BOARD MEETING DATE: September 4, 2026 AGENDA NO. 10

PROPOSAL: Issue Program Announcement for Zero-Emission Trucks and Zero-Emission Infrastructure for Year 2026 Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions Mitigation Program

SYNOPSIS: The Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions (WAIRE) Mitigation Program was established with the adoption of Rule 2305 – Warehouse Indirect Source Rule. One of the compliance options available to warehouse operators under Rule 2305 is to pay mitigation fees. This first year of the WAIRE Mitigation Program is designed to use these fees to incentivize zero-emission Class 4 to 8 trucks, yard trucks, and electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure projects that reduce emissions from warehousing activities. Up to $73,135,300 in funding will be directed to the areas near warehouses that paid the mitigation fee, which must be spent within the same Source Receptor Area where the fees were collected. These actions are to: 1) issue a Program Announcement to solicit projects under the WAIRE Mitigation Program that reduce emissions from warehousing activities; and
2) reimburse the General Fund up to $4,570,956 from the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86) for administrative costs incurred in implementing the program.

COMMITTEE: Technology, August 21, 2026; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1) Issue Program Announcement #PA2027-01, providing up to $73,135,300 from the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86), to incentivize zero-emission Class 4 to 8 vehicles and electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure projects that reduce warehouse emissions for the Year 2026 Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions (WAIRE) Mitigation Program; and

2) Reimburse the General Fund up to $4,570,956 from the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86) for administrative costs incurred in implementing the program.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

AK:MW:IM:EK:DP:DL

Background

The WAIRE Mitigation Program was established with the adoption of Rule 2305 – Warehouse Indirect Source Rule – Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions Program on May 7, 2021. The WAIRE Program is a menu-based points system that requires warehouse operators to annually earn a specified number of points by completing actions from a menu. One of the compliance options available to warehouse operators under Rule 2305 is to pay a mitigation fee in lieu of completing WAIRE Menu actions. Mitigation fees collected from warehouse operators and owners are tracked based on the Source Receptor Area (SRA) where the warehouses are located and must be directed back to the SRA and counties where the fees originated.

The approach for how funds would be used in this first phase of the WAIRE Mitigation Program was shaped through a public process. South Coast AQMD conducted stakeholder meetings, gathered input from community groups, industry representatives, and environmental organizations, and incorporated feedback to develop the initial funding priorities. Additionally, several constraints and guiding principles were established during the adoption of Rule 2305, which informed the overall structure, limitations, and design of the program, including the SRA-based collection and distribution of mitigation fees, and the focus on zero-emission technologies.

Warehouse operators have paid mitigation fees totaling $73,135,300, which is being made available for use in the first year of the WAIRE Mitigation Program. The fees collected are held in the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86) and will be used to incentivize the purchase of zero-emission trucks or the installation of zero-emission electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure in communities near warehouses that paid the fee. The WAIRE Mitigation Program will fund projects that reduce emissions from warehousing activities.

Proposal
Staff recommends issuing Program Announcement (PA) #PA2027-01 to solicit ZE projects from warehouses, fleet operators, and zero-emission truck fueling or charging infrastructure serving warehouse operations for the purchase of Class 4 to 8 on-road trucks, off-road yard trucks, or installation of electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure resulting in emissions reductions from warehousing activities. The projects will be evaluated for completeness and eligibility. Incentive funding will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis per SRA. Applications will be accepted through an online portal, which will open at 12 PM on September 22, 2026, for a drafting and saving period of three weeks which will allow applicants to discuss program-related questions with staff, if needed. Please note that AQMD staff will not assist, opine, or otherwise aide any applicant with their project proposal. Application submittals will officially be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 12 PM on October 13, 2026, with a deadline no later than 12 PM on Tuesday, December 15, 2026. Eligible projects will be presented to the Governing Board for award and final approval.

The WAIRE Mitigation Program requires that the program funds be expended on projects that will reduce emissions from warehousing activities. The WAIRE Mitigation Program also requires that if funds are not utilized, they can be held for subsequent years or used for eligible projects in adjacent SRAs in the same county.

Of the $73,135,300 collected in the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86), an additional 6.25 percent ($4,570,956) was collected for administrative costs incurred for implementing the WAIRE Mitigation Program. Therefore, staff also recommends reimbursing the General Fund up to $4,570,956 to implement the WAIRE Mitigation Program.

Outreach
In accordance with South Coast AQMD’s Procurement Policy and Procedure, a public notice advertising the PA and inviting bids will be published in the Los Angeles Times, the Orange County Register, the San Bernardino Sun, and Riverside County’s Press Enterprise newspapers to ensure broad and cost-effective outreach throughout the South Coast Air Basin.

