



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ira Dorfman
202-671-1580
iradorfman@gwrccc.org

Washington DC Lowering Green House Gas Emissions with Biodiesel *Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition Receives US EPA Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funding*

October 21, 2021

Washington DC – The Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC) was awarded a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2021 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant. The Project will retire 14 diesel powered vehicles, replacing them with 12 B100 (100 percent biodiesel) vehicles. This effort is projected to reduce greenhouse gases by 76% (98.3 metric tons); this is the equivalent of remove 21.4 passenger cars or planting 1,625 trees. In addition, this project will reduce harmful particulate matter (known to cause cancer, asthma, and lung-related issues) by 97%. The vehicles will also reduce nitrogen oxides (known to cause low level ozone) by 94% among other harmful air emission.

GWCCC Executive Director Ira Dorfman said, “I’d like to thank EPA for allowing the Coalition to play an important role in improving air quality for the citizens of our Nation’s Capital while reducing our dependence on petroleum, at no additional cost to the taxpayer. The Coalition is pleased to be partnering with DC Water to expand its B100 fleet and to introduce Equival Partners to our environmental justice leaders in the District.”

Tim Fitzgerald, Director of Fleet Management for the District’s Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) explained “This grant allows DC Water to continue replacing our older technology diesel vehicles with American’s clean burning, high quality B100 vehicles and lowering greenhouse gas emission and harmful air toxins. Eliminating these emissions are an important priority to the District government.”

As part of the project, DC Water will offer technical training from Optimus specific to the B100 systems. In addition, the project will incorporate broad public engagement. Kevin Bryan, Principal of DC-based Equival Partners, stated “We will work with residents to understand local air quality concerns, provide information on biodiesel’s role in lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and design future collaborative efforts to address concerns to lower greenhouse gases and harmful air emissions.”

Other project partners include fuel supplier – Renewable Energy Group (REG), and public outreach partners – Metropolitan Washington Council of Government, National Biodiesel Foundation, and National Biodiesel Board.

GWRCCC is a public-private partnership and non-profit in the greater Washington region that promotes the use of clean American, transportation fuels to support homeland security and improved air quality.

Biodiesel is a renewable, clean-burning diesel replacement that is reducing U.S. dependence on foreign petroleum, creating jobs, and improving the environment.

###

For more information on GWRCCC, visit www.gwrccc.org

For more information on biodiesel, visit www.biodieselfoundation.org