

Hybrid Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP) Applicant Workshop Stakeholder Questions and Air Resources Board (ARB) Staff Responses

On November 4, 2010, ARB held an HVIP Applicant Workshop to answer questions regarding the FY 2010-11 HVIP Grant Proposal Solicitation (solicitation). This document provides ARB responses to stakeholder questions at the workshop.

Q: What types of fleets have applied for FY 2009-10 HVIP vouchers?

A: The HVIP is first-come, first-served and is open to any fleet wishing to purchase a vehicle on the HVIP Eligible Vehicle List. Participating fleets must commit to meeting all project requirements, including keeping the vehicle in California for at least three years after purchase. The majority of FY 2009-10 HVIP vouchers have been requested by urban beverage and package delivery vehicles. The HVIP website (www.californiahvip.org) includes summary statistics regarding vouchers requested.

Q: Does ARB anticipate the HVIP will be funded in future years?

A: An AQIP Funding Plan is developed annually with public input and approved by the Board to target AQIP funding where it is most needed. However, ARB does envision the HVIP needs to be a multi-year program to maximize its effectiveness. The HVIP is intended to help hybrid truck and bus technology in these early years of production and commercialization to help reduce costs and accelerate vehicle deployment. A significant three to four year investment in the HVIP will be needed to bring down production and purchase costs to the point that the return on investment for a hybrid truck purchase makes sense even without a public subsidy.

Q: How much background and description of past accomplishments should be included in the HVIP application?

A: The applicant should stick to the three page limit in describing 'Applicant Qualifications.' The applicant should assume application reviewers have a basic understanding of the HVIP and its implementation in FY 2009-10.

Q: Is ARB looking for a plan for boosting HVIP participation by fleets in the San Joaquin Valley?

A: The HVIP solicitation provides up to five points for the applicant's plan to target outreach in areas classified as extreme non-attainment of the federal eight-hour ozone standard, including the San Joaquin Valley.

Q: Are concept or demonstration vehicles eligible for HVIP vouchers?

A: No. The HVIP is for proven and commercialized hybrid trucks and buses only. Hybrid truck or bus demonstration projects are typically funded through the California Energy Commission's pot of AB 118 funds.