Outreach will ensure that all businesses have a fair and equitable opportunity to compete for project funding. Potential bidders may be notified through South Coast AQMD’s electronic listing of certified vendors. Notice of the PA will also be emailed to Legislative Caucuses, various chambers of commerce, business associations, and additional community and trade organizations. To further support inclusive participation, the PA will be posted on the South Coast AQMD website (http://www.aqmd.gov) under “Grants & Bids.”

Benefits to South Coast AQMD

The South Coast Air Basin is designated by U.S. EPA as extreme nonattainment for ozone. NOx and VOCs are ozone precursors, and reducing NOx emissions is critical to controlling ozone formation in the Basin. As identified in South Coast AQMD's 2022 AQMP, mobile sources are the most significant contributor to regional NOx emissions. Incentives directed towards the implementation of zero-emission technologies, including the replacement of diesel-powered equipment, help advance both the State's and South Coast AQMD's air quality goals by reducing ozone-forming emissions and accelerating progress toward attainment. The region also faces challenges meeting the PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards, with diesel particulate matter (a known carcinogen) contributing substantially to localized health risks. The vehicles and infrastructure funded under this PA will operate for a minimum of three years, providing long-term reductions in NOx and PM emissions, including diesel PM, further supporting attainment and public health objectives.

Resource Impacts

Up to $73,135,300 from the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86) will be used to incentivize the implementation of zero-emission technologies. In addition, a separate administrative allocation of up to $4,570,956 (representing the additional 6.25 percent collected on top of the mitigation fees) may be used to reimburse the General Fund for program administration. Funds that are not encumbered (under contract) or liquidated (spent) under this Program Announcement will be returned to the Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86).

Attachments

Year 2026 WAIRE Mitigation Program Announcement #PA2027-01

Year 2026
WAIRE Mitigation Program
PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

SOUTH COAST AQMD PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT
PA2027-01

INTRODUCTION

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) is pleased to announce the availability of funds from the Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions (WAIRE) Mitigation Program. In order to comply with Rule 2305 – Warehouse Indirect Source Rule –WAIRE Program that was adopted on May 7, 2021, some warehouse facilities chose to pay mitigation fees in lieu of completing WAIRE Menu actions. These mitigation fees are held in the South Coast AQMD Rule 2305 Mitigation Fee Alternate Compliance Special Revenue Fund (86) and will be made available on an annual basis to incentivize projects related to reducing NOx and Diesel PM emissions from warehousing activity.[1] For this Program Announcement (PA), up to $73,135,300 is available.

At the time of adoption of the WAIRE Program, the Governing Board provided guidance for key areas to govern the Mitigation Program.[2] These include requirements for how funding is advertised and approved, labor and other considerations for infrastructure, geographic constraints, and whether WAIRE Mitigation Program funding can be stacked with other incentive programs. This PA provides details on how these parameters will be implemented, as well as other key design elements for this first year of South Coast AQMD's WAIRE Mitigation Program. The purpose of this PA is to solicit project applications for the Year 2026 WAIRE Mitigation Program and identify the equipment categories, project options, and eligibility criteria to qualify for grant funding under the program's first year.

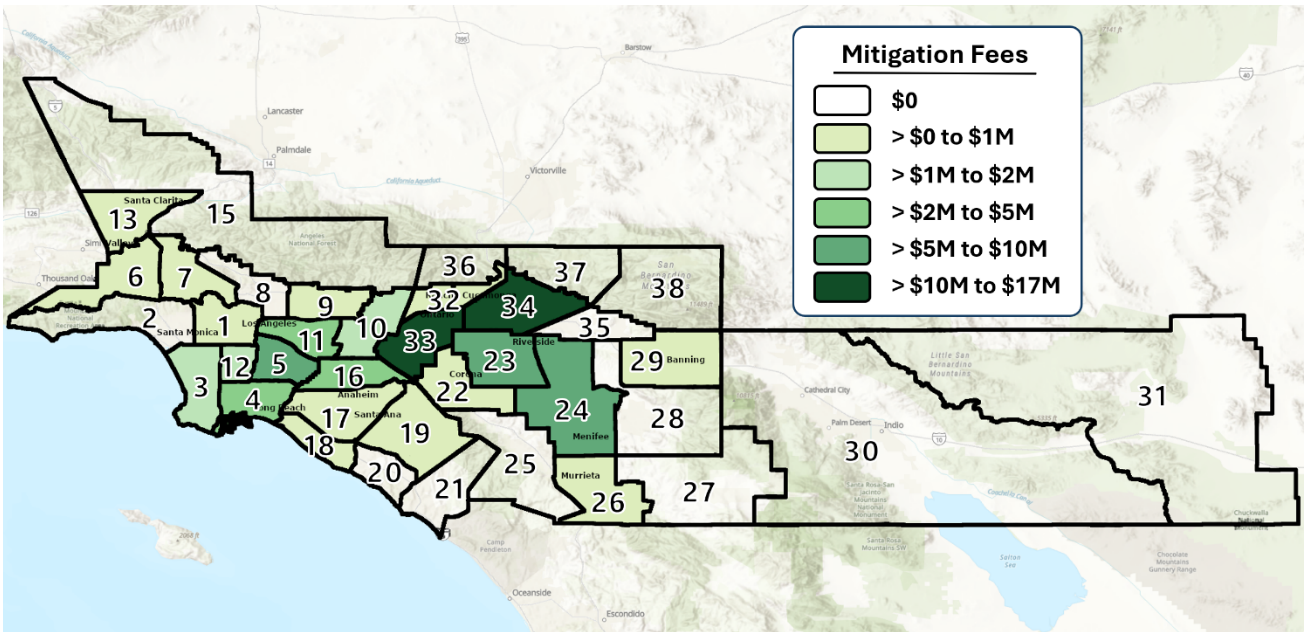
SECTION I – PA OVERVIEW & ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The WAIRE Mitigation Program provides incentive funds for qualifying projects on a first-come, first-served basis to warehouse operators, fleet operators, or zero-emission (ZE) truck fueling and charging infrastructure operators serving warehouses in the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. Applications will be reviewed in the order received, and incentive funds will be awarded to applicants that submit complete applications and meet all applicable program eligibility, documentation, and funding requirements, subject to funding availability. Once all available funds have been reserved, additional eligible applications will be placed on a waitlist on a first-come, first-served basis. Qualifying projects that are awarded WAIRE Mitigation Program funding must achieve or facilitate emission reductions around warehousing activities in the same area and county where fees are collected. Mitigation fees collected from warehouse operators and owners are set aside and allocated

