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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson To Award \$1 Million To Hamilton County School Districts For Clean Diesel Technology School Buses

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson will be in Cincinnati at Monfort Heights Elementary on Wednesday, June 3rd at 2:15 p.m. for a press conference to award the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners (Board) \$1 million dollars to help purchase 60 clean diesel technology school buses for seven Hamilton County School Districts.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant was submitted on behalf of the Board by the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services (HCDOES). The total project amount for purchasing the 60 new school buses is \$4,320,000 (\$1,080,000 from the ARRA Grant and \$3,240,000 from the school districts). By purchasing 60 clean diesel technology school buses, 15,000 pounds of air pollutant emissions will be reduced annually.

The Hamilton County school districts who will be receiving grant funding to purchase clean diesel technology school buses are:

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|------------------------------------|----------|
| Forest Hills School District | 6 buses |
| Loveland City School District | 4 buses |
| Mt. Healthy City School District | 20 buses |
| Northwest Local School District | 6 buses |
| Oak Hills Local School District | 4 buses |
| Princeton City School District | 15 buses |
| Three Rivers Local School District | 5 buses |

HCDOES began the Southwest Ohio Clean Diesel Campaign in 2004 to work with school districts to secure funding to retrofit district-owned school buses that are 1993 and older. To date, HCDOES' Clean Diesel Campaign has received \$500,000 in grant funding and retrofitted 460 district-owned school buses with clean diesel

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technology. This has resulted in an estimated 28,000 pounds of air pollutants removed annually, meaning tens of thousands of school children riding the retrofitted buses in Southwest Ohio enjoy a cleaner, healthier commute to and from school.

For more information about the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services' Clean Diesel Campaign, visit www.hcdoes.org and click on Clean Diesel Campaign.

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