



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*Jim Gibbons, Governor*

*Allen Biaggi, Director*

*Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator*

For Immediate Release:  
February 12, 2010

## NEWS RELEASE

[Vinson Guthreau](#)  
Phone: 775.687.9395  
Cellular: 775-443-5459

### **NDEP delivers new clean-diesel buses to Nevada school districts**

CARSON CITY - Today, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) officially delivered seventeen new school buses, funded by U.S. EPA's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Clean Diesel Grant Program, to local school districts.

Nevada Governor Jim Gibbons was joined by U.S. EPA Regional Administrator, Jared Blumenfeld, Allen Biaggi, Director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and NDEP Administrator Leo Drozdoff to mark the occasion.

The ceremony highlighted the delivery of 17 clean-diesel buses, purchased for 15 Nevada school districts. NDEP received \$1,730,000 to fund the bus replacements in May 2009. Only existing model year 1991 or older buses were eligible for the replacement program and all but two counties (Clark and Carson City) had buses that qualified.

"Every pre-1990-model bus is estimated to emit as much as 60-times more pollution than the buses that we delivered to local school districts today. This event highlights a tremendous effort by the school districts to partner with NDEP to reduce exposure of these pollutants by our local school children," said Leo Drozdoff, NDEP Administrator.

"By investing in cleaner school buses, we are investing in our children's health," added Jared Blumenfeld, U.S. EPA Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest.

Today's event compliments other efforts underway to reduce diesel emissions. NDEP in cooperation with the Nevada State Energy Office is retrofitting existing buses,

model years 1992-2004, by applying emission control devices to the buses to significantly reduce emissions.

School districts that will receive buses during the Washoe County event will be: Churchill County, Douglas County, Lyon County, Mineral County, and Washoe County. The districts will replace the older buses by removing them from service and destroying the engines within 90 days of receipt of the new bus.

The NDEP School Bus Replacement Program targets the reduction of diesel emissions. Diesel engines emit large amounts of nitrogen oxides, particulate matter and air toxics - pollutants that can negatively impact human health and the environment.

The buses were purchased from U.S. based Blue Bird Corporation. Each bus holds 84 passengers.

###