[1] NOx = nitrogen oxides, Diesel PM or DPM = diesel particulate matter. Both of these pollutants are emitted from combustion of fossil fuels, such as from diesel-fueled trucks.
[2] See discussion in Board Resolution here: https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/agendas/governing-board/2021/2021-may7-027.pdf (starting on pg. 21 of the pdf)

for use within the Source Receptor Area[3,4] (SRA) geographic boundaries that the warehouses are located in. Mitigation fees collected within a given SRA are available for eligible projects located within that same SRA that support emission reductions associated with warehouse activities. However, if no eligible projects are found within an SRA with available funding, these funds can be used in an adjacent SRA in the same county. If funds are not fully spent, the remaining funding will be banked and made available in a subsequent funding year for that SRA. See Figure 1 of SRAs with mitigation fees collected and Table 1 with amount of mitigation funding by SRA below. Specific geographic requirements are described in the Geographical Requirements subsection below.

Figure 1: Map of SRAs and Mitigation Fees



Mitigation Fees Collected as of April 20, 2026; subject to change based on auditing and adjusting (Interactive SRA map only: https://data-scaqmd-online.opendata.arcgis.com/maps/814d6e7a791044dabcb3d0d4b8af4df9/explore).

[3] SRA map: https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/map-of-monitoring-areas.pdf
[4] SRA ArcGIS Map: https://data-scaqmd-online.opendata.arcgis.com/maps/814d6e7a791044dabcb3d0d4b8af4df9/explore. Users can enter street address on this website to determine which SRA the address is located in by clicking on the magnifying glass in the top right corner.

Table 1: Funds Available by SRA

SRA No.	SRA Name	Mitigation Funding
Los Angeles County		
1	Central Los Angeles County	$681,900
2	Northwest Coastal Los Angeles Co.	$0
3	Southwest Los Angeles County Co.	$1,460,300
4	South Coastal Los Angeles Co.	$4,254,900
5	Southeast Los Angeles Co.	$7,219,400
6	West San Fernando Valley	$585,700
7	East San Fernando Valley	$158,800
8	West San Gabriel Valley	$0
9	East San Gabriel Valley	$743,100
10	Pomona/Walnut Valley	$1,545,500
11	South San Gabriel Valley	$2,389,700
12	South Central Los Angeles Co.	$1,467,800
13	Santa Clarita Valley	$132,400
15	San Gabriel Mountains	$0
Orange County		
16	North Orange County	$2,581,300
17	Central Orange County	$887,800
18	North Coastal Orange County	$19,200
19	Saddleback Valley	$168,700
20	Central Coastal Orange County	$0
21	Capistrano Valley	$0
Riverside County		
22	Corona/Norco Area	$837,200
23	Metropolitan Riverside County	$7,788,900
24	Perris Valley	$6,870,600
25	Lake Elsinore Area	$0
26	Temecula Valley	$112,700
27	Anza Area	$0
28	Hemet/San Jacinto Valley	$0
29	Banning/San Gorgonio Pass	$506,400
30	Coachella Valley	$0
31	East Riverside County	$0
San Bernardino County		
32	Northwest San Bernardino Valley	$25,700
33	Southwest San Bernardino Valley	$16,036,700
34	Central San Bernardino Valley	$16,660,600
35	East San Bernardino Valley	$0
36	West San Bernardino Mountains	$0
37	Central San Bernardino Mountains	$0
38	East San Bernardino Mountains	$0
	Total:	**$73,135,300**

As of April 20, 2026; subject to change based on auditing and adjustments.

