible projects up to \$20,600,000 for the Cargo Handling Equipment Measure (PA #2026-01), \$28,000,000 for the Freight Vehicle Deployment Measure (PA #2026-02) and \$178,500,000 for the Infrastructure Measure (PA #2026-03) from the U.S. EPA CPRG Special Revenue Fund (90).

Wayne Nastri  
Executive Officer

AK:MW:AY

---

### **Background**

In April 2024, South Coast AQMD joined by two Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), which cover Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Anaheim; and Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ontario, submitted a regional proposal to U.S. EPA titled Infrastructure, Vehicles, and Equipment Strategy for Climate, Equity, Air Quality, and National Competitiveness (INVEST CLEAN). In October 2024, the South Coast AQMD was awarded \$499,997,415 for the INVEST CLEAN initiative.

The INVEST CLEAN initiative focuses on reducing emissions from the goods movement sectors by implementing incentive measures and electrifying the Southern California goods movement corridor while providing a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and workforce training. The four Measures include: (1) Charging Infrastructure Deployment Incentive Program to provide incentives to install electrical charging equipment to support heavy duty Battery Electric vehicles; (2) Battery Electric Freight Vehicle and Last Mile Freight Vehicle Deployment Incentive Program; (3) Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment (CHE) Deployment Incentive Program to replace or convert CHE with battery electric equipment and supporting infrastructure used at facilities such as warehouses, intermodal railyards, airports, ports, or freight facility centers; and, (4) battery electric Switcher Locomotive Program to replace diesel locomotives domiciled in the MSAs region with Battery Electric Switchers. The expected total cumulative GHG emission reductions include 3.6 million metric tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) or \$139/metric ton CO<sub>2</sub>e over a 5-year period and 12 million metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e or \$42/metric ton CO<sub>2</sub>e over a 25-year period.

INVEST CLEAN's investments in battery electric locomotives, vehicles, other equipment, and charging infrastructure included in the four incentive measures are projected to generate approximately 470 high-quality jobs in California while supporting and creating approximately 4,700 high-quality jobs nationwide. The

measure's collaboration with labor, academia, and non-government organizations strengthens the potential for significant job creation and workforce development, which are critical for implementing, maintaining, and sustaining the implementation of new technologies in the freight sector.

On June 6, 2025, the Board approved the release of RFP #2025-15 for the INVEST CLEAN Battery Electric Switcher Locomotives Measure, with solicitation scheduled to close on September 30, 2025, for a total of up to \$190,800,000. The available funding for the remaining three Measures, including Charging Infrastructure, Class 8 Freight Vehicle Deployment, and Cargo Handling Equipment Measures, is \$178,500,000, \$28,000,000, and \$20,600,000, respectively. SCAG will be implementing Last Miles Freight Program totaling \$50 million in available rebates.

#### **Charging Infrastructure Deployment Incentive Program (Measure 1)**

This measure provides incentives to install electrical charging equipment to support the Southern California goods movement corridor for battery electric Class 4 to 8 trucks. The current lack of infrastructure is a limiting factor in the deployment of battery electric trucks. The implementation of this measure will help align with State and local Priority Climate Action Plans and to support widespread adoption of battery electric trucks in the region.

Incentive funding for charging infrastructure will be rebate-based and will be allocated directly towards the equipment necessary to support the operation of the chargers, as well as the potential associated installation costs. Under this measure, a total of \$178,500,00 is available for charging infrastructure rebates to purchase and install chargers rated 250 kW or higher in one of two MSAs. Each project will receive up to \$700/kW for the procurement and installation of equipment.

#### **Battery Electric Freight Vehicles Program (Measure 2.1)**

The Battery Electric Freight Vehicle Deployment Incentive Program will provide funding rebates for the transition of goods movement operations to advanced technologies. The program will reduce emissions by upgrading the heavy-duty long-haul Class 8 diesel freight delivery vehicles with battery-electric technology within two MSAs.

Mobile sources related to Goods Movement contribute to more than 80 percent of the NO<sub>x</sub> and 30 percent of particulate matter in the South Coast Air Basin. Under the Battery Electric Freight Deployment Incentive Program, approximately \$28,000,000 has been designated for this measure with each eligible replacement project eligible for up to \$400,000 per vehicle. This measure will replace approximately 70 high polluting diesel vehicles with battery electric technology resulting in substantial emission reductions.

### **Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment (CHE) Program (Measure 3)**

This measure will reduce emissions associated with goods movement by replacing diesel-powered CHE with battery electric CHE at facilities such as warehouses, intermodal railyards, airports, ports, and freight facility centers located within the two MSAs.

According to data gathered from the CARB Off-Road Emissions Inventory, the South Coast Air Basin currently houses approximately 2,890 diesel-fueled CHE units, which result in significant emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Emission inventory data estimates that this equipment contributes approximately 2.42 tons/day (881.73 tons/year) NO<sub>x</sub>, 0.10 tons/day (35.07 tons/year) PM<sub>10</sub>, and 0.09 tons/day (32.28 tons/year) PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

Under this measure, up to \$20,600,000 is allocated to fund the deployment of battery electric CHE within the two MSAs. Eligible equipment types for this measure include yard trucks and top handlers. The costs of the replacement battery electric CHE are eligible for funding with a maximum incentive cap of \$300,000 per yard truck and \$400,000 per top handler.

### **Proposals**

Staff recommends issuing #PA2026-01 to solicit applications for Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment, #PA2026-02 to solicit applications for Battery Electric Freight Vehicles, and #PA2026-03 to solicit applications for charging infrastructure. # The solicitation will be open to operators and owners, aiming to select projects that operate within the two MSAs. Applications will be accepted beginning August 15, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. and are due November 28, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the attached PA criteria. If needed, staff recommends, authorizing the Executive Officer to re-issue any of the PAs.

Staff also recommends authorizing the Executive Officer to execute agreements from the U.S. EPA CPRG Special Revenue Fund (90) for eligible projects under #PA2026-01, #PA2026-02, and #PA2026-03, until funds are exhausted.

### **Outreach**

In accordance with South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure, a public notice advertising the PAs and inviting applicants will be published in the Los Angeles Times, the Orange County Register, the San Bernardino Sun, and Riverside County's Press Enterprise newspapers to leverage the most cost-effective method of outreach to the South Coast Air Basin. Additionally, potential applicants may be notified utilizing South Coast AQMD's electronic listing.

**Benefits to South Coast AQMD**

INVEST CLEAN's Measures 1 through 3 will deliver significant environmental benefits. Successful implementation of these Measures will result in estimated annual emission reductions of 1,329 tons of NO<sub>x</sub>, 19.4 tons of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and 20.3 tons of diesel particulate matter (DPM). INVEST CLEAN is also expected to decrease CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by 3.6 million metric tons between 2025 and 2030. The deployed heavy-duty vehicles, CHE and charging infrastructure are expected to operate for many years after the agreement term ends, which provides long-term emission reduction benefits. In addition, these technologies and the associated emission reductions are needed to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> to help the Basin achieve ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The data collected will be utilized to accelerate adoption and continue the evolution of battery electric mobile source technology.

**Resource Impacts**

The U.S. EPA INVEST CLEAN grant includes \$227,100,000 in funding for the three rebate programs described in this Board Letter. The projects will be reimbursed from the U.S. EPA INVEST CLEAN grant and administered from the U.S. EPA CPRG Special Revenue Fund (90).

**Attachments**

- A. #PA2026-01: Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment (CHE) Program (Measure 3) Under INVEST CLEAN
- B. #PA2026-02: Battery Electric Freight Vehicles Program (Measure 2.1) Under INVEST CLEAN
- C. #PA2026-03: Charging Infrastructure Deployment Incentive Program (Measure 1) Under INVEST CLEAN



**South Coast  
Air Quality  
Management District**

# **INVEST CLEAN**

## **Climate Pollution Reduction Grant U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**



**Program Announcement #PA2026-01**

**Measure 3-Battery Electric Cargo Handling  
Equipment**

Accepting Applications: August 15, 2025, at 12:00 PM PT

Submission Deadline: November 28, 2025, at 12:00 PM PT

## Section 1 – Introduction

In July 2024, US EPA awarded funds to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) to implement INVEST CLEAN in Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim and Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). These two MSAs include the following four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino. INVEST CLEAN targets the limiting factors and challenges to the electrification transformation of the Southern California goods movement corridor.

INVEST CLEAN comprises four incentive measures to modernize the goods movement sectors. Under this Program Announcement (PA), the South Coast AQMD is soliciting applications for Measure 3 of the INVEST CLEAN Program, the Battery Electric (BE) Cargo Handling Equipment (CHE) Deployment Program. The total incentive amount of CPRG Funding allocated for Measure 3 is \$20.6 million. This measure focuses on deploying BE CHE to introduce advanced technologies to the market and to accelerate the adoption of those technologies within the two MSAs mentioned above, which serve as the West Coast's gateway to international commerce. This measure will help reduce emissions from goods movement facilities by retiring and replacing diesel-powered CHE used at facilities such as warehouses, intermodal railyards, airports, ports, or freight facility centers. CHE encompasses a wide variety of equipment including, but not limited to, yard trucks and top handlers. Measure 3 is structured as a rebate-based initiative for the replacement of eligible CHE with BE technology. Each rebate requires the recipient to scrap an existing CHE, which is pivotal to the strength of this emission reduction strategy because existing CHE is predominantly diesel-fueled and highly polluting.

South Coast AQMD places a high level of emphasis on funding projects that reduce emissions from traditionally diesel-powered CHE, contributing to improved air quality in impacted communities and California trade corridors.

The following sections describe the eligibility requirements to participate in the Measure 3 Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment of the INVEST CLEAN program and the guidelines for submitting an application under this PA.

## Section 2 – PA Overview & Eligibility Requirements

Measure 3: Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment of the INVEST CLEAN Initiative provides funding for the deployment of BE CHE within the two MSA geographic areas.

### 2.1 Available Funding

The maximum funding amount for each type of eligible Battery Electric CHE is shown below. For each piece of eligible equipment, the awardee could receive up to the total cost (including tax and other fees) for the respective equipment, subject to the funding cap limits in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Project Funding Available

Project Type	Funding
Yard Truck	Up to \$300,000
Top Handler	Up to \$400,000

Note that up to 100% of the equipment cost may be covered under this program. However, the rebate may be discounted to ensure that the total incentives for a project do not exceed the total eligible cost.

Should South Coast AQMD receive applications with total requests less than the amount allocated, or if applications are deemed non-meritorious, South Coast AQMD reserves the right to reduce the total funding available and reallocate funds to other INVEST CLEAN Measures and/or reopen another BE CHE Program Announcement. Funding for other CHE types may be made available at a later date, pending eligibility determination by the US EPA and review of other available incentive programs for CHE.

### 2.2 Geographical Funding Minimum

South Coast AQMD has not established a Geographical Funding Minimum for each county within the two MSAs, but the intent is to allocate project funding equally throughout the two MSAs, if feasible, following the completion of application evaluations.

### 2.3 Eligibility Requirements

For this PA, the following eligibility requirements apply:

WHO:

Fleet owners of CHE at inland ports and seaports, warehouses, freight facility centers, and intermodal railyards. The equipment must be domiciled and operate 100% of the time within one of the two MSA regions shown in the dotted areas on the map below in Figure 1, which include the following four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino.

WHAT EQUIPMENT:

Eligible equipment types include yard trucks and top handlers. The equivalent baseline equipment (top handler or yard truck) that will be removed from operation must be diesel-fueled.



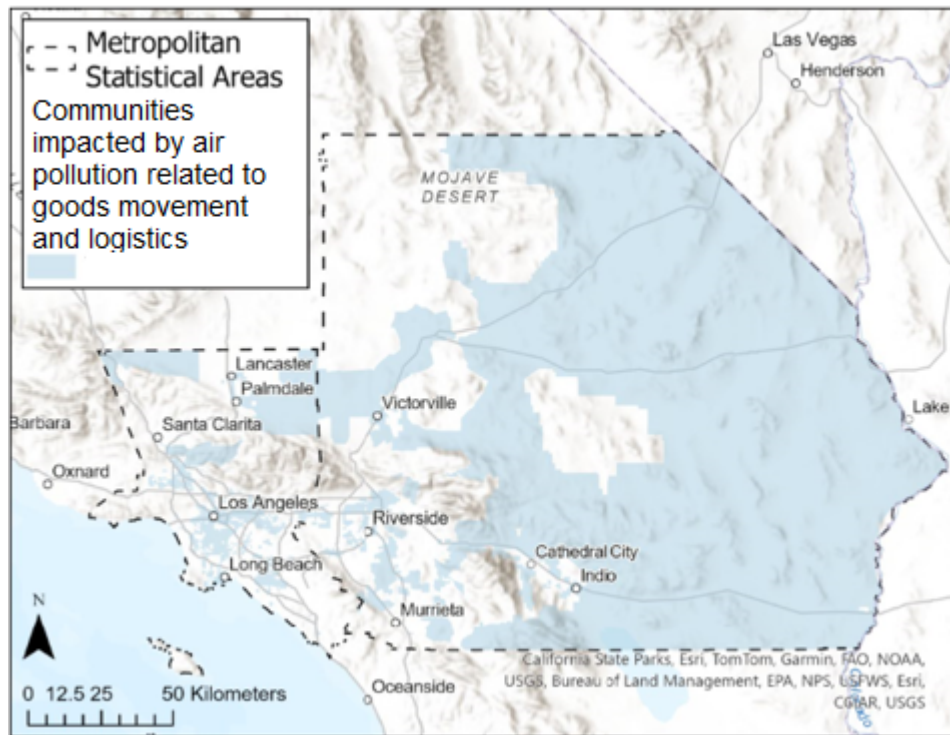
HOW:

Applications must be submitted through South Coast AQMD's Grant Management System (GMS), which can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/investclean>.

