

# Zero-Emission Freight and Marine Program

## Questions & Answers

This document includes answers to questions received by the VW Administrator regarding the Statewide [VW Zero-Emission Freight and Marine Program](#) (“ZEFM Program”).

**If you have questions that are not included in this document or need assistance, please contact us at [CaliforniaVWTrust@baaqmd.gov](mailto:CaliforniaVWTrust@baaqmd.gov) or call us at 1-844-9VW-FUND.**

To stay informed about the status and receive timely updates related to the ZEFM Program, please sign up for the [VW program emailing list](#).

### *FUNDING LIMITS, MATCH FUNDING, AND REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS*

- **If an application is submitted that includes multiple pieces of equipment to be replaced/repowered, will the baseline grant amount be offered for each unit or project component?** Yes.

### *APPLICATION PROCESS*

- **Can progress be saved while working on the application or do I need to complete it in one sitting?** Yes, the online system allows applicants to save a draft application and complete it at a later time.
- **Do vendors / dealerships / consultants have access to the VW Application Portal to assist customers with their applications?** Yes, the owners of the equipment must first sign up and create an account. After completing at least the organization information section, they can add other users, such as vendors, dealers, or contractors.
- **As a vendor / dealer, how can we best share information with our customers to inform them about the application process?** Sharing links to the [ZEFM Program website](#) with interested parties may be the most efficient approach. Additionally, providing details on the new replacement equipment—such as quotes, delivery timelines, and eligibility for other incentive programs like the [Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project \(CORE\)](#)—will be valuable for applicants.
- **What is the deadline to apply for Solicitation 5 Cycle?** Currently, there is no deadline. The initial deadline of January 22, 2025, has been extended until further notice. With limited funds, it is important to apply sooner than later. Notice will be sent out and posted on the website at least three weeks prior to the solicitation closing. All applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Will there be a waitlist and if so, how does it work?** Yes, we have started to place applications on a waitlist. Applications received after the initial allocation of the \$25 million is requested will be placed on a waitlist and notified by the Program Administrator. If projects fall out, or additional funding becomes available the Program Administrator will continue to evaluate applications on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### ***PORT CHE AND HEAVY-DUTY FORKLIFT PROJECTS***

- **Does the forklift lift minimum lift capacity threshold apply to both the baseline (old) and replacement (new) equipment?** Yes. For forklift replacements, both the new and baseline (old) equipment must have a minimum lift capacity of at least 8,001 lbs. The new equipment can have a different lift capacity than the old equipment, as long as both meet this minimum requirement.
- **Does a terminal tractor that moves containers to/from a loading dock at an agricultural property qualify as Port Cargo Handling Equipment (CHE)?** The definition of “Port” has been expanded to cover various types of port facilities. Depending on the specific operation and location, a facility may qualify as a type of port, such as a freight terminal. Please contact us at [californiavwtrust@baaqmd.gov](mailto:californiavwtrust@baaqmd.gov) for specific questions about your project.
- **Are counterbalance forklifts eligible, assuming they meet the 8,001 lbs. lift capacity requirement?** Yes.

#### ***FERRY, TUGBOAT AND TOWBOAT REPOWER PROJECTS***

- **Where should applicants go to learn more about the Zero Emission & Advanced Technology (ZEAT) process applicable to marine projects?** Please visit the California Air Resources Board [Commercial Harbor Craft website](#) and contact their staff at [harborcraft@arb.ca.gov](mailto:harborcraft@arb.ca.gov) to learn more.