All submitted applications will be evaluated for completeness and eligibility. Each truck or infrastructure project is restricted to requesting funds from a single funding SRA per submission. To be eligible for funding, all projects must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations and orders to public authorities in the performance of their agreement. Projects located at a warehouse must also be in compliance with South Coast AQMD rules, including Rule 2305. Future years of the WAIRE Mitigation Program may be crafted differently and applications at that time would need to be consistent with the PA made available for that funding round.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT TYPES AND COSTS

The following ZE project categories and types are eligible for WAIRE Mitigation Program funding:

- ZE Class 4-8 On-Road Trucks Category
- ZE Off-Road Yard Trucks Category
- ZE Infrastructure Category
    - Electric Charging Station
    - Hydrogen Fueling Station

Funding for this PA will go towards the purchase of new ZE Class 4 and above (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating [GVWR]14,001 pounds or greater) on-road trucks and off-road yard trucks, as well as the new installation of ZE charging or fueling station infrastructure. Funding may also be used for decommissioning existing non-ZE fueling infrastructure and conversion to ZE charging or fueling infrastructure, or expansion to ZE charging and fueling infrastructure equipment for Class 4 and above trucks and yard trucks that serve warehouses.

Please note: Equipment purchases and infrastructure installation using WAIRE Mitigation Program funding are ineligible for WAIRE acquisition points, however, subsequent usage of trucks or equipment may earn WAIRE points.

Applicants may utilize, and are encouraged to make use of, incentive funding from other programs (as allowed by those programs), such as the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program, Prop 1B, INVEST CLEAN, Volkswagen Mitigation Trust, Clean Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project, California Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project, etc., provided that the applicant verifies that stacking is permitted by the other incentive programs. If WAIRE funds are stacked with funding from another program, requirements from both programs will need to be adhered to. The sum of all grants and other incentive funds, and any funds from this program applied toward the project shall not exceed 85 percent of the total eligible project cost (including taxes and government fees; excluding government tariffs specified in the price of final products). Any tax obligation associated with receiving an award is the responsibility of the Applicant.

In the preparation of this PA, the words “Applicant” and “Recipient” are used interchangeably. South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all qualified applications and make recommendations to the Governing Board for final selection of projects to be funded.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible truck purchase applicants are existing warehouse operators, fleet operators, and ZE truck fueling and charging infrastructure operators (excluding dealerships) that serve warehouses. All trucks must be acquired through purchase; leases are not eligible for funding. Applicants must retain ownership of the purchased trucks for the full project life which includes purchase, delivery and three-year operation. Applicants are solely responsible for meeting the program requirements.

Eligible infrastructure applicants are existing warehouse owners or operators, fleet operators, and ZE truck fueling or charging infrastructure operators with ZE Class 4 and above trucks (including yard trucks) that serve warehouses using, or planning to use, electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure. Applicants must also 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 entire project duration, including construction and the subsequent three-year operation requirement that follows. Only warehouse facilities that are operational or those that have begun construction (e.g. have an approved building permit) prior to release of this PA, are eligible for infrastructure funding. New facilities under development at the time of application that have not begun construction are not eligible.

The applicant attests that they are the responsible party and will remain so from planning through the end of the operation requirement included in the final contract (e.g., three years).

GEOGRAPHICAL REQUIREMENTS

All funded projects must maintain a geographic connection to the SRA from which funds are sourced for at least three years, beginning when the unit is placed into service. This means that:

- Funded ZE on-road trucks must be domiciled within or make at least 100 trips per year to warehouses within the boundaries of that SRA.
- Funded ZE yard trucks must be domiciled at a warehouse facility within the boundaries of that SRA.
- Funded infrastructure projects must be located within the boundaries of that SRA.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

Release Solicitation	Friday, September 4, 2026
Applications Open for Drafting	No earlier than 12pm PST on Tuesday, September 22, 2026
Applications Open for Submission	No earlier than 12pm PST on Tuesday, October 13, 2026
All Applications Due	12pm PST on Tuesday, December 15, 2026
Evaluation	Ongoing as applications are submitted
Contract Execution	Once all required documentation is provided and award is approved by South Coast AQMD Governing Board

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED VIA SOUTH COAST AQMD'S ONLINE GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2026 AT 12PM PST

Access to South Coast AQMD's WAIRE Mitigation Program Online Grant Management System (GMS) is provided at: http://gms.aqmd.gov/

SECTION II – AVAILABLE FUNDING AND SPECIFIC PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Each truck or infrastructure project is restricted to requesting funds from a single funding SRA. The sum of all grants and other incentive funds, and any funds from this program applied toward the project shall not exceed 85 percent of the total eligible project cost (including taxes and government fees; excluding government tariffs specified in the price of final products). Once the equipment is operational, it may subsequently be used to earn WAIRE points. Additional requirements applicable to all projects funded in this program are described below.