WHEN:

Applications can be submitted starting August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT and will be accepted until November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT or until Program funds are encumbered.

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA SOUTH COAST AQMD'S ONLINE GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (GMS)**



*Figure 1: Area inside the dotted lines represents the two MSA qualified territories.*

Deployment of New BE CHE:

- Upon delivery of the new equipment, the applicant must notify South Coast AQMD Staff so a post-inspection may be performed. During the post-inspection, South Coast AQMD Inspectors or their designees will verify the specifications of the new equipment and confirm that the equipment is operational. Inspections can occur virtually or in person at the discretion of South Coast AQMD.
- The new equipment should be operated 100% within one or both of the two MSAs for the full project term. At a minimum, a five (5) year project term for each new BE CHE will be required, but if unforeseen circumstances prevent the applicants from meeting this requirement, documentation must be provided.

Required Destruction of Old Equipment (Scrapping):

After the deployment of replacement battery-electric equipment, the engines and equipment that were replaced as part of this program must be destroyed and rendered useless. Payment will not be issued until the existing equipment is scrapped. This ensures that the existing equipment is not reused. Requirements for old/baseline equipment destruction are as follows:

- Both the old engine and the old equipment must be destroyed. Destruction must occur within 60 days after the new equipment is received and placed into service.
- South Coast AQMD must be notified within 14 days prior to equipment destruction so that an inspection can be performed if deemed necessary by South Coast AQMD.
- Documentation of the destruction must be provided to South Coast AQMD within 90 days of destruction.
- The method used to destroy the old equipment may vary depending on the equipment type; however, the equipment must be rendered inoperable, and all engines must be destroyed using the following methods:
  - All frame cuts must be performed on load-bearing frames of the existing equipment.
  - A hole in the engine block with a minimum diameter of three inches at its narrowest point. The hole must be irregularly shaped (e.g., no symmetrical squares or circles).
  - Other equivalent methods of destruction may be used if approved by the South Coast AQMD.
- The cost of salvaging any existing equipment will not be reimbursed.

2.4 Project Workflow:

The flowchart in Figure 2 depicts the evaluation process for a typical BE CHE project, while Table 1 below provides a detailed explanation of each step. Projects will begin with an online application, followed by an evaluation conducted by South Coast AQMD staff. If approved, projects will then proceed through the following stages: execution of agreements, project implementation, invoicing and reimbursement, and required reporting.

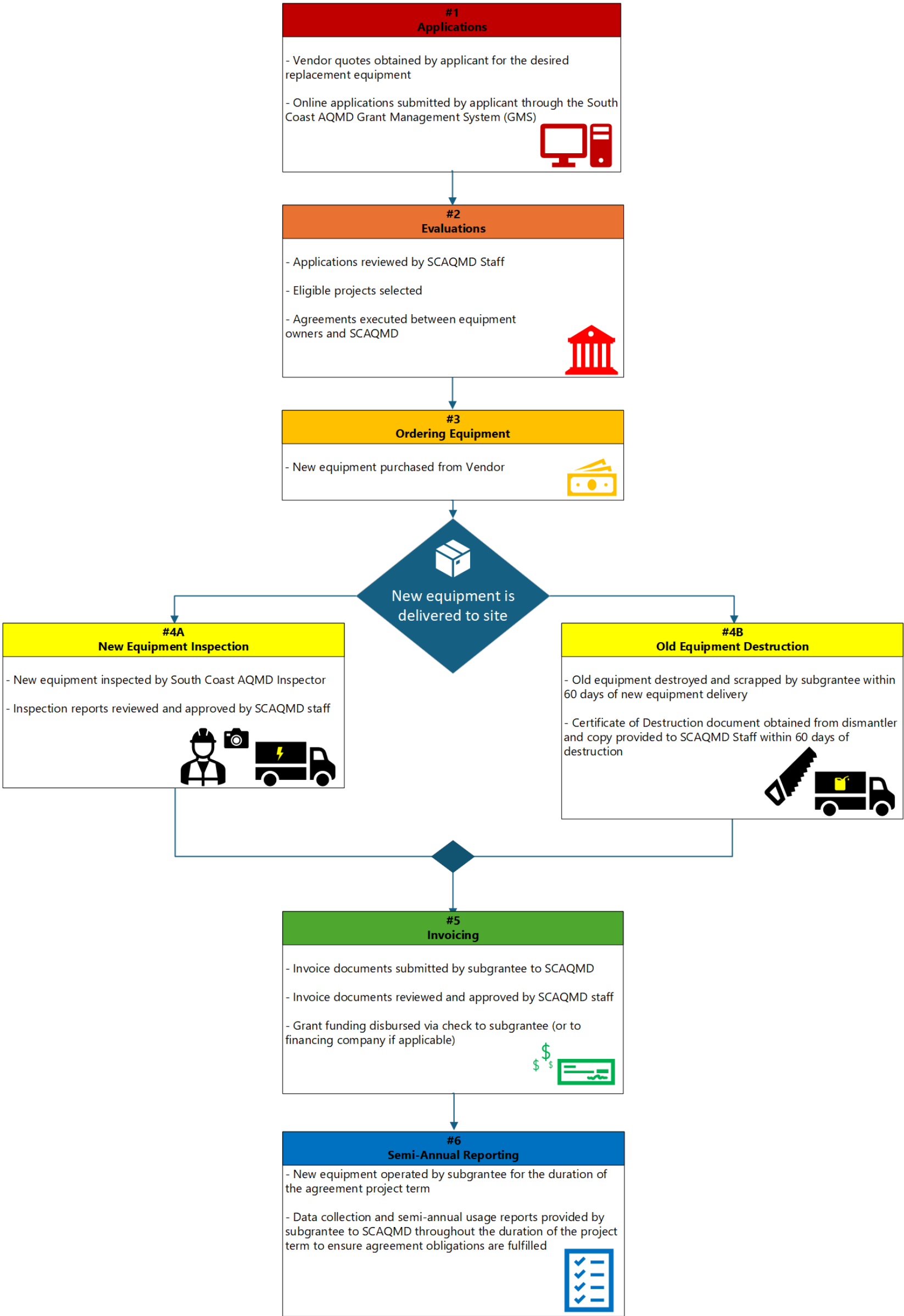



Figure 2: Lifecycle for Battery Electric Cargo Handling Equipment Replacement Projects

Table 1 below offers a step-by-step explanation of the flow chart. Please refer to the flow chart's box number and the corresponding process description below:

Table 1: Step-by-Step Explanation

Chart Process #	Description of Process
1	The process begins with an open application period when applicants may submit INVEST CLEAN grant applications online through South Coast AQMD's Grant Management System (GMS). During the application process, applicants are required to obtain at least one quote from an equipment vendor for the new equipment they intend to purchase. More than one quote is encouraged to determine the best price estimate. All vendor quotes must be dated within 90 days of the application submission date. Quotes for new equipment must include a minimum 3-year warranty (which will be included as an eligible cost). When completing an application, applicants must provide information and documentation including, but not limited to, the materials summarized in Attachment A.
2	Upon receipt of a submitted application, South Coast AQMD staff will review the application to screen for completeness and project eligibility. If additional information, documentation, or updates are required, South Coast AQMD staff will allow the applicant 14 days to provide any requested documentation and/or updates. Eligible projects will be approved for funding as received and prioritized by application submission date. If an applicant has been approved for funding of one or more projects, an agreement will be executed between the applicant and South Coast AQMD. Agreements specify the project requirements and set milestones for the destruction of the old/baseline equipment and the delivery and operation of the new/replacement equipment.
3	Once an agreement has been fully executed, the applicant, now referred to as the Awardee, may proceed to order and purchase the new/replacement equipment from the equipment vendor. Measure 3 of INVEST CLEAN provides grant funding on a reimbursement basis, issued as a rebate. Accordingly, South Coast AQMD will disburse funds to the Awardee after project implementation is completed as outlined in Step 5 below.
	After the new/replacement equipment is delivered, the Awardee must inform South Coast AQMD staff so an inspection can be scheduled.
4A	A South Coast AQMD Inspector will be assigned to inspect the new/replacement equipment. The Inspector will coordinate with the Awardee directly to arrange an inspection date and time. Inspections may be performed either on-site or via video or photograph(s) at the Inspector's discretion. The inspector will verify specifications for the new/replacement equipment including, but not limited to, new equipment make, model, model year, product identification number/serial number, Product Identification Number/Serial Number, battery type, battery capacity, range, motor make, motor model, power rating (in kW or HP), charging options/location(s), or other applicable specifications. Upon completion of the inspection, the Inspector will submit an Inspection Report for review by South Coast AQMD staff.

4B	Upon delivery of the new/replacement equipment, the Awardee will have 60 days to destroy the old/baseline equipment and engine. The applicant may destroy the old equipment through a certified dismantler. Other methods of scrapping and dismantling may be approved by South Coast AQMD on a case-by-case basis in advance (in writing). Upon destruction and scrapping of the old equipment, the Awardee must obtain a Certificate of Destruction from the scrap yard/dismantler and provide a copy to South Coast AQMD Staff within 60 days of destruction.
5	Upon approval of the post-inspection report and receipt of the Certificate of Destruction, the Awardees can submit invoices to the South Coast AQMD staff. Invoice documents include, but are not limited to, an Invoice requesting payment from the Awardee, copies of any Purchase Invoices from the vendor, and copies of any bank-cleared checks from the applicant to the vendor as proof of payment. For financed equipment, additional documents will be required including a copy of the finance agreement between the Awardee and financing company, a Payment Authorization Form (provided during the invoicing process upon request), copies of any bank-cleared checks from the Awardee to the financing company, and a copy of the wire transfer from the Awardee/financing company to the vendor. Once all documents are received and approved by South Coast AQMD staff, payment will be issued per the terms of the agreement.
6	<p>After the new equipment has been delivered and funding has been disbursed, the Awardee is responsible for maintaining ownership of the new equipment for the duration of the project term and must abide by any usage requirements and real-time or telematic usage data collection requirements detailed in the agreement. Usage reports noting the hour usage (or mileage) of the new equipment must be submitted to South Coast AQMD on a semi-annual basis according to the schedule specified in the project milestones of the agreement.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the project term and after all semi-annual usage reports have been submitted and reviewed, South Coast AQMD staff will notify the Awardee of project completion status. In the event that project milestones or usage requirements are not met, South Coast AQMD reserves the right to extend the project term if necessary to achieve project goals.</p>

***Table 1: Explanation of Process Steps in Figure 2***

## Section 3 – PA Timeline (These dates are subject to change)

Item	Date
Issue PA2026-01	August 1, 2025
Applications Open	August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT
Deadline to Submit Application	November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT or until funds are encumbered (whichever comes earlier)
Agreement Execution	January 2026 through April 2027
Invoice Review and Payment	June 2026 through February 2028
Performance and usage tracking	Commencing after Deployment for a minimum of five years.

NOTE: PA may be re-issued as needed

### 3.1 PA Amendments

South Coast AQMD may modify the PA and/or issue supplementary information or guidelines relating to the PA during the application preparation and acceptance period from August 15, 2025, at 12:00 PM PT to November 28, 2025, at 12:00 PM PT. Amendments will be posted on the INVEST CLEAN website at <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/technology/implementation/invest-clean>.

