

DERA Letter to House Appropriations Committee
May, 2013

environmental and public health perspective. The DERA program has been responsible for the creation and retention of local US jobs that involve manufacturing, installation and servicing of emissions related technologies. Every state in the nation has a diesel retrofit program and has benefitted from DERA funding.

Because the DERA program goes hand and glove with effective state and local air programs, the DERA Coalition also urges that funding for DERA not come at the expense of critical funding for state and local air quality grants. State and local governments hold primary responsibility for preventing and controlling air pollution and rely on these grants to carry out their core obligations under the Clean Air Act, including monitoring air quality, assessing emissions impacts, developing comprehensive state implementation plans, permitting and inspecting sources, enforcing laws and regulations, and conducting public education and outreach.

As our coalition urges you to include DERA funding in the FY14 Appropriations cycle, we want to make clear that such funding should supplement and not come at the expense of funding for state and local air agencies. It is our hope that Congress will provide leadership on this issue by including \$20 million for DERA in the FY14 appropriations process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Association of Port Authorities
American Lung Association
Associated General Contractors of America
Caterpillar Inc.