ON-ROAD TRUCKS AND YARD TRUCKS

ZE trucks include both battery-electric vehicles (BEV) and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (HFCV). The key requirements for the purchase of new ZE Class 4 to 8 on-road trucks and off-road yard trucks are:

- Funded trucks must maintain geographic connection to the funding SRA as outlined in the Geographical Requirements in Section I.
- No scrapping required, unless it is required for an incentive program that is used to stack with this program.
- Applicants must retain ownership of all trucks purchased with program funds for the full project life.
- Applicants may not lease, rent, or contract out trucks funded through this program during the three-year operation requirement.
- Funded trucks must be placed into service as soon as possible and no later than 18 months after agreement execution unless otherwise approved by the Project Administrator. Once in service, the trucks must then operate for at least three years.
- Applicants must provide the CARB Executive Order for on-road trucks and yard trucks.
- For funded on-road trucks (excluding yard trucks) that are not domiciled according to Geographical Requirements in Section I, recipient must provide proof (e.g., delivery contracts), at invoicing, that the truck will complete at least 100 annual trips to warehouses in that area.

Table 2: On-Road Trucks and Yard Trucks Funding Limits

ZE Truck Type	Funding Limits per Truck from WAIRE Mitigation Program*
ZE On-Road Trucks (including Yard Trucks)	o Class 4-5 - $60,000 o Class 6-7 - $85,000 o Class 8 (BEV) - $120,000 o Class 8 (HFCV) - $240,000
ZE Off-Road Yard Trucks	o $120,000

*Total incentives from all funding sources cannot exceed 85 percent of truck cost (including taxes and government fees; excluding government tariffs specified in the price of final products).

Total eligible project costs for trucks include equipment purchases and any associated taxes and government fees, but do not include government tariffs specified in the price of final products. Awarded funds shall only be used to offset the capital cost of the equipment and/or shall reduce the principal owed to purchase the equipment. For purposes of this program, equipment purchase costs for the truck include the chassis but exclude any add-on components (e.g., reefer units, bucket attachments, hydraulic lifts).

INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure projects that enable the deployment of ZE technologies to support South Coast AQMD air quality goals related to warehousing activities are eligible for WAIRE Mitigation Program funding. Specifically, projects in this category involve the installation, decommissioning of existing non-ZE fueling infrastructure (excluding testing for, or remediation of subsurface contamination) and conversion to, or expansion of hydrogen fueling or electric charging infrastructure that will be used to fuel or power ZE Class 4 and above (GVWR 14,001 lbs or greater) vehicles and yard trucks. Infrastructure projects designed to exclusively fuel or charge light-duty vehicles (GVWR 14,000 lbs or less) are not eligible for WAIRE Mitigation Program funding.

Below are electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure projects requirements:

- Infrastructure must be located within the boundaries of the funding SRA.
- Applicants must ensure funded infrastructure projects maintain continuous operation for the full three-year project life.
- Infrastructure must fuel or power ZE Class 4 and above vehicles that serve warehouses.
- Funded electric charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure must be publicly accessible or operate as a shared station. If the project funding is stacked with another program that requires public access, then the program with the highest level of public accessibility will apply. If WAIRE funds are stacked with funding from another program, requirements from both programs will need to be adhered to. Refer to the Definitions section for full descriptions.
    - If charging or fueling equipment will be used exclusively for off-road yard trucks, the equipment does not have to be made publicly accessible.
- Projects involving construction work must use a skilled and trained workforce. Refer to the Infrastructure Project Requirements in Section V below for additional details.
- For electric vehicle charging stations, each incentivized connector must be at least a Direct Current Fast Charging or Megawatt Charging System port capable of delivering a minimum continuous power output of 24 kW or higher.
- Funded infrastructure equipment must be in service and operating as soon as possible, but not later than 36 months from agreement execution, unless otherwise approved by the Project Administrator.

Table 3: Infrastructure Funding Limits

Project Category	Maximum per Station from WAIRE Mitigation Program*
Electric Charging Station Equipment and Infrastructure	$300/kW output
Hydrogen Fueling Station and Infrastructure	$8,000/kg/day capacity

*Total incentives from all funding sources cannot exceed 85 percent of equipment cost (including taxes and government fees; excluding government tariffs).

WAIRE Mitigation Program can fund up to 85 percent of eligible costs (including taxes and government fees; excluding government tariffs), considering all stacked incentives. Eligible equipment costs include the purchase of equipment and any associated taxes or government fees, but do not include government tariffs. Additional eligible direct project costs may include installation labor, engineering, design, site preparation, decommissioning of existing non-ZE fueling infrastructure (excluding testing for, or remediation of subsurface contamination), and construction. General administrative activities, such as accounting, project management, staff training, and normal day-to-day operational costs unassociated with the project, are not considered eligible costs. Of the total WAIRE Mitigation Program award, at least 50 percent of the funds must be applied to eligible equipment costs.