## Section 4 – Application Preparation & Submittal Instructions

### 4.1 Application Submission Requirements:

Please reference Attachment A for information required to complete and submit an application through our online INVEST CLEAN Grant Management System (GMS) provided at: <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/technology/implementation/invest-clean>

- INVEST CLEAN Program grants can be no greater than a project's procurement cost. Costs for warranty, shipment, and tax may be eligible project costs.
- Applicants must provide proof that they have owned each old/baseline equipment unit for at least one year.
- Vendor quotes must be dated no longer than 90 days prior to the application submittal date.
- More than one quote is encouraged to determine the best cost estimate.
- Applicants shall inform the vendor of the time frame of the award process so that the vendor can estimate prices based on the projected order/purchase date, since funding requests and awards may not be revised after the Program closing date
- Vendor quotes must include a minimum 3-year warranty for the new equipment.
- Applicants must provide engine documentation for existing/baseline equipment detailing engine serial number, model year, horsepower, and tier certification. The certification emission standard and Tier designation for the engine must be determined from CARB's Executive Order issued for that engine, not by the engine model year. Executive orders for off-road engines may be found at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/offroad/cert/cert.php>

- Applicants must provide documentation for new battery-electric equipment detailing make, model, model year, battery type, battery capacity, range, charging options, or other applicable specifications.
- New battery-electric equipment must be certified/verified for sale in California and must comply with durability and warranty requirements.
- Applicants must provide historical usage records of the existing/baseline equipment for the past 12 months.
- Applicants must provide the CARB compliance status for the existing CHE fleet (ex., DOORS Compliance Snapshots).

The South Coast AQMD retains the authority to impose more stringent requirements as necessary to address additional concerns

#### 4.2 Certifications and Representations

South Coast AQMD “Business Information Forms” require signatures and are available on the GMS via the application portal. These forms are required to be uploaded prior to the application deadline as part of the application submittal.

#### 4.3 Vendor Notification

Applicants must provide cost information that specifies the amount of funding requested and the basis for that request by attaching vendor quotes to the application. Vendor quotes must be dated no more than 90 days prior to the application submittal date. Applicants must inform vendors of the timeframe for the award process so that they can accurately quote costs based on the anticipated order or purchase date.

No purchase orders may be placed or work performed for projects awarded under this PA until after the execution date of the rebate agreement between the Awardee and South Coast AQMD. The South Coast AQMD has no obligation to fund a project until an agreement is fully executed by both parties. All project costs must be clearly indicated in the application.

#### 4.4 Confidentiality

Applicants must ensure that any trade secret, confidential or proprietary information they provide is marked accordingly. Please see the following website for more details:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/Guidelines/praguidelines.pdf>

## Section 5 – Application Evaluation

South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all submitted applications as they are received until the application deadline or until all funds are expended, whichever date occurs first. Applications will be evaluated based on the CPRG/INVEST CLEAN Workplan, including verification that the project meets all specified requirements for this program. Funding determination will be done on a project-by-project basis and if feasible, funding will be distributed geographically.

Be aware that there is a possibility that, due to program priorities and funding category limitations (i.e., caps), project applicants may be offered only partial funding.

### 5.1 Grounds for Rejection

An application may be immediately rejected if the application:

- Does not include the correct documentation and other forms required.
- Was not submitted by an individual authorized to represent the firm.
- Does not meet the conditions laid out in the application prior to submission.

### 5.2 Disposition of Applications

The South Coast AQMD reserves the right to reject any or all applications. All responses become the property of the South Coast AQMD. A digital copy of the application shall be retained for South Coast AQMD files.

### 5.3 Modification or Withdrawal

Once submitted, applications cannot be altered without the prior written consent of South Coast AQMD. In addition, Conflict of Interest and Project Cost information, as described below, must also be submitted with the application. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all information submitted is accurate and complete.

## Section 6 – Funding & Conditions

### 6.1 Payment

Selected Measure 3 projects will be paid on a reimbursement basis in accordance with the rebate agreement. The payment will be made after the BE CHE is delivered and the old unit is scrapped. The final invoice must be submitted with supporting documents no later than February 28, 2028 unless extended at the sole discretion of South Coast AQMD. The agreement term under this PA will end five years from the date the equipment is commissioned to ensure operation of the equipment for at least 5 years.

The Awardee will be encouraged to obtain the most recent price estimate during application submittal and place the purchase order as soon as the agreement is executed to secure the equipment pricing. It is recommended that applicants work with vendors on the timeline of when the units will be delivered and in service and adjust pricing accordingly.



## 6.2 Inspections

Inspections will be performed on the CHE approved for funding per the agreement terms. Inspections of equipment may be conducted in person or virtually via remote inspections. Recipients must make all equipment available for in-person or remote inspections, unless otherwise specified within the agreement, or through updates from South Coast AQMD. Each Awardee funded under each measure is subject to inspection based on the South Coast AQMD and the U.S. EPA's discretion.

## 6.3 Reporting

Selected Awardees will be required to submit semi-annual reports. Awardees will be provided with data collection requirements to ensure the South Coast AQMD has the necessary data to evaluate project performance. The data may be collected in real-time or through telematic equipment, which may include, but will not be limited to, CHE availability (percent of time the BE CHE is ready and available for use), duty cycle coverage (percent of typical diesel CHE tasks completed within one full battery cycle), hours operated, maintenance and operating costs, operational fit, interoperability and operator feedback, miles traveled, energy used, charging frequency, charging rate, charger uptime downtimes and other challenges encountered during the reporting period. Awardees must ensure that performance data is provided and that the usage requirements in the agreement are met. South Coast AQMD reserves the right to verify the information provided via inspection.

A designated third-party contractor may collect and analyze vehicle data to verify the Measure's performance.

## 6.4 Agreement Structure

An agreement will be executed with the South Coast AQMD and the owner for the deployment of the BE CHE. This agreement will outline the Awardee's responsibilities, milestones, and deliverables.

## 6.5 Performance

When an Awardee is unable to meet the program requirements (e.g., annual reporting, operation, etc.) or terms specified in the agreement, South Coast AQMD may consider the options to remedy the violation before seeking enforcement action. In addition, when an Awardee cannot meet the average usage requirements or terms specified in the agreement, South Coast AQMD may consider an extension of the contract to address non-performance.

Options to address or remedy non-performance include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Extending the project agreement to allow for the makeup of the usage requirement shortfall
- Transfer ownership of the BE CHE to another entity committed to complying with the agreement and operating of the BE CHE

- The owner will make its best effort to assist with identifying a new operator and maintain the CHE in operating condition until transfer of ownership is complete.
- South Coast AQMD and US EPA will review and approve the justification for the deployment failure before any ownership transfer can be authorized.

## 6.6 Closeout

If selected for funding, closeout of the agreement can occur once all required documentation has been received and the Awardee has fulfilled all obligations. In addition, the Awardee agrees to use the BE CHE(s) purchased under the INVEST CLEAN program for the purpose for which it was acquired, and for the duration of its useful life. After the end of the five-year grant period, the BE CHE(s) may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to the US EPA or South Coast AQMD.

## 6.7 Access to Records and Retention

Materials, reports, photos, and other documentation submitted pursuant to the project may be released in part or in whole pursuant to either the Freedom of Information Act or the California Public Records Act. The US EPA or South Coast AQMD may make publicly available on their websites copies or portions of project information.

US EPA and South Coast AQMD also reserve the right to access records of the Awardee pertinent to this award, to perform audits, execute site visits, or for any other official use. This right of access also includes timely and reasonable access to the Awardee's personnel for the purpose of interviewing and discussion related to such documents or the Federal award in general. This right of access shall continue as long as the records are retained.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.334, the recipient must retain all Federal award records, including but not limited to, financial records, supporting documents, and statistical records for at least three (3) years from the date of submission of the final financial report. The records must be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings have been resolved and final action has been taken if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period. Examples of the required records include: (1) time and attendance records and supporting documentation; and (2) documentation of compliance with statutes and regulations that apply to the project. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.337, the US EPA, the Inspector General, the Comptroller General, and the pass-through entity, or any of their authorized representatives, have the right of access to any documents, papers or records of the recipient which are pertinent to the grant award. The rights of access are not limited to the required retention period, but last as long as the records are retained.

## 6.8 Use of Logos

Use of the US EPA's logo, along with logos of other participating entities, on outreach materials, websites, or reports, must adhere to the requirements of both the General Terms and Conditions, Paragraph Q, and California Health and Safety Code Section 40730.

## 6.9 Statement of Compliance

Government Code Section 12990 and California Administrative Code, Title II, Division 4, Chapter 5, require employers to agree not to unlawfully discriminate against any employee or Applicant because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, or age. A statement of compliance with this clause is included in all South Coast AQMD agreements for the Program.

## 6.10 Compliance with Applicable Laws

Applicants must comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. If the application is selected for a funding award, all vehicles/equipment to be purchased or installed must be compliant with all applicable federal, state, and local air quality rules and regulations, and will maintain compliance for the full agreement term.

## 6.11 Conflict of Interest

Applicant must address any potential conflicts of interest with other clients affected by actions performed by the firm on behalf of South Coast AQMD. Although the Applicant will not be automatically disqualified by reason of work performed for such firms, the South Coast AQMD reserves the right to consider the nature and extent of such work in evaluating the application. Conflicts of interest will be screened on a case-by-case basis by the South Coast AQMD General Counsel's Office. Conflict of interest provisions of the state law, including the Political Reform Act, may apply to work performed pursuant to this program.

## 6.12 Compliance with Labor Laws

If an application is deemed eligible, the Applicant will be required to disclose any labor violations that have occurred within the last three years to be further considered for an award. If awarded, the recipient will be required to notify South Coast AQMD in writing if they have been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws. The recipient will complete a yearly certification in which they will either state that they have not been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws or, if such violations have been found, the recipient will give South Coast AQMD details about those violations in the certification. If the recipient has previously provided that information to the South Coast AQMD, they will be required to reattach that previous notification to the certification and provide any additional details about those violations that have not previously been provided. The recipient's yearly certification will be due at the same time as the annual progress reports. South Coast AQMD reserves the right to terminate the agreement with a recipient that has been found to have violated labor laws, and the recipient

may be required to return any and all funds, as determined by South Coast AQMD. The recipient will also ensure that these requirements are included in all downstream partnerships.

#### 6.13 Economic Sanctions (Russia/Ukraine)

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-6-22 (EO) regarding economic sanctions in response to Russian aggression in Ukraine. Applicants who are considered eligible for funds under this PA and who have received executed agreements from South Coast AQMD, are obligated to comply with existing economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine.

## Section 7 – INVEST CLEAN Contact Information

This program announcement and additional information and resources pertaining to the INVEST CLEAN Program can be obtained from the INVEST CLEAN website at:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/home/technology/implementation/invest-clean>

South Coast AQMD staff members are available to answer questions during the application period. To expedite assistance, please direct your inquiries to [investclean-che@aqmd.gov](mailto:investclean-che@aqmd.gov).

**ATTACHMENT A – PROJECT INFORMATION FORM**

Please be prepared to provide the following information as prompted by the INVEST CLEAN GMS.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Applicant Legal Name
Business Address
City, State and Zip
Phone
Contact Name
Title
E-mail Address

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

<p>Existing Equipment Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment Make</li> <li>• Equipment Model</li> <li>• Equipment Model year</li> <li>• Equipment Serial Number</li> <li>• Primary Yard address</li> <li>• DOORS EIN (if registered in DOORS)</li> <li>• Regulatory Compliance Documents for the company (for all applicable regulations)</li> </ul>
<p>Existing Engine Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engine Fuel Type</li> <li>• Engine Make</li> <li>• Engine Model</li> <li>• Engine Model Year</li> <li>• Engine Serial Number</li> <li>• Engine Family Number</li> <li>• ARB Certification Engine Executive Order Number</li> </ul>
<p>Operational Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percent Operation in 2 MSA's</li> <li>• Projected Future Percent Operation in 2 MSA's</li> <li>• Projected Future Annual Usage Hours</li> <li>• Current Hour Meter Reading</li> </ul>
<p>Replacement Equipment Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement Equipment Make</li> <li>• Replacement Equipment Model</li> <li>• Replacement Equipment Model Year</li> <li>• CARB Certification or Approval Letter certifying the equipment as zero emission</li> </ul>

## PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN

Amount requested from South Coast AQMD
Replacement vehicle Cost (Including Tax)
Vendor Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vendor Name</li> <li>• Vendor Contact Name</li> <li>• Vendor Phone Number</li> <li>• Vendor Address</li> </ul>

## APPLICATION FUNDING SUMMARY

Total Amount requested from South Coast AQMD for all projects
Total Amount to be paid by Applicant for all projects
Funding From other Sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Amount to be paid by other funding Sources for all projects</li> <li>• Name of Funding Entity</li> <li>• Funding Amount</li> </ul>
Total Cost of all projects in application

## REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance documentation for entire fleet for all applicable regulations (CHE, WAIRE, Off-Road Diesel Regulation)</li> <li>• Proof of Ownership</li> <li>• Photo of Existing Equipment Serial Number for equipment that will be scrapped</li> <li>• Photo of Existing Engine Emission Control Label for equipment that will be scrapped</li> <li>• Photo of Existing Engine Info/Serial Number Tag for an engine that will be scrapped</li> <li>• ARB Certification Engine Executive Order for scrapped Engine (if applicable)</li> <li>• Photo of Current Hour Meter Reading</li> <li>• Equipment Operational Records for past 12 months</li> <li>• New Equipment Quote with 3 Year Warranty (dated within 90 Days)</li> <li>• ARB Certification Engine Executive Order for Replacement Engine</li> <li>• Business Information Request (BIR)</li> <li>• Campaign Contribution Disclosure</li> <li>• W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification</li> <li>• Direct Deposit Form</li> <li>• 590 Withholding Exemption Certificate</li> <li>• Certificate Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters</li> <li>• Labor Law Compliance form</li> </ul>
---



**South Coast  
Air Quality  
Management District**

# **INVEST CLEAN**



## **Program Announcement**

### **#PA2026-02**

## **Measure 2.1 - Battery Electric Freight Vehicle Deployment Incentive Program**

Accepting Applications: August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT  
Submission Deadline: November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT

## **INTRODUCTION**

In July 2024, US EPA awarded funds to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) to implement INVEST CLEAN in Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim and Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The two MSAs include the following four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino. INVEST CLEAN targets the limiting factors and challenges to the electrification transformation of the Southern California goods movement corridor.

