



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

September 30, 2021

**DEQ Opens Year Three of the Clean Fuels Funding Assistance Program  
Funded by the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust**

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK** – On October 1, 2021, the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will begin accepting applications for the Clean Fuels Funding Assistance Program (Clean Fuels program). The deadline for applications is November 30, 2021.

The Clean Fuels program is a competitive funding opportunity for public and private entities in Arkansas seeking to repower or replace eligible medium trucks, heavy trucks, or buses with new lower-emitting alternative-fueled technologies. The goal of the Clean Fuels program is to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) from across the state and incentivize growth in markets for alternative fuels, including compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane, and electricity. DEQ will award a total of \$697,794 in funding from the Volkswagen Settlement to projects during this funding cycle.

Under the Clean Fuels program, vehicles are eligible to receive funding for repower or replacement if they are diesel-powered vehicles with an engine model year between 1992 and 2009 and fall into one of the following categories:

- Class 8 Local Freight Trucks and Port Drayage Trucks (Heavy Trucks)
- Class 4–8 School Bus, Shuttle Bus, or Transit Bus (Buses)
- Class 4–7 Local Freight Trucks (Medium Trucks)

In the previous two years of our Clean Fuels Program, DEQ has entered into agreements with the following applicants:

- Pulaski County Special School District for four LPG school bus replacements
- Jacksonville North Pulaski School District for three LPG school bus replacements
- West Memphis Public Work Department for one CNG refuse truck replacement
- Rock Region Metro for six CNG transit bus replacements
- Fort Smith School District for three LPG school bus replacements

More information can be found on DEQ's Volkswagen Settlement webpage: [www.adeq.state.ar.us/air/planning/vw.aspx](http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/air/planning/vw.aspx). To speak with a staff member, contact Deiona McKnight by email at [mcknight@adeq.state.ar.us](mailto:mcknight@adeq.state.ar.us) or by phone at 501-682-0641.

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