Applicants must demonstrate 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.

The applicant must provide proof (i.e., letter of commitment from the fleet operator etc.) of a commitment to utilize the infrastructure when it is commissioned and operational. For infrastructure expansion projects, documentation of increased throughput at the station is required to ensure the expansion is proportional with projected fueling demand. Additionally, the applicant must provide a formal commitment letter or other written documentation from the applicable utility provider confirming the ability to supply sufficient electrical service to support the proposed project.

All infrastructure projects funded need to be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and must comply with DIR requirements on labor practices which cover a broad prevailing wage. Applicants awarded an agreement must comply with applicable provisions of Labor Code Sections 1720-1861.

SECTION III – APPLICATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must apply for WAIRE Mitigation Program funding using the South Coast AQMD's WAIRE Mitigation Program's Online Grant Management System (GMS) which will be available starting 12 pm on Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at: http://gms.aqmd.gov. Applications may be started and saved at that time; however, the system will not accept submissions before 12 pm on Tuesday, October 13, 2026. The 3-week period will allow applicants to discuss program-related questions with staff. Please note that South Coast AQMD staff will not assist, opine, or otherwise aide any applicant with their project proposal. The application period will remain open until 12 pm on December 15, 2026. If funds are exhausted per funding SRA, then a waitlist will be generated for potential applicants.

Applications must be submitted through the WAIRE Mitigation Program GMS by 12 pm on December 15, 2026. The GMS will not allow applications to be submitted after the due date and time. In addition, all Business Information Forms including Conflict of Interest and Project Cost information, must also be submitted with the application. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that all information submitted is accurate and complete. **Paper applications will not be accepted.**

Multiple applications submitted by the same applicant within a one-hour period will be counted as received at the same time, with the earliest submission serving as the official timestamp for all applications submitted within that window.

First-time users must register as new users to access the system. Applicants will receive a confirmation email after all required documents have been successfully submitted. Staff may be contacted if additional assistance is needed.

Third parties assisting with completing applications may create their own account on the WAIRE Mitigation Program GMS that can be linked through the primary user account.

South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all submitted applications as they are received until the application deadline or until all funds are expended, whichever occurs first. Funding determination will be done on a project-by-project basis.

In accordance with South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure, a public notice advertising the PA and inviting bids will be published in the Los Angeles Times, the Orange County Register, the San Bernardino Sun, and Riverside County's Press Enterprise newspapers to ensure broad and cost-effective outreach throughout the South Coast Air Basin.

Consistent with South Coast AQMD's Policy, outreach will ensure that all businesses have a fair and equitable opportunity to compete for project funding. Potential bidders may be notified through South Coast AQMD's electronic listing of certified vendors. Notice of the PA will also be emailed to Legislative Caucuses, various chambers of commerce, business associations, and additional community and trade organizations. To further support inclusive participation, the PA will be posted on the South Coast AQMD website (http://www.aqmd.gov) under "Grants & Bids."

A complete online application must be submitted to South Coast AQMD by no later than the application deadline to be considered for Program funding. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the application contains all the required information at the time of submittal to the South Coast AQMD. The South Coast AQMD is not required to contact the applicant to obtain the required information that is missing from the application but reserves the right to contact the applicant to clarify any information related to the submitted application. It will be the Applicant's responsibility to submit the missing or incomplete information within the time specified by the South Coast AQMD staff. Only complete applications can move forward in the evaluation process.

PROJECT COST

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. The vendor quotes must be dated within 90 days of the application submittal date. Applicants need to inform vendors of the time frame of the award process so that they can estimate prices based on the future/projected order/purchase date.

Purchase orders or other purchase commitments shall not be placed until after the date of award approval by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. Purchase orders may be placed after South Coast AQMD Governing Board approval and in advance of a fully executed agreement, but these orders/commitments are placed at the Applicant's own risk.

The WAIRE Mitigation Program will fund only a percentage of the cost of the ZE technology based on the type of project**.** No administrative or operational costs will be funded. For on-road ZE trucks, the ZE technology must be certified, verified or approved by CARB.

All project costs must be clearly indicated in the application. In addition, Applicants must disclose all sources of co-funding, including the name of the funding source and amount of funding in the application.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

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. Incentive funds will be granted to applicants that meet all criteria of the program and will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all eligible online applications in respective SRAs accordingly.

Grounds for Rejection: An application may be immediately rejected if:

- The application is incomplete.
- It does not include correct documentation and other forms required.
- It is not signed by an individual authorized to represent the firm.