The purpose of this Program Announcement (PA) is to solicit project applications for INVEST CLEAN – Measure 2.1: Battery Electric Freight Vehicle Deployment Incentive Program. This Program will provide funding rebates for the transition of goods movement operations to advanced technologies and reduce emissions by replacing heavy-duty Class 8 diesel freight delivery vehicles with Class 8 trucks that are powered by battery-electric technology.

## **SECTION 1 – PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The total rebate funding for Measure 2.1: Battery Electric Freight Vehicle Deployment Incentive Program is approximately \$28,000,000 from the INVEST CLEAN funds awarded to the South Coast AQMD. All applications will be evaluated based on the requirements set forth in this PA, which align with the INVEST CLEAN workplan and the Terms and Conditions of the grant awarded to INVEST CLEAN.

- WHO:** Applicants may be public or private entities currently operating a Class 8 vehicle for goods movement. Eligible applicants are asset-owners/operators.
- WHAT:** Incentives under this PA are rebate-based and limited to the replacement of diesel-fueled Class 8 trucks with Class 8 trucks powered by battery-electric technology. Only Class 8 (GVWR 33,001 pounds or higher) goods movement trucks are eligible for this rebate. An equivalent baseline truck that will be scrapped must be diesel-fueled.
- HOW:** Applications must be submitted online through South Coast AQMD's Grant Management System (GMS), which can be found at:  
<http://www.aqmd.gov/investclean>
- WHEN:** Applications can be submitted starting August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT and the application period closes on November 28, 2025 at 12 PM PT or until program funds are exhausted.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>
Issue PA2026-02	August 1, 2025
Applications Open	August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT



Deadline to Submit Application	November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT or until funds are expended (whichever comes earlier)
Agreement Execution	January 2026 through August 2027
Performance and usage tracking	Commencing after Deployment

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED VIA SOUTH COAST AQMD'S  
ONLINE GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (GMS)**

## **1.1 - GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Incentive funding under this PA is rebate-based. Only diesel Class 8 goods movement trucks are eligible for a rebate under this Program. South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all applications submitted online as they are received until the application deadline, or until all funds are exhausted, whichever date occurs first.

### Eligible Participant

- The applicant must provide proof of compliance with applicable fleet/truck regulations during the application process.
- If awarded, the applicant must enter into a written Agreement with South Coast AQMD as a condition of receiving rebate funds. See SECTION IV – PROJECT AGREEMENT
- The applicant must agree to adhere to all applicable Terms and Conditions. See SECTION VI – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS

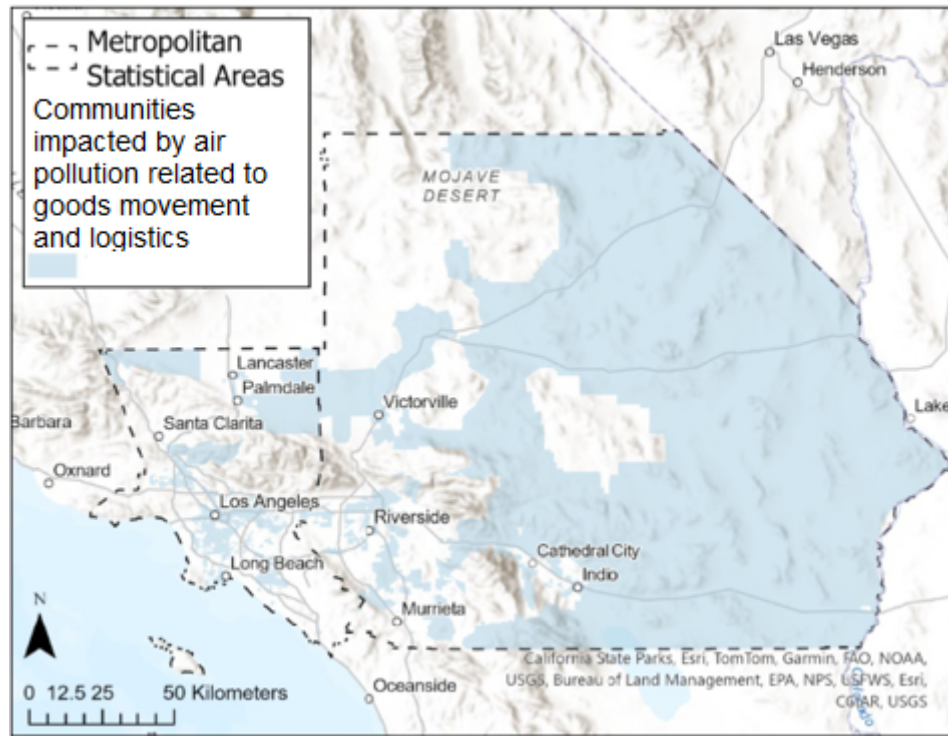
### Eligible Existing Vehicle

- The existing vehicle must be diesel-powered.
- The existing vehicle must be domiciled and have operated at least 75% within either one or both MSAs for the prior 12 months from application submittal. The MSA regions are shown in the dotted areas on the map below in Figure 1, which include the four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino.
- The existing vehicle must have operated a minimum of 7,000 miles during the 12 months prior to application.

### Eligible Replacement Vehicle

- The replacement vehicle must be brand new and battery-electric powered.
- The replacement vehicle must not be powered by hydrogen or any fossil fuels.
- The replacement vehicle must not be a retrofit, repower, or conversion.
- The replacement vehicle must be deployed no later than February 2028.
- The replacement vehicle must operate at least 75% within one or both of the MSAs for a minimum of 5 years after vehicle deployment.

**Figure 1: Area inside dotted line represents the two MSAs qualified territories**



## **1.2 - ELIGIBLE FUNDING AMOUNT**

Each eligible Class 8 truck project will receive a rebate amount up to \$400,000.

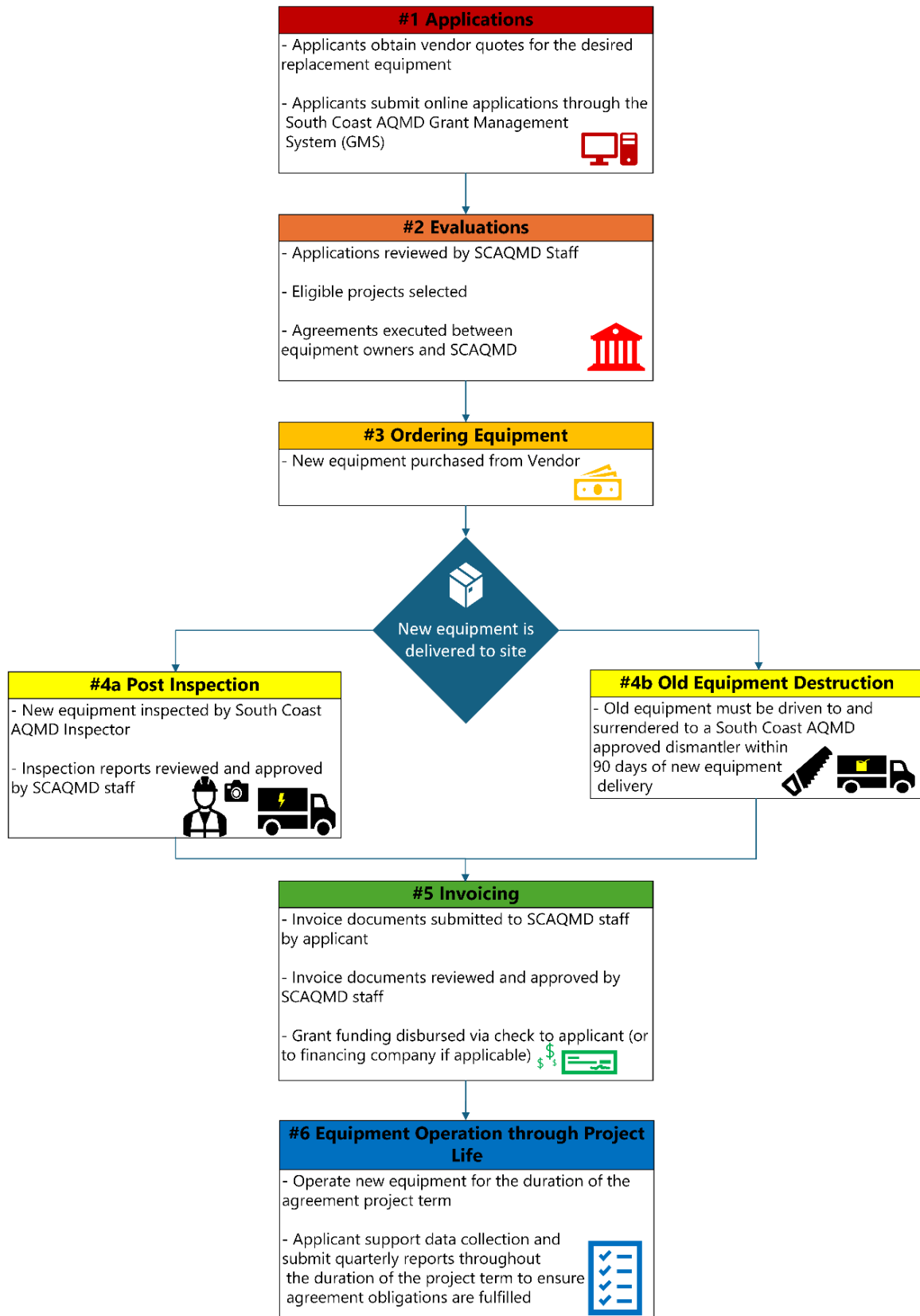
While Program grants can be combined with other non-federal grants and incentives, in no case may the total grant/rebate funds be greater than 100% of a project's total cost, as explained in Section 1.3 below.

## **1.3 - PROJECT COST**

All project costs must be clearly indicated in the application. Applicants must provide an itemized dealership or manufacturer quote for the replacement vehicle. Sales tax, Federal Excise Tax (FET), and delivery fees are eligible costs under the INVEST CLEAN program. Please note that any combined incentive funds with this opportunity cannot exceed the cost of the replacement truck.


## **1.4 – PROGRAM WORKFLOW**

The flowchart in Figure 2 depicts the evaluation process of a typical replacement project, while Table 1 below provides a detailed explanation of each step. Projects will begin with an online application, followed by a project evaluation conducted by South Coast AQMD staff. This will be followed by the execution of Agreements, project implementation, invoicing and reimbursement, and required reporting.



**Figure 2: Lifecycle for Battery Electric Class 8 Vehicle Replacement Projects**

**Table 1-Step-by-Step Explanation**

Chart Process #	Description of Process
1	Applicants submit INVEST CLEAN grant applications online through South Coast AQMD's Grant Management System (GMS). Applicants must provide all required information and documentation as prompted by the GMS.
2	Upon receipt of a submitted application, South Coast AQMD staff will review the application to screen for completeness and project eligibility. If additional information, documentation or corrections are required, South Coast AQMD staff will allow the applicant 14 calendar days to provide a response to the request. Eligible applications will be approved for funding as project reviews are completed and approved with priority determined by the application submittal date. If an applicant has been approved for funding, an agreement will be executed between the applicant and South Coast AQMD.
3	Once an Agreement has been fully executed, the applicant, now Awardee, may proceed to order and purchase the new/replacement vehicle from the vehicle dealer/vendor.
	New/replacement vehicle is delivered to the applicant. The Awardee must inform South Coast AQMD staff upon delivery of project vehicle.
4a	Inspection of the new vehicle is required. A South Coast AQMD Inspector will coordinate an inspection date and time with the Awardee directly. Inspections may be performed either on-site or via video or photograph(s) at the inspector's discretion.
4b	Upon delivery of the new/replacement vehicle, the awardee will have 90 days to surrender the old/baseline vehicle to the authorized dismantler.
5	Awardee will submit an itemized invoice to South Coast AQMD to request payment. South Coast AQMD will confirm that the Awardee has met all program and agreement requirements prior to rebate payment.
6	Awardee will allow a South Coast AQMD designated data collection organization to track data for the operation of the new vehicle (See pg. 10 Data Collection). Awardee will meet program requirements and submit semi-annual reports to the South Coast AQMD.

