

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 5, 2025

AGENDA NO. 9

PROPOSAL: Recognize Revenue and Execute Contracts to Deploy Zero-Emission Commercial Workboats

SYNOPSIS: In September 2025, U.S. EPA awarded \$150,000 to South Coast AQMD under the Clean Air Technology Initiative to deploy up to two zero-emission battery-electric commercial workboats. In addition, zero-emission commercial workboat applications were also received under the Year 26 Carl Moyer Program SB 1107 Announcement released in March 2025. Three marine projects were deemed eligible for funding. These actions are to:
1) recognize revenue upon receipt up to \$150,000 from U.S. EPA into the Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83); and 2) execute contracts with Pacific Towing LLC and City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks to deploy up to three zero-emissions commercial workboats for a total of \$769,624, which consists of \$150,000 from Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83) and \$619,624 from the Carl Moyer Program SB 1107 Fund (32).

COMMITTEE: Technology; November 21, 2025; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Recognize revenue upon receipt up to \$150,000 from U.S. EPA into Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83); and
2. Authorize the Executive Officer to execute the following contracts for a total of \$769,624
 - a. Pacific Towing LLC for the purchase of one zero-emission workboat in an amount not to exceed \$42,144 from Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83); and

- b. City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks, for the purchase of two zero-emission workboats in an amount not to exceed \$727,480, which consists of \$107,856 from Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83) and \$619,624 from the Carl Moyer Program SB 1107 Fund (32).

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

AK:MW:SC:AYS:NV:AW

Background

Workboats are one of many vessel categories under the category of Commercial Harbor Craft that operate within the South Coast Air Basin's coastal areas. Commercial Harbor Craft emit NOx and diesel particulate emissions. Currently, a small quantity of battery-electric commercial workboat options are eligible under CARB's Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project (CORE), but the technologies are new and have not been deployed at scale.

The proposed projects will address some of the barriers, such as higher upfront costs and comfort level operating zero-emission workboats, by providing additional incentives to harbor craft operating within the South Coast Air Basin and generating in-use data from different workboat vessels to validate the feasibility of battery-electric technologies in several marine applications. For this project, the vessels will be able to utilize existing shore power available at their docks.

Proposal

On March 15, 2025, South Coast AQMD released the Year 27 Carl Moyer Program SB 1107 Announcement #PA2025-03 and received multiple commercial workboat applications. Subsequently, in September 2025, U.S. EPA awarded \$150,000 to South Coast AQMD under the Clean Air Technology Initiative (CATI) to deploy up to two zero-emission battery-electric commercial workboats. Pacific Towing has selected the battery electric powered Seal 700 manufactured by VITA Power US, Inc., with up to 126 kWh of battery capacity, suitable for their harbor operations. City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks has selected two of Voltari's high-speed battery-electric powered Patrol 26s with up to 168 kWh of capacity to support the Lifeguard operation at the Cabrillo Marina in San Pedro. Staff is proposing to fund these three eligible applications for a total of up to \$769,624, including the CATI award of \$150,000 to deploy up to three zero-emission workboats upon U.S. EPA approval.

As part of the CATI project, the demonstration data will be collected for up to 6 months to validate the in-use performance of the battery-electric workboat technologies.

Benefits to South Coast AQMD

The South Coast Air Basin is classified as an “extreme” nonattainment area for ozone under the Federal Clean Air Act. The Carl Moyer Program is an important and successful program that provides incentive funding to owners of heavy-duty vehicles and equipment to reduce emissions beyond regulatory requirements by replacing, repowering or retrofitting their older engines. The projects identified in this Board letter will result in emission reductions that are surplus to existing regulations and will occur throughout the life of the projects, resulting in long-term emission reduction and public health benefits. Successful demonstration of commercial workboats will help reduce ozone and PM2.5 air pollution in coastal areas.

Resource Impacts

The contracts to deploy workboats will not exceed \$769,624 from Fund (83) and Fund (32) which consist of \$150,000 from U.S. EPA and \$619,624 from Carl Moyer SB 1107. Total estimated project costs are detailed below.

Proposed Partners	Pacific Towing (1 Workboat)	City of LA R&P (2 Workboats)*	Total
U.S. EPA (CATI)	\$42,144	\$107,856	\$150,000**
Carl Moyer	\$---	\$619,624	\$619,624**
CORE	\$201,250	\$500,000	\$701,250
Applicant (Cost-Share)	\$42,144	\$---	\$42,144
Total	\$285,538	\$1,227,480	\$1,513,018

*Pending CARB’s Case-by-Case approval & EPA approval to expand the CATI support up to three vessels
 **\$150,000 from Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83) and \$619,624 from the Carl Moyer Program SB 1107 Fund (32) for a total not to exceed \$769,624

Sufficient funds up to \$619,624 are available from the Carl Moyer Program SB 1107 Fund (32) and up to \$150,000 from U.S. EPA received and recognized into the Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83) to support these projects as listed in the table above.