Below is a list of all application forms and attachments for the WAIRE Mitigation Program:

- Applicant information
- Category application
- Business Information Forms:
    - Attachment 1 – Business Information Request
    - Attachment 2 – Campaign Contribution Disclosure
    - Attachment 3 – Business Status Certification
    - Attachment 4 – W-9 – Requested for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification
    - Attachment 5 – Direct Deposit Form
    - Attachment 6 – Form 590 Withholding Exemption Certification
    - Attachment 7 – Certificate Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters
    - Attachment 8 – Labor Form

Note: Each Attachment (1-8) should be completed and submitted with each set of projects. If your application is approved, an updated Campaign Contribution Disclosure may be requested by the Project Officer at a later date.

Business Information Forms: All business information forms **must** be completed and submitted with the online application. These business forms will also be available on the WAIRE Mitigation Program GMS. South Coast AQMD “Business Information Forms” requiring signatures must be scanned and uploaded to the electronic application in PDF format.

Project Specific Supplemental Documentation: For truck projects, applicants must submit supplemental documentation proving activity within the funding SRA. Such documentation includes current delivery or related contracts and an attestation of annual estimated truck trips and warehouse stops.

Infrastructure projects require supplemental documentation demonstrating project site control (e.g., proof of land ownership, long-term lease or an easement valid for the duration of the project life, CEQA Notice of Determination) and a formal commitment from applicable utility provider to supply sufficient power capacity at the site to support the proposed infrastructure. An attestation of estimated number of trucks or equipment expected to utilize the electric charging or hydrogen fueling stations is required.

Disposition of Applications: South Coast AQMD reserves the right to reject any or all applications. All responses become the property of South Coast AQMD. A copy of each application not selected for funding shall be retained for one year.

SECTION IV – WORK STATEMENT/SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES

As part of the application, Applicants must sign and agree to the terms and conditions of the requirements for submittal of additional project information to finalize an agreement and that all trucks shall be in operation within 18 months of agreement execution and all infrastructure equipment shall be in operation within 36 months of agreement execution, unless otherwise approved by the Project Administrator.

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work will describe tasks and deliverables that demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the South Coast AQMD. The project Applicant is responsible for developing any plans to carry out the project and ordering equipment that complies with the program criteria and guideline requirements.

At a minimum, any agreement for funding the proposed project must meet the following criteria:

- Commit that project equipment operate and are in service for the full project life and meet the criteria laid out in this PA, including requirements of the Geographical Requirements subsection in Section I.
- Provide appropriate recordkeeping during the three-year project life including submission of annual reports as detailed in the Annual Reporting Requirements section below.
- Ensure that the project complies with all applicable state, federal, and local rules and regulations.
- If requested, Recipient must provide a financial statement and bank reference, or other evidence of financial ability to fulfill agreement requirements.
- If requested, Recipient must make all equipment and records, including GPS logs, available to South Coast AQMD for audit and inspections.

INSPECTIONS AND PAYMENT TERMS

Upon delivery of new trucks or completion of specified infrastructure milestones, the applicant must notify South Coast AQMD staff so an inspection may be performed. For infrastructure projects, milestone inspections may occur before equipment is installed. During inspections, South Coast AQMD inspectors will verify the applicable project elements and confirm progress toward meeting program requirements. Inspections can occur virtually or in person at the discretion of South Coast AQMD.

For all projects, payment will be made upon the submittal of a complete and valid invoice along with invoice supporting documents, if applicable, for the reimbursement of costs paid by the Recipient for the new truck/equipment, and verification that the truck/equipment meets the program requirements and was placed into regular operating service. The Recipient will be required to report all funding sources prior to invoice payment.

ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The agreement will describe how the project will be monitored and what type of information must be submitted as part of the reporting requirements. Funded trucks and equipment must meet the Geographical Requirements section outlined in Section I. At a minimum, South Coast AQMD requires receipt of an annual report for each year during the three-year project life which provides:

- ZE Truck Purchases:
  - On-Road Trucks Only:
    - Photo of VIN
    - California issued DMV registration documentation
  - Yard Trucks Only:
    - Annual hours of operation
  - Self-certification of compliance with labor laws
  - Insurance certificate(s)
  - Annual usage records of odometer, hour meter, or power/fuel consumption readings
  - Self-certification of where the truck or equipment was operated, total miles traveled, number of visits per year to warehouses in SRA
  - Operational and maintenance issues encountered and how they were resolved, if they impacted required performance metrics
  - GPS logs and/or telematics data to verify compliance, if requested by South Coast AQMD

- Infrastructure Projects:
  - Annual output/energy usage during the reporting period
  - Documentation regarding any problems/issues of any unscheduled downtime that occurred during the reporting period, the cause of the downtime, and the resolution of the issue
  - Sufficient proof of property insurance
  - Records of the energy meter to support the reported annual usage
  - Applicable documentation demonstrating compliance with Infrastructure Project Requirements in Section V below

South Coast AQMD reserves the right to verify the information provided.