## **SECTION 2 – APPLICATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

The electronic application in the GMS will prompt applicants to provide all required application information. **Attachment A** provides a listing of required application information. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that all information submitted to South Coast AQMD's GMS is accurate and complete.

All online applications must be submitted in accordance with the specifications set forth herein. Failure to adhere to these specifications may be cause for rejection of the application without evaluation.

Grounds for Rejection:

An application may be immediately rejected if the application:

- Does not submit all the required information and documentation via GMS.
- It is not signed by an individual authorized to represent the firm.

Certifications and Representations:

South Coast AQMD “Business Information Forms” requiring signatures will be available on the GMS and are required to be submitted with the Application.

Methods of Delivery:

The applicant must submit the application using the South Coast AQMD’s GMS. Multiple projects may be entered into a single application. Applicants are required to perform the first and final steps of initiating and submitting applications; however, the application may be filled in by a third-party consultant.

Disposition of Applications:

The South Coast AQMD reserves the right to reject any or all applications. All responses become the property of the South Coast AQMD. The electronic copy of the application shall be retained for South Coast AQMD files. Please review the Access to Records and Retention disclaimer in SECTION 6 – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS.

Modification or Withdrawal:

Ensure that the information input and documentation uploaded are accurate and complete. Once submitted, applications cannot be altered. Applicants may submit more than one application per solicitation. Applications can be withdrawn through the GMS system.

**SECTION 3 – APPLICATION EVALUATION**

South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate and qualify submitted applications as they are received to approve the project(s) to be funded. South Coast AQMD staff may request additional information, documentation or updates based on their application review. Applicants will be allowed 14 calendar days to provide a response to the request.

Funds may be distributed based on applications received to target areas most heavily impacted by goods movement and ensure geographic distribution. To the extent feasible, South Coast AQMD will ensure that funding is balanced across the two Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs): Los Angeles-Orange County MSA and Inland Empire MSA. Some funds may be reserved initially to ensure the funds are available to both MSAs.

There is a possibility that due to large program interest that applicants may be offered partial funding and not all eligible applications may be funded.

## **SECTION 4 –AGREEMENT**

All applicants that are selected for funding awards must enter a written Agreement with the South Coast AQMD and will be considered rebate recipients, or Awardees.

**Note: The South Coast AQMD has no obligation to fund a project until an Agreement is fully executed by both parties.**

The scope of work will include tasks and deliverables that demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the EPA-funded INVEST CLEAN Program administered by South Coast AQMD.

Agreements will include, but not be limited to, the following requirements:

- Be available for a follow-up inspection by South Coast AQMD, if requested.
- Existing vehicles must be scrapped.
- Provision of data to ensure monitoring and compliance through telematics or other travel logs as appropriate.
- Register the new/replacement vehicle in California with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).
- Maintain insurance on the new/replacement vehicle as required by law.
- Ensure the operation of the new/replacement vehicle is within one of the MSAs and provide all necessary progress reports.
- The funded vehicle is required to maintain a minimum of 7,000 miles a year, and 75% of which must be within the two MSAs for the entire operating period.
- Ensure the new vehicle is operated and maintained with proper maintenance throughout the Agreement term.
- The replacement vehicle is to have at least a three-year manufacturer's warranty.
- Ensure that vehicle operation is restricted specifically to goods movement.

### **4.1 - INSPECTIONS**

Inspections will be performed on the new vehicles approved for funding. Additional inspections of old vehicles/engines or destruction of old vehicles may be conducted at the discretion of South Coast AQMD. Inspections of vehicles/engines may be conducted virtually via remote inspections. Recipients must make all vehicles available for in-person or remote inspections unless otherwise specified within the Agreement, or through updates from South Coast AQMD.

### **4.2 - SCRAPPING REQUIREMENTS**

The existing vehicle must be scrapped according to the following criteria:

- Existing vehicle must be driven, not towed, to a South Coast AQMD-approved dismantler. A dismantler receipt must be collected by the applicant and provided to South Coast AQMD before the rebate can be processed.
- Existing vehicle must be scrapped within ninety (90) days of the dismantler's receipt

- The scrapping method must include drilling a three-inch asymmetrical hole in the engine block and cutting the frame rail.
- Evidence of destruction will be provided to the Awardee by the approved dismantler and must include digital photos of VIN tag, front, side profile, and rear of the vehicle, engine tag, before and after photos of the destroyed engine block, and cut frame rails or other cut structural components as applicable. The Awardee must submit this documentation to South Coast AQMD per the Agreement terms.

On a case-by-case basis depending on the condition and emission rate of the vehicle, South Coast AQMD may allow vehicles to be used for other programs to reduce emission rates within the South Coast AQMD region.

### **4.3 - DATA COLLECTION**

For the duration of the 5-year operating period, recipients shall allow installation of data loggers to enable real-time data submission or remote access to the South Coast AQMD Contractor, the designated third-party data verification organization under INVEST CLEAN. A designated data collection organization will collect and analyze operational data for this Program. Recipients may request to withhold business-sensitive data, provided this does not compromise the data collection objectives. Note that such requests will not abrogate or modify the provisions of Government Code Section 7920 et seq. (Public Records Act). Specific data collection and reporting procedures will be provided to recipient by the designated data collection organization.

### **4.4 - DELIVERABLES**

The Agreement will describe how the project will be monitored and what type of information will be included in project progress reports for the duration of the 5-year operating period. At a minimum, the South Coast AQMD expects to receive the following:

- Semi-Annual reports consisting of:
  - Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMTs)/energy usage,
  - vehicle registration, vehicle insurance, and
  - other information as requested by the South Coast AQMD

South Coast AQMD reserves the right to verify the information provided. Please review the Access to Records and Retention disclaimer in SECTION 6 – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS.

### **4.5 - PERFORMANCE**

When an Awardee is unable to meet the program requirements (e.g., semi-annual reporting, operation, emission benefits, etc.) or terms specified in the Agreement, South Coast AQMD may consider the options to remedy the violation before seeking enforcement action. In addition, when a recipient cannot meet the average usage requirements or terms specified in the Agreement, South Coast AQMD may consider that the average usage is less than the activity required in the Agreement and seek remediation.

Options for non-performance include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Extending the project Agreement to allow for the makeup of the usage requirement shortfall
- The owner will make its best effort to repair the vehicle and assist with identifying a new operator.
- SOUTH COAST AQMD and EPA will review and approve the justification for the deployment failure before any ownership transfer can be authorized.

## **SECTION 5 – PAYMENT TERMS**

To receive a rebate payment, the Awardee must submit:

- Proof of vehicle purchase, including signed sale agreements and proof of payments.
- Proof of replacement vehicle registration, vehicle insurance, and warranty information
- Proof of fleet compliance with applicable fleet/truck regulations
- Proof that the existing vehicle was surrendered to an authorized dismantler

Payment will be made upon review and approval of the documentation listed above, verification via inspection of new vehicle deployment, and verification via inspection of old/existing vehicle destruction/proof of destruction.

All payment requests must be submitted by February 2028.

## **SECTION 6 – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS**

### **6.1 - CONFIDENTIALITY**

Please ensure that any trade secret, confidential or proprietary information being provided is marked accordingly. Please see the following website for more details:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/Guidelines/praguidelines.pdf>

### **6.2 - ACCESS TO RECORDS AND RETENTION**

Materials, reports, photos, and other documentation submitted pursuant to the project may be released in part or in whole pursuant to either the Freedom of Information Act or the California Public Records Act. The US EPA or South Coast AQMD may make publicly available on their websites, copies or portions of project information.

EPA and South Coast AQMD, or their authorized representatives, also reserve the right to access records of the applicant/recipient pertinent to this award, to perform audits, execute site visits, or for any other official use. This right of access also includes timely and reasonable access to the applicant/recipient's personnel for the purpose of interviewing and having discussions related to such documents or the Federal award in general. This right of access shall continue as long as the records are retained.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.334, the recipient must retain all Federal award records, including but not limited to, financial records, supporting documents, and statistical records for at least three years from the date of submission of the final financial report. The records must be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings have been resolved and final action has been taken if



any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period. Examples of the required records include: (1) time and attendance records and supporting documentation; and (2) documentation of compliance with statutes and regulations that apply to the project. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.337, the EPA, the Inspector General, the Comptroller General, and the pass-through entity, or any of their authorized representatives, have the right of access to any documents, papers or records of the recipient which are pertinent to the grant award. The rights of access are not limited to the required retention period, but last as long as the records are retained.

### **6.3 - USE OF LOGOS**

Use of the EPA's logo, along with logos of other participating entities, on outreach materials, websites, or reports, must adhere to the requirements of both the General Terms and Conditions, Paragraph Q, and California Health and Safety Code Section 40730.

### **6.4 - STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

Government Code Section 12990 and California Administrative Code, Title II, Division 4, Chapter 5, require employers to agree not to unlawfully discriminate against any employee or Applicant because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, or age. A statement of compliance with this clause is included in all South Coast AQMD Agreements for the Program.

### **6.5 - COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS**

Applicants must comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. If the application is selected for a funding award/rebate, all vehicles/equipment to be purchased or installed must be compliant with all applicable federal, state, and local air quality rules and regulations, and will maintain compliance for the full Agreement term.

### **6.6 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Applicants must address any potential conflicts of interest with other clients affected by actions performed by the firm on behalf of South Coast AQMD. Although the Applicant will not be automatically disqualified by reason of work performed for such firms, the South Coast AQMD reserves the right to consider the nature and extent of such work in evaluating the application. Conflicts of interest will be screened on a case-by-case basis by the South Coast AQMD General Counsel's Office. Conflict of interest provisions of the state law, including the Political Reform Act, may apply to work performed pursuant to this program.

### **6.7 - COMPLIANCE WITH LABOR LAWS**

If an application is deemed eligible, the Applicant will be required to disclose any labor violations that have occurred within the last three years to be further considered for an award. If awarded, the recipient will be required to notify South Coast AQMD in writing if they have been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws. The recipient will complete a yearly certification in which they will either state that they have not been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws or, if such violations have been found, the recipient will give South Coast AQMD details about those violations in the certification. If the recipient has previously provided that information to the South Coast AQMD, they will be required to reattach that previous notification to the certification and provide any

additional details about those violations that have not previously been provided. The recipient's certification will be due at the same time as the semi-annual progress reports. South Coast AQMD reserves the right to terminate the Agreement with a recipient that has been found to have violated labor laws, and the recipient may be required to return any and all funds, as determined by South Coast AQMD. The recipient will also ensure that these requirements are included in all downstream partnerships.

#### **6.8 - ECONOMIC SANCTIONS (RUSSIA/UKRAINE)**

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-6-22 (EO) regarding sanctions in response to Russian aggression in Ukraine. Applicants who are considered eligible for funds under this PA and receive executed Agreements from South Coast AQMD, are obligated to comply with existing economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

##### **1. Agreement Term**

Agreement term is the duration for which the Agreement is valid. It encompasses both the project completion and project implementation periods:

- i. Project completion period is the first part of the Agreement term starting from the date of Agreement execution by both parties to the date the project post-inspection confirms that the project has become operational.
- ii. Project implementation period is the second part of the Agreement term and equals the operating period.

##### **2. South Coast AQMD Jurisdiction**

The South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for all of Orange County and the urban portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Within Riverside County, the South Coast AQMD also has jurisdiction over the Salton Sea Air Basin and a portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin. This area of 10,743 square miles is home to approximately 17 million people—about half the population of the state of California. It is the second most populated urban area in the United States and one of the smoggiest. Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/jurisdiction> for more information.

##### **3. Goods Movement**

“Goods” are defined as having the same meaning in Commercial Code section 2105, which essentially requires that: The goods must be movable; and the goods being moved must be part of a transaction that involves a contract for the sale of the goods.

#### **WORKSHOP AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ASSISTANCE:**

This program announcement and additional information and resources pertaining to the INVEST CLEAN Program can be obtained from the INVEST CLEAN website at:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/investclean>

Additionally, information on virtual pre-recorded presentations and other meetings (as needed) are to be posted on the INVEST CLEAN website.

