2019 Targeted Airshed Grant Program  
EPA-OAR-OAQPS-20-01  
Questions and Answers  
As of December 23, 2019

Question 1 (12/6/19):  
Can you provide any grant applications submitted in response to the 2018 targeted airsheds competition?

Answer 1: You would need to submit a Freedom of Information Act Request to request grant applications from prior grant competitions. See https://www.epa.gov/foia for information on EPA’s FOIA process.

Question 2 (12/16/19):  
If we have a diesel truck replacement project funded by DERA and working with one equipment manufacturer, is it possible to submit a targeted airshed application with a different company as a complementary project?

Answer 2:  
Yes, that could be allowable, depending on the details of the two projects. Basically, if they are two distinct projects, then it could be allowable.

Question 3 (12/16/19):  
Although a compressed natural gas station might not be an eligible cost for reimbursement either on its own or accompanied by trucks in a proposal, could it still be counted as cost-share or match?

Answer 3:  
Under the targeted airshed grant competition, compressed natural gas stations can possibly be eligible expenses, as long as it meets the description from Section I.B. Scope of Work in the RFA. Specifically, from pages 4-5:

“The goal of the Targeted Airshed Grant Program is to implement programs, projects, and approaches that: demonstrate documentable reductions of ozone and/or PM$_{2.5}$ concentrations in the designated areas; demonstrate documentable reductions in precursor emissions of ozone, which include nitrogen oxides (NO$_x$), carbon monoxide (CO) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and/or direct or precursor emissions of PM$_{2.5}$, which include sulfur dioxide (SO$_2$), NO$_x$, VOCs, and ammonia; and are replicable elsewhere. Proposed activities must be for emission reduction activities deemed necessary to assist with compliance with the NAAQS for these pollutants, and that demonstrate the potential for inclusion in the affected jurisdiction’s SIP or TIP submission to EPA intended to meet those standards.”

Additionally, any proposed voluntary cost share expenses must be spent on activities that are eligible under the competition (see “Voluntary cost share” on page 12 of the RFA). Leveraged resources do not have to be for eligible expenses, but they should complement or support the proposed project(s).
Question 4 (12/17/19):
Will EPA be claiming emissions reductions with the Targeted Airsheds Program?

Answer 4:
The applicant needs to quantify the emission reductions of their proposal (see pages 5 under Scope of Work; page 7 under Outcomes; page 15 under Emission Inventories and Emission Reduction Calculations; page 26 under Emissions Inventory & Progress Towards Attainment; page 28 under Expected Project Outputs and Outcomes; and Attachments listed on page 36). Grantees will be expected to report on their emission reductions when they submit progress reports.

Question 5 (12/17/19):
Can the funds be co-mingled with other grant funds?

Answer 5:
Targeted airshed grants cannot be co-mingled with other grant funds; targeted airshed grants are stand-alone.

Question 6 (12/17/19):
Can targeted airshed funds be used for fleet expansion projects, or do fleet projects need to be replacement only?

Answer 6:
Fleet expansion projects are likely ineligible since as noted on page 13, “Primary activities that do not achieve emission reductions in the applicable nonattainment area or lead to no emission reductions in the applicable nonattainment area will not be funded.” Additionally, from page 12, “Proposed activities must be designed to achieve quantifiable reductions in direct PM$_{2.5}$, ozone precursors, and/or PM$_{2.5}$ precursor emissions (NO$_x$, CO, VOC, direct PM$_{2.5}$, SO$_2$, and ammonia) but may also include activities that reduce emissions through changing behavior (e.g., education/outreach to reduce residential wood burning).”