<u>SECTION V – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS</u>

<u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST</u>

Applicants must address any potential conflicts of interest with other clients affected by actions performed by the firm on behalf of the South Coast AQMD. The South Coast AQMD reserves the right to consider the nature and extent of potential conflicts of interest 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 agreement. An example of a conflict of interest may occur when a consultant applying on behalf of an applicant for funding under the WAIRE Mitigation Program is also contracted with South Coast AQMD.

COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS

Applicants must comply with all air quality regulations. If the application is eligible for funding, all vehicles and/or 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. As part of this requirement, applicants subject to South Coast AQMD Rule 2305 – Warehouse Actions and Investments to Reduce Emissions must have submitted all required reports for that rule and not have any unresolved Notices of Violation for Rule 2305 or any other South Coast AQMD rule. Additionally, if awarded, the Recipient will be required to notify South Coast AQMD in writing if they have been found by a court or other agency to have violated any air quality rules or regulations.

COMPLIANCE WITH LABOR LAWS

If an application is deemed eligible, the applicant will be required to provide 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. As part of their annual report, 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 contract funds, as determined by South Coast AQMD. The Recipient will also ensure that these requirements are included in all subcontracts.

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.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Recipients of WAIRE Mitigation Program incentives that involve construction work must use a skilled and trained workforce as defined in CA Public Contract Code section 2601 to perform such work. Additionally, installation of electric vehicle infrastructure shall be installed by a contractor with the appropriate license classification, as determined by the Contractors' State License Board. At any given time, at least one electrician on each crew must hold an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) certification. If an electric vehicle infrastructure project involves installing a charging port supplying 25 kW or more, at any given time, require that at least 25 percent of the total electricians hold EVITP certification, consistent with CA Public Utilities Code section 740.20. For more information please visit: https://evitp.org/.

DEFINITIONS

CARB Certified

Vehicle or engine that has been certified and issued an Executive Order by CARB. Executive orders are available on CARB's website here:
https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/executive-orders-certifications-verifications

Funding Source Receptor Area (Funding SRA)

The Source Receptor Area associated with the warehouse location where mitigation fees were generated and from which eligible projects may receive funding.

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)

The maximum weight of the vehicle, as specified by the manufacturer. GVWR includes total vehicle weight plus fluids, passengers, and cargo.

Class 4: 14,001-16,000 lb.
Class 5: 16,001-19,500 lb.
Class 6: 19,501-26,000 lb.
Class 7: 26,001-33,000 lb.
Class 8: > 33,000 lb.

New Vehicle

A vehicle constructed entirely from new parts that has never been the subject of a retail sale, or registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles, or registered with the appropriate agency or authority of any other state, District of Columbia, territory or possession of the United States, or foreign state, province, or country.

Project Life

Project life is the period of the agreement term during which the new truck/equipment is operated, and the recipient must report annual usage.

Publicly Accessible

Available to any ZE commercial fleet with Class 4 and above vehicles with no physical access restrictions during regular business hours.

Shared Station

An EV charging or hydrogen fueling station that is open to authorized commercial motor vehicle operators from more than one company (the station cannot be limited to one company's sole use).

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. Visit http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/jurisdiction for more information.

Source Receptor Area (SRA)
Within the South Coast AQMD Jurisdiction, there are 37 Source Receptor Areas (SRAs) for the purposes of air quality monitoring and forecasting. SRAs are specific geographic regions used to understand and manage air quality. The South Coast AQMD uses this framework to assess air quality, forecast pollution levels, and determine the potential impact of projects on localized air quality. In the context of the WAIRE Mitigation Program and WAIRE Program, SRAs are also used to track mitigation fee payments and expenditures. See the following link for a SRA map that allows addresses to be plotted. (https://data-scaqmd-online.opendata.arcgis.com/maps/814d6e7a791044dabcb3d0d4b8af4df9/explore)

Warehousing Activities
Operations at a warehouse related to the storage and distribution of goods, including but not limited to the storage, labeling, sorting, consolidation and deconsolidation of products into different size packages. Supporting office administration, maintenance, manufacturing areas, or retail sales areas open to the general public, within the same warehouse building, that are physically separate from the warehouse area, are not considered warehousing activities.

Yard Truck
An on-road or off-road mobile utility vehicle used to carry cargo containers with or without chassis; also known as a utility tractor rig, yard tractor, yard goat, yard hostler, yard hustler, or prime mover.

Zero-Emission Vehicle
An on-road or off-road vehicle with a drivetrain that produces zero exhaust emissions of any criteria pollutant (or precursor pollutant) under any possible operational modes or conditions.

SECTION VI – WAIRE Mitigation Program Contact Information

For general information or questions about this solicitation, please email: waire-incentives@aqmd.gov or visit https://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/business/waire-mitigation-program/.