South Coast AQMD staff members are available to answer questions during the application period. To expedite assistance, please direct your inquiries to [investclean-onroad@aqmd.gov](mailto:investclean-onroad@aqmd.gov).

**ATTACHMENT A – PROJECT INFORMATION FORM**

Please be prepared to provide the following information as prompted by the INVEST CLEAN GMS.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Applicant Name
Business Address
City, State and Zip
Phone
Contact Name
Title
E-mail Address

**FLEET INFORMATION**

What is your current fleet size?
Is your company registered in TRUCRS
Provide TRUCRS ID (enter NA if not applicable)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

<p>Existing Vehicle Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VIN</li> <li>• Vehicle Make</li> <li>• Vehicle Model</li> <li>• Vehicle Model year</li> <li>• GVWR</li> <li>• License plate</li> <li>• CHP CA Number</li> <li>• Primary Yard address</li> <li>• Regulatory Compliance Documents (for all applicable regulation)</li> <li>• Vocation of the Vehicle</li> </ul>
<p>Existing Engine Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engine Fuel Type</li> <li>• Engine Make</li> <li>• Engine Model</li> <li>• Engine Model Year</li> <li>• Engine Serial Number</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engine Family Number</li> <li>• ARB Certification Engine Executive Order Number</li> </ul>
<b>Operational Information</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total annual mileage and % Operation within the two (2) MSAs for existing vehicle</li> <li>• Projected Future % Operation within the two (2) MSAs</li> <li>• Projected Future Annual Mileage</li> <li>• Current Odometer Reading</li> </ul>
<b>Replacement Vehicle/Engine Information</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement Vehicle Make</li> <li>• Replacement Vehicle Model</li> <li>• Replacement Vehicle Model Year</li> <li>• Replacement Vehicle GVWR</li> <li>• Primary Yard Address</li> <li>• Replacement Engine Make</li> <li>• Replacement Engine Model</li> <li>• Replacement Engine Model Year</li> <li>• ARB Certification Engine Executive Order Number</li> <li>• Odometer Reading of Replacement Vehicle</li> </ul>

**PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN**

Amount requested from South Coast AQMD
Replacement vehicle Cost (Including Tax)
<b>Vendor Information:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vendor Name</li> <li>• Vendor Contact Name</li> <li>• Vendor Phone Number</li> <li>• Vendor Address</li> </ul>

**APPLICATION FUNDING SUMMARY**

Total Amount requested from SOUTH COAST AQMD for all projects in this Category (Class 8 On-Road Vehicles)
Total Amount to be paid by Applicant for all projects in this Category (Class 8 On-Road Vehicles)
Application # for any other applications in this solicitation from other Program Categories (i.e. CHE, infrastructure)
<b>Funding From other Sources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name of Funding Entity</li> <li>• Funding Amount</li> </ul>
Total Cost of all vehicle rebate requests in this Category (Class 8 On-Road Vehicles)

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:**

- Compliance documentation for entire fleet for all applicable regulations
- Vehicle Title for vehicle to be scrapped
- Photo of VIN label
- Photo of GVWR label
- Photo of Engine Emission Control Label
- Photo of Engine Info/Serial Number Tag
- ARB Certification Engine Executive Order for Existing Engine
- Photo of Current Odometer Reading
- Insurance for the past 12 months
- Registration for the past 12 months
- Odometer/Operational/GPS Records for past 12 months
- New Vehicle Quote
- ARB Certification Engine Executive Order for Replacement Engine
- Business Information Request (BIR)
- Campaign Contribution Disclosure
- W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification
- Direct Deposit Form
- 590 Withholding Exemption Certificate
- Certificate Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters
- Labor Law Compliance form



South Coast  
Air Quality  
Management District

**INVEST CLEAN**



# Program Announcement #PA2026-03

## Charging Infrastructure Deployment Incentive Program

Accepting Applications: August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT  
Submission Deadline: November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT

In July 2024, U.S. EPA awarded funds to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) to implement INVEST CLEAN in Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim and Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The two MSAs include the following four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino. INVEST CLEAN targets the limiting factors and challenges to the electrification transformation of the Southern California goods movement corridor.

INVEST CLEAN comprises four incentive measures to modernize the goods movement sectors. South Coast AQMD is soliciting applications under each individual measure. This Program Announcement (PA) is to solicit projects<sup>1</sup> under Measure 1: Charging Infrastructure Deployment Incentive Program (Program). This Program will provide incentive funding to support the development of fast charging infrastructure that facilitates the timely deployment of battery-electric medium and heavy-duty vehicles, as defined in Table 1, including Class 4 to 8 goods movement vehicles in the region.

## **SECTION I – OVERVIEW & ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The total incentive funding for this measure is \$178,500,000. All applications will be evaluated based on the criteria set forth in this PA, which align with the INVEST CLEAN Workplan approved by EPA and the Terms and Conditions of the EPA grant.

- WHO:** Entities directly responsible for planning, designing, constructing, and operating a charging station. Applicants can be charging station developers and operators, fleet operators, truck stop operators, and distribution centers.
- WHAT:** Rebate-based incentives to offset the cost of eligible charging equipment that directly supports Class 4 to 8 medium heavy duty (MHD) and heavy heavy duty (HHD) goods movement vehicles. The funding amount is determined based on the output of the charging system of the stations.
- HOW:** All applications must follow the instructions provided in South Coast AQMD’s Grants Management System (GMS). Failure to adhere to the instructions may be cause for rejection of the application without evaluation. The Application Portal can be found on South Coast AQMD’s INVEST CLEAN program page:(<https://www.aqmd.gov/investclean>).
- WHEN:** Applications can be submitted starting August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT and closes on November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT
- Application evaluation is anticipated to start in November 2025, followed by Rebate Agreement (“Agreement”) execution starting early 2026.
- Charging stations should be commissioned by March 2028, and all awardees will be required to operate the funded equipment for a minimum of five years.

---

<sup>1</sup> “Project” refers to the proposed charging infrastructure at one location



<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>
Issue PA2026-03	August 1, 2025
Applications Open	August 15, 2025, at 12 PM PT
Deadline to Submit Application	November 28, 2025, at 12 PM PT
Agreement Execution	January 2026 through August 2027
Performance and usage tracking	Commencing after Deployment

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED VIA SOUTH COAST AQMD'S  
ONLINE GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (GMS)**

## **GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Funding under this PA is rebate-based. Rebates will be provided on a cost-reimbursement basis in accordance with the fully executed agreement for the charging station(s) (see Section V for the general agreement terms). Charging equipment and associated components that support the charging of Vehicle Classes, as defined in Table 1, and potentially the installation costs of the equipment are eligible for a rebate. Please see the ELIGIBLE EQUIPMENT AND COST Section below for further details.

**Table 1- Vehicle Weight Classes & Categories**

<b>Vehicle Class</b>	<b>GVWR Category</b>
Class 4	14,001-16,000 lbs
Class 5	16,001-19,500 lbs
Class 6	19,501-26,000 lbs
Class 7	26,001-33,000 lbs
Class 8	>33,001 lbs

The rebate amount is determined by the total charging capacity of the chargers included in the application and the total purchase cost of the eligible equipment (tax and certain fees may be included). Each charging location can receive up to \$700 per kilowatt (kW) installed charging capacity for equipment rebates or the total eligible cost of the project, whichever is lower. To be eligible for the equipment rebate, applicants must have at least one electric vehicle infrastructure training program EVITP<sup>2</sup>-certified electrician on the installation crew of the funded charging infrastructure, unless the project is required to meet PUC code 740.20 in which additional EVITP certified technicians are required to oversee the project. In addition, in alignment with California Public Contract Code 2601, at least 60 percent of the skilled journeypersons employed to perform installation of the eligible equipment by every contractor

<sup>2</sup> Assembly Bill 841 (Ting, Chapter 372, Statutes of 2020)

and each of its subcontractors at every tier are graduates of a joint labor-management apprenticeship program for EV infrastructure installation.<sup>3</sup>

South Coast AQMD staff can connect awardees with a local training program if training is needed on charging, operating, and maintaining charging equipment. Costs of training will not be deducted from the rebate.

### **PROJECT COST**

Applicants must provide cost information that specifies the amount of funding requested and the basis for that request by including vendor quotes in the application. More than one quote is encouraged to determine the best cost estimate. Applicants need to inform vendors of the time frame of the award process so that vendors can estimate prices based on the future/projected order/purchase date – this is important since funding requests and awards may not be revised after the Program closing date. When selecting vendors, applicants must ensure the materials will meet Build American Buy America (BABA) provisions, see SECTION II – FUNDING & CONDITIONS.

Purchase orders or other purchase commitments shall not be placed until after the award has been approved by South Coast AQMD. Placing the equipment purchase order before the agreement is executed is at the risk of the applicants.

Additionally, please provide only the costs directly related to the installation of the equipment. Any costs related to design, engineering, overhead or any other indirect costs are not eligible.

### **REBATE AMOUNT**

Each charging station location is eligible to receive up to \$700 per kW for the procurement cost of eligible equipment, including tax and fees, and potentially associated installation costs. The rebates will be issued on a per-location basis. The rebate amount for an eligible project is determined by the total power rating that the chargers can provide during the operation of all proposed chargers. For example, a project with 10 charging connections each rated at 360kW would have a total charging capacity of 3,600 kW, which can potentially receive a total rebate of up to \$2,520,000 or the total procurement cost of eligible equipment and potentially the cost of installing the eligible equipment, whichever amount is lower.

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANT**

The applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible for a rebate:

- Applicant must demonstrate land ownership on which the project will be located, or control it through a long-term lease, easement, or other legal arrangement, for the duration of the project life.
- Applicant must propose the charging station(s) within the boundaries of the two MSAs.

---

<sup>3</sup> Tax credits may be available: <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/prevailing-wage-and-apprenticeship-requirements> & <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/alternative-fuel-vehicle-refueling-property-credit>.

**ELIGIBLE EQUIPMENT AND COST**

Funding is available for DC Fast Chargers (DCFC) equipment where each connector must support a power output of at least 250 kW. The DCFC-enabling equipment or components that enable the function or are essential to the operation of the DCFC are also eligible as part of the rebate. Potentially, associated installation costs of the eligible equipment can qualify for the rebate. Installation costs must be solely for the eligible equipment. Any indirect installation costs are not eligible.

The site where the DCFCs are installed must support Class 4 - 8 vehicles, which are defined in Table 1 above.

PROGRAM WORKFLOW

Figure 1 below depicts the rebate program implementation process. Table 2 below provides an explanation of each step.

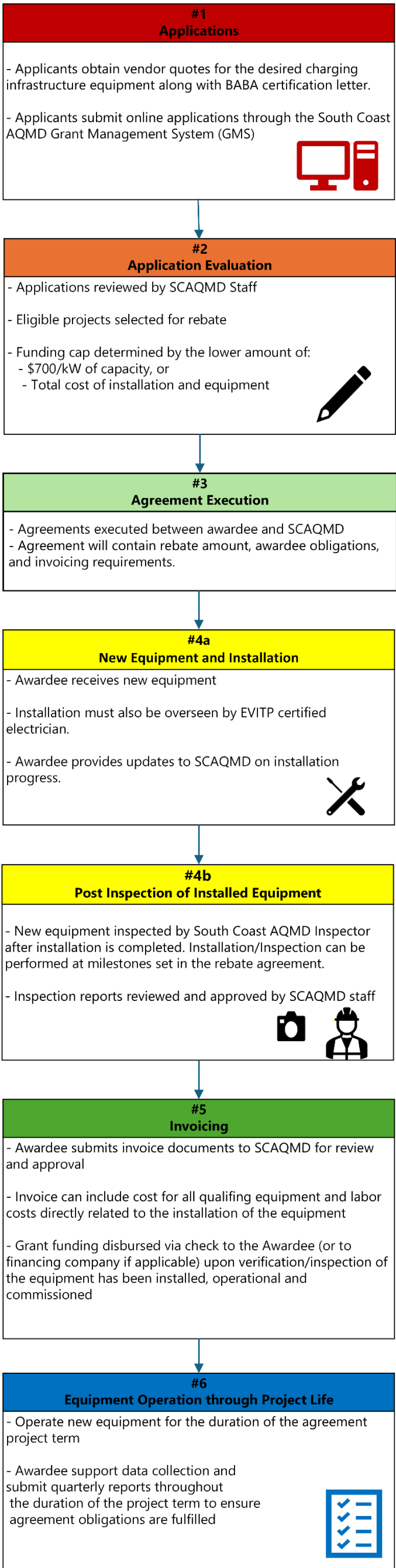


Figure 1: Rebate Program Implementation Process

**Table 2: Rebate Program Implementation Process Details**

<b>Workflow Process #</b>	<b>Description of Process</b>
1	Applicants submit INVEST CLEAN grant applications online through South Coast AQMD's GMS. Applicants must provide all required information and documentation as prompted by the GMS. Applicants will have an opportunity to amend the application during the application review period.
2	South Coast AQMD staff review the application for completeness, cost reasonableness, and project eligibility. Funding cap will be determined using the \$700/kW formula or the total cost of procurement and installation cost of eligible equipment (whichever one is lower). If additional information, documentation or corrections are required, South Coast AQMD staff will allow the applicant 14 calendar days from a notice of correction to provide a response to the request. Some special circumstances that additional time is needed to obtain the required documentation may be considered if undersubscribed. Eligible applications will be scored and ranked according to the prescribed evaluation criteria. Applications that meet all eligibility requirements will be approved for funding.
3	Documentation of compliance with all EPA terms and conditions, as identified in Section VI (i.e. BABA, DBRA, etc) will be required prior to agreement execution. The applicant, now Awardee, executes the agreement with South Coast AQMD to establish the milestone schedule and agreement requirements.
4a	New equipment is delivered to the Awardee. The Awardee must inform South Coast AQMD staff upon delivery of project equipment. The crew conducting the construction and installation of the charging station must have at least one EVITP <sup>4</sup> -certified electrician on the installation crew of the funded charging infrastructure, unless the project is required to meet PUC code 740.20 in which additional EVITP certified technicians are required to oversee the project. In addition, in alignment with California Public Contract Code 2601, at least 60 percent of the skilled journeypersons employed to perform installation of the eligible equipment by every contractor and each of its subcontractors at every tier are graduates of a joint labor-management apprenticeship program for EV infrastructure installation.
4b	A South Coast AQMD Inspector coordinates with the Awardee to conduct inspection of the charging station once it is in place. Inspections may be performed either on-site or via video or photograph(s) at the inspector's discretion.
5	Awardee will submit an invoice to South Coast AQMD to request rebate payment. Invoices may be submitted at milestones prescribed in the Agreement. South Coast AQMD will confirm that Awardees have met all program and Agreement requirements prior to the final rebate payment. Only one rebate payment will be made for each site.
6	Awardee provides access to, designated data collection organization, to track and collect data for the operation of the charging infrastructure. Awardee will meet program requirements and submit semi-annual reports to the South Coast AQMD.

---

<sup>4</sup> Assembly Bill 841 (Ting, Chapter 372, Statutes of 2020)

## **SECTION II – FUNDING & CONDITIONS**

### **Build America Buy America (BABA)**

All funding provided for infrastructure projects under this rebate program is subject to domestic content sourcing requirements under the Build American Buy America (BABA) provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (P.L. 117-58, §§70911-70917).

1. All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States – this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States – this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55% of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard that meets or exceeds this standard has been established under applicable law or regulation for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product; and,
3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States – this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.
4. Link to: [EPA BABA FAQs](#)

**Please note that the manufacturer of the products and materials must provide a certification letter of BABA compliance with company letterhead.** A template of the letter can be found here: [Certification Letter Template for Manufactured Products Covered Under the Build America, Buy America Act](#). Applicants selected for funding under the INVEST CLEAN Charging Infrastructure Program must provide documentation demonstrating that equipment and materials sourced adhere to the BABA requirements prior to payment. For legal definitions and sourcing requirements refer to <http://www.aqmd.gov/investclean/baba>.

### **Inspections**

Inspections will be performed on the funded charging stations per the Agreement terms. Equipment inspections may be conducted in person or via remote inspections. Recipients must make all funded equipment available for in-person or remote inspections, unless otherwise specified in the Agreement or through updates from South Coast AQMD.

### **Payments**

Payments will be made upon the completion of the installation and the verification of the charger capacity and BABA certification(s). Only one payment will be made per site location. The rebate amount cannot exceed the total purchase and installation cost of the equipment at each project location (tax and fee may be included). Each project location can receive a maximum rebate amount of \$700 per kW for the reimbursement of equipment and potentially, associated installation costs.

To receive a rebate payment, the awardee must submit for each project location:

- An itemized invoice and proof of expenditure for the procurement and installation of eligible equipment
  - Copy of vendor's invoice with detailed breakdown of costs
- The payment may be based on the completion of all equipment installation, as outlined in the payment schedule in the agreement.
- For verification of the project site's total charging capacity, the applicant must provide an "Adequate Facility Letter" or equivalent from the licensed electrician or utility company. Projects where all proposed chargers can operate at the rated capacity will be prioritized.
- Documentation of compliance with all EPA terms and conditions, as identified in Section VI (i.e. BABA, DBRA, etc) which will also be required prior to agreement execution.

#### Data Collection

The charging equipment deployed under this Program will be required to report operational data metrics, such as energy usage, number of charge sessions, charge success rates, truck types, and other relevant data. For the duration of the 5-year project life, recipients shall allow remote access by the South Coast AQMD partner, the designated third-party data verification organization under INVEST CLEAN. This organization will collect and analyze operational data for this Program. Recipients may request to withhold business-sensitive data, provided this does not compromise the data collection objectives. Note that such requests will not abrogate or modify the provisions of Government Code Section 7920 et seq. (Public Records Act). Specific data collection and reporting procedures will be provided to the recipient.

### **SECTION III – APPLICATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

The electronic application in the GMS will prompt applicants for all required application information. **Attachment A** provides a listing of required application information. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that all information submitted to South Coast AQMD's GMS is accurate and complete. An application can include multiple locations, and a single rebate will be issued per location. Applicants must sign the online application to indicate their understanding of the Program requirements stated in this Program Announcement.

All online applications must be submitted according to specifications set forth herein. Failure to adhere to these specifications may be cause for rejection of the application without evaluation.

#### Grounds for Rejection:

An application may be immediately rejected if the application:

- Does not submit all required information and documentation as required via GMS.
- It is not signed by an individual authorized to represent the firm.

#### Certifications and Representations

South Coast AQMD "Business Information Forms" requiring signatures will be available on the GMS and are required to be submitted with the application.

**Methods of Delivery:**

The applicant must submit the application using the South Coast AQMD's GMS, available at <https://www.aqmd.gov/investclean>. The GMS will allow applicants to create the application and make modifications to the application until the electronic submission to the South Coast AQMD prior to the submission due date and time specified above. Additional information may be requested during the evaluation.

**Disposition of Applications**

The South Coast AQMD reserves the right to reject any or all applications. All responses become the property of the South Coast AQMD. The electronic copy of the application shall be retained for South Coast AQMD files. Please review the Access to Records and Retention disclaimer in SECTION VI – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS.

**Modification or Withdrawal**

Ensure that the information input and documentation uploaded are accurate and complete. Once submitted, applications cannot be altered. Applicants may submit more than one application per solicitation. Applications can be withdrawn through the GMS system.

**Confidentiality**

Please ensure that any trade secret, confidential or proprietary information being provided is marked accordingly. Please see the following website for more details:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/Guidelines/praguidelines.pdf>

**SECTION IV: APPLICATION EVALUATION/AWARDEE SELECTION CRITERIA**

South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all submitted applications/charging location(s) and award each charging location through an executed rebate agreement. Each charging location will be evaluated based on the scoring criteria provided below:

<b>EVALUATION CRITERIA</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
Project Readiness based on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation showing the sufficient power capacity at the site to support the proposed chargers (Load sharing will receive less points and a letter from the utility company confirming site capacity will receive full points)</li> <li>Site ownership/lease agreement is in place</li> </ul>	20
Demonstrating compliance with Section VI: Legal Updates and Definitions below	20
Location (closes a gap in charging network for goods movement industry) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicant should provide justification of how the locations were selected or the tools used for the selection of the charging locations.</li> </ul>	20
Utilization of charging site, including obtaining commitment letters from the fleets and ability to demonstrate the minimum throughput proposed	10 (+5)



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional points for projects supporting INVEST CLEAN Measure 2 Truck Deployment (excluding publicly accessible charging projects) (<a href="https://www.aqmd.gov/investclean">https://www.aqmd.gov/investclean</a>)</li> </ul>	
Public Access (Limited Public Access with a minimum of two usage fleet contracts will receive less points)	15
Reasonableness of Cost vs Competition and Industry Average	10
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100</b>

Charging locations will be ranked from highest to lowest scores based on the above evaluation criteria and then selected for funding in proportion to each county's Class 4 to 8 MD/HD truck population. Funds may be redistributed based on applications received to target areas of high truck charging demand. This is to ensure that funding is balanced across the two MSAs.

In addition to the geographic minimum, there is a possibility that due to program priorities, Applicants may be offered only partial funding. If the Rebate Program is oversubscribed, not all applications that meet the evaluation criteria may be funded.

## **SECTION V –AGREEMENT**

All applicants who are selected for funding awards must enter into a written Agreement with the South Coast AQMD and will be considered recipients of the rebate award, or Awardees.

**Note: The South Coast AQMD has no obligation to fund the project until both parties have fully executed the agreement.**

The scope of work will include tasks and deliverables that demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the EPA-funded INVEST CLEAN Program administered by South Coast AQMD.

Agreements will include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

- The charging equipment must be in service for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of commissioning.
- Equipment and components enabling DCFC may be funded under this opportunity and is to be performed by a crew that has at least one electric vehicle infrastructure training program EVITP<sup>5</sup>-certified electrician on the installation crew of the funded charging infrastructure, unless the project is required to meet PUC code 740.20 in which additional EVITP certified technicians are required to oversee the project. In addition, in alignment with California Public Contract Code 2601, at least 60 percent of the skilled journeypersons employed to perform installation of the eligible equipment by every contractor and each of its subcontractors at every tier are graduates of a joint labor-management apprenticeship program for EV infrastructure installation.
- Operational data, as defined in the data collection section, will be required. (i.e., maintenance and repair records).

---

<sup>5</sup> Assembly Bill 841 (Ting, Chapter 372, Statutes of 2020)

- Assurance that the project complies with other local, state, and federal programs, and resulting emission reductions from a specific project are not required as a mitigation measure to reduce adverse environmental impacts that are identified in an environmental document prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act or applicable Federal regulations.
- If requested, an awardee must provide a financial statement and bank reference, or other evidence of financial ability to fulfill Agreement requirements.
- Be available for a follow-up inspection by South Coast AQMD, if requested.
- Maintain property insurance as required by law.
- Ensure operation of the charging infrastructure within one of two MSAs and provide all necessary semi-annual reports.
- The charging infrastructure is expected to meet the minimum kWh a year throughput as proposed by the applicant in the application. The proposed annual throughput will be subject to review by South Coast AQMD staff.
- Ensure infrastructure is operated for a minimum of five (5) years, and furnish at least one year's manufacturer's warranty, and keep proper maintenance of equipment.

## **DELIVERABLES**

The Agreement will describe how the project will be monitored and what type of information will be included in semi-annual and annual project progress reports for the duration of the 5-year operation requirement. At a minimum, the South Coast AQMD expects to receive the following:

- Semi-annual and Annual reports consisting of:
  - Number of charging stations and hoses per charger
  - Annual throughput/energy usage during the reporting period
  - Problems/issues of any unscheduled downtime that occurred during the reporting period and the cause of the downtime
- Proof of property insurance
- Records of the energy meter to support the reported semi-annual usage

South Coast AQMD reserves the right to verify all information provided. Please review the Access to Records and Retention disclaimer in SECTION VI – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS.

## **PERFORMANCE**

When an Awardee is unable to meet the program requirements (e.g., semi-annual, annual reporting, operation, emission benefits, etc.) or terms specified in the agreement, South Coast AQMD may consider the options to remedy the violation before seeking enforcement action.

Options for non-performance include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Extending the agreement to make up the usage requirement shortfall
- The owner will make its best effort to repair the equipment and assist with identifying a new operator.
- South Coast AQMD and EPA will review and approve the justification for the deployment failure before any ownership transfer can be authorized.

## **SECTION VI: LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS**

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Please ensure that any trade secret, confidential or proprietary information being provided is marked accordingly. Please see the following website for more details:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/Guidelines/praguidelines.pdf>

### **ACCESS TO RECORDS AND RETENTION**

Materials, reports, photos, and other documentation submitted pursuant to the project may be released in part or in whole pursuant to either the Freedom of Information Act or the California Public Records Act. The EPA or South Coast AQMD may make publicly available on their websites, copies or portions of project information.

EPA and South Coast AQMD also reserve the right to access records of the applicant/recipient pertinent to this award, to perform audits, execute site visits, or for any other official use. This right of access also includes timely and reasonable access to the applicant/recipient's personnel for the purpose of interviewing and discussion related to such documents or the Federal award in general. This right of access shall continue as long as the records are retained.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.334, the recipient must retain all Federal award records, including but not limited to, financial records, supporting documents, and statistical records for at least three years from the date of submission of the final financial report. The records must be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings have been resolved and final action has been taken if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period. Examples of the required records include: (1) time and attendance records and supporting documentation; and (2) documentation of compliance with statutes and regulations that apply to the project.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.337, the EPA, the Inspector General, the Comptroller General, and the pass-through entity, or any of their authorized representatives, have the right of access to any documents, papers or records of the recipient which are pertinent to the grant award. The rights of access are not limited to the required retention period, but last as long as the records are retained.

### **USE OF LOGOS**

Use of the EPA's logo, along with logos of other participating entities, on outreach materials, websites, or reports, must adhere to the requirements of both the General Terms and Conditions, Paragraph Q, and California Health and Safety Code Section 40730.

### **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

Government Code Section 12990 and California Administrative Code, Title II, Division 4, Chapter 5, require employers to agree not to unlawfully discriminate against any employee or Applicant because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, or age. A statement of compliance with this clause is included in all South Coast AQMD contracts.

## COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS

Applicants must comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. Applicants must describe construction activities (i.e. ground disturbance, noise, removal of vegetation, modification of water features, and light disturbances) that will be required for project completion. These activities will be evaluated. If the application is selected for a funding award, all equipment to be purchased must be compliant with all applicable federal, state, and local air quality rules and regulations, and will maintain compliance for the full Agreement term. Applicants must be aware of the following legal requirements:

- Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA) is a collection of labor standards provisions administered by the Department of Labor that are applicable to grants involving construction. Under DBRA, all contractors and subcontractors performing construction must be paid no less than the locally prevailing wage and fringe benefits for corresponding work on similar projects in the area. Weekly certified payrolls must be submitted to South Coast AQMD and maintained for no less than three years after work completion. By executing an Agreement under INVEST CLEAN, the selected applicant acknowledges and agrees to the terms provided in the DBRA Requirements for Contractors and Subcontractors Under EPA Grants: [https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-10/dbra\\_requirements\\_for\\_contractors\\_and\\_subcontractors\\_under\\_epa\\_grants.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-10/dbra_requirements_for_contractors_and_subcontractors_under_epa_grants.pdf)
- Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq.): The Endangered Species Act requires a biological assessment to determine if any endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, could be adversely affected by the proposed construction activities. The assessment must be completed within 180 days after the date it was initiated and must be completed prior to any contract for construction and before any construction has begun. The assessment process is outlined as follows:
  - A desktop review to identify species and habitats in the vicinity of the construction site using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) IPaC tool: <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>
  - If species or habitats are potentially impacted, a consultation with the USFWS may be required
  - Avoidance and Mitigation measures such as protective buffers, erosion control, and other Best Management Practices (BMP) may be proposed.
  - The USFWS must agree with the assessment and resolution before the project can commence.
    - Information on the Endangered Species Act: <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-endangered-species-act>
    - Procedures explained in 50 CFR Part 402: [50 CFR Part 402 -- Interagency Cooperation—Endangered Species Act of 1973, as Amended](#)
- National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. §470 et seq.): This Act requires a review of potential adverse effects of federally funded activities on historic properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register. This review should be completed prior to applying for permits.
  - For more details see: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/archeology/national-historic-preservation-act.htm>

- Selected applicants under this Program Announcement are to provide South Coast AQMD with documentation demonstrating compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. §470 et seq.) A mapping tool such as the link below from the U.S. Department of the Interior can be utilized to determine whether the construction site impacts a registered national historical property:  
[https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1094/nrhp\\_spatialdata.htm](https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1094/nrhp_spatialdata.htm)
  - The applicant must work with the EPA on any required consultation process with the State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office prior to commencing the project to ensure compliance with section 106 of the NHPA.
  - For possible exemptions, please see: Section “IV. Test Exemption” on the bottom on page 662303: <https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/exemptions/2022-11/Exemption%20for%20Electric%20Vehicle%20Supply%20Equipment%2010.26.22.pdf>
- Archeological and Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. §§ 312501-312508): Similar to the National Historic Preservation Act, this Act applies to federally funded activities. It requires historic and archeological objects and materials to be saved that would otherwise be destroyed as a result of the activity.
  - For more details see: <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title54-chapter3125&edition=prelim>
  - Selected applicants under this Program Announcement are to report to South Coast AQMD and the EPA any historical or archeological objects and materials found in the process of construction.
- Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. §4201 et. seq.): The purpose of this Act is to minimize or prevent the irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. This act would require identification of the effects federally funded activities may have on farmlands and to consider alternative options.
  - For more details see: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/natural-resource-concerns/land/cropland/farmland-protection-policy-act>
  - Applicants selected under this Program Announcement must demonstrate adherence to the Farmland Preservation Policy Act (7 U.S.C. §4201 et. Seq.)
    - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/natural-resource-concerns/land/evaluation-and-assessment>
- Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et. seq.): This act requires the review of federally funded activities to determine if the goal of the Act is being met: “preserve, protect, develop and where possible, to restore or enhance the resources of the nation’s coastal zone.”
  - For more details see: <https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/act/>
  - Applicants selected under this Program Announcement may need to consult with the California Coastal Commission to ensure that the applicant’s project will be consistent with the state’s coastal zone management plan.
    - Map of California Coastal Zone: <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/maps/>
    - Information about obtaining a permit: [https://www.coastal.ca.gov/enforcement/cdp\\_pamphlet.pdf](https://www.coastal.ca.gov/enforcement/cdp_pamphlet.pdf)

- Reporting Waste, Fraud and Abuse (2 CFR 200.113): Consistent with Federal requirements, applicants must promptly report in writing whenever there is credible evidence of the commission of a violation of federal criminal law involving fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, or gratuity violations per the requirements outlined in EPA's General Terms and Conditions, Paragraph 51, which can be found at:  
[https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-10/fy\\_2025\\_epa\\_general\\_terms\\_and\\_conditions\\_effective\\_october\\_1\\_2024\\_or\\_later.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-10/fy_2025_epa_general_terms_and_conditions_effective_october_1_2024_or_later.pdf)

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Applicant must address any potential conflicts of interest with other clients affected by actions performed by the firm on behalf of South Coast AQMD. Although the applicant will not be automatically disqualified by reason of work performed for such firms, the South Coast AQMD reserves the right to consider the nature and extent of such work in evaluating the application. Conflicts of interest will be screened on a case-by-case basis by the South Coast AQMD General Counsel's Office. Conflict of interest provisions of the state law, including the Political Reform Act, may apply to work performed pursuant to this contract.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH LABOR LAWS AND OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES**

If an application is deemed eligible, the Applicant will be required to disclose any labor violations that have occurred within the last three years to be further considered for an award. If awarded, the recipient will be required to notify South Coast AQMD in writing if they have been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws. The recipient will complete a yearly certification in which they will either state that they have not been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws or, if such violations have been found, the recipient will give South Coast AQMD details about those violations in the certification. If the recipient has previously provided that information to the South Coast AQMD, they will be required to reattach that previous notification to the certification and provide any additional details about those violations that have not previously been provided. The recipient's yearly certification will be due at the same time as the annual progress reports. South Coast AQMD reserves the right to terminate the Agreement with a recipient that has been found to have violated labor laws or federal statutes, and the recipient may be required to return any and all funds, as determined by South Coast AQMD. The recipient will also ensure that these requirements are included in all downstream partnerships.

## **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS (RUSSIA/UKRAINE)**

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-6-22 (EO) regarding sanctions in response to Russian aggression in Ukraine. Applicants who are considered eligible for funds under this PA and receive executed contracts from South Coast AQMD, are obligated to comply with existing economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **1. Agreement Term**

The agreement term is the duration of the project life as defined in the equipment. It encompasses both the project completion and project implementation periods:

- i. Project completion period is the first part of the Agreement term starting from the date of Agreement execution by both parties to the date the project post-inspection confirms that the project has become operational.
  - ii. Project implementation period is the second part of the Agreement term and equals the project life.
2. Project Life  
Project life is the period of the Agreement term during which the project equipment must be operated and provide operational data. The recipient must submit the deliverables stipulated in the Agreement throughout the project life. INVEST CLEAN agreements for Charging Infrastructure under this PA will include a 5-year operational period beyond the commissioning date.
3. South Coast AQMD Jurisdiction  
The South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for all of Orange County and the urban portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Within Riverside County, the South Coast AQMD also has jurisdiction over the Salton Sea Air Basin and a portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin. This area of 10,743 square miles is home to approximately 17 million people—about half the population of the state of California. It is the second most populated urban area in the United States and one of the smoggiest. Visit <http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/jurisdiction> for more information.
4. Indirect Costs  
“Means those costs incurred for a common or joint purpose benefitting more than one cost objective and not readily assignable to the cost objectives specifically benefited, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. It may be necessary to establish multiple pools of indirect costs to facilitate equitable distribution of indirect expenses to the cost objectives served. Indirect cost pools must be distributed to benefit cost objectives on the basis that will produce an equitable result in consideration of the relative benefits derived. For Institutions of Higher Education (IHE), the term facilities and administrative (F&A) cost is often used to refer to indirect costs.” (2 CFR 200.1 “Indirect cost”, [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/part-200/section-200.1#p-200.1\(Indirect%20cost\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/part-200/section-200.1#p-200.1(Indirect%20cost)))

### **WORKSHOP FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ASSISTANCE:**

Additional information regarding the content or intent of this PA, procedural matters, sample contract, and the compliance plan worksheet can be found at the South Coast INVEST CLEAN website at: <https://www.aqmd.gov/investclean>

Additionally, information on virtual pre-recorded presentations and other meetings (as needed) are to be posted on the INVEST CLEAN website.

South Coast AQMD staff members are available to answer questions during the application period. To expedite assistance, please direct your inquiries to [investclean-infrastructure@aqmd.gov](mailto:investclean-infrastructure@aqmd.gov).



**ATTACHMENT A – PROJECT INFORMATION FORM**

Please be prepared to provide the following information as prompted by the INVEST CLEAN GMS.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Applicant Name			
Business Address			
City, State and Zip			
Phone	(      )      -      Ext	Fax	(      )      -
Contact Name		Title	
E-mail Address			
Project Site Location (Full address)			

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

<p>Project Description which summarizes the project location, fleet commitments, station charger count and charging rate, and a projection of charger utilization (monthly, annually).</p> <p>Provide a description of construction activities (i.e. ground disturbance, noise, removal of vegetation, modification of water features, and light disturbances).</p> <p>Describe any federal, state, or local environmental review already completed at the time of application for the site location.</p>	
<p>Number of connectors per Charger and charger rating (minimum of 250 kW for single plug and 500 kW for dual plug)</p> <p>Total power output of the proposed charging station in kW</p>	
Detailed specification of charging equipment and enabling equipment	

Provide justification for each enabling equipment	
Itemized associated installation costs of the charging equipment and enabling equipment	
Site operation model? (no subscription required (fully public access), contract/subscription required, semi-private, fully private, or other formats)	

### PROJECT COST AND FUNDING REQUEST

Total cost of the charging station project	
Funding request, as supported by vendor quote(s) for equipment procurement and installation.	

### PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Project tasks:	Proposed Dates
Site power upgrade, if needed.	
Engineering Design, if required.	
Place order for project equipment	
Delivery of charging equipment	
Construction and installation of the charging station (specify the timeline if chargers are installed in phases)	
Commissioning of the charging station and local government final approval (City permit signed off with construction, electrical, fire safety inspection done by municipality).	

### REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

- All vendor quotes and related information to support the basis of the project cost estimate.

- Site Layout that includes ingress, egress and location of all charger(s) and plug(s).
- Applicant must provide a description of the geographic location, including an aerial map (i.e., satellite view from an internet-based map or city/county map) and specific street address or GPS coordinates of the proposed charging station location.
- Applicants must document that they either own the land on which the project will be located, or control it through a long-term lease, easement, or other legal arrangement, for the duration of the project life. For a proposed project where the land is not owned by the applicant, an executed lease agreement or letters of commitment lasting for the duration of the project life must be signed by property owners/authorized representatives and must be submitted with the application.
- Site electricity power evaluation that establishes the project readiness of the power capacity at the site for the proposed chargers.
- A truck deployment plan or truck charging service plan that documents planned fleet usage or participation/ commitments/agreements. This also support project readiness.
- Applicants must provide documentation that power is being or will be provided to the site in a timely manner to meet project milestones and deadlines.
- Other documentation that demonstrates project readiness, including documentation from the utility regarding power capacity and upgrade schedule (if applicable).
- If the proposed charging station provide charging for vehicles funded by INVEST CLEAN Measure 2, provide documentation.

**ATTACHMENT B - Map of INVEST CLEAN MSAs**

Map includes the following counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino

