



# Idling Reduction

A MESSAGE FROM THE SPOKANE REGIONAL CLEAN AIR AGENCY

## BACKGROUND

**Tips to reduce vehicle idling at the workplace.** Reducing idling at the workplace had many benefits. And with the price of fuel, it can be a money-saving strategy. Talk with your drivers during staff meetings or training sessions about turning engines off instead of idling.

## The benefits of idling reduction

There are many benefits to reducing idling at your workplace, including:

- Overall fuel savings
- Longer engine life
- Less noise
- Longer time between oil and filter changes
- Better air quality and a healthier community
- Healthier work environment (loading docks, work bays, etc.)

Additionally, the trucking industry has analyzed the impact of idling on engines, both in terms of maintenance and engine wear costs. According to industry estimates, long-duration idling costs the truck owner the price of almost a gallon of fuel each hour.<sup>1</sup>

This means it may be cost-effective to install on-board idle reduction technologies. Where available, encourage the use of truck stop electrification.

## No-Idle Zone signs

Post “No-Idle Zone” signs in prominent idling areas of your facility, such as:

- Fleet yards
- Loading docks

To get free “No-Idle Zone” signs for your location, the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency considers:

- Your proposed site for effectiveness, impact
- Your commitment to post and maintain

Our agency will follow up to assess your results.

## Long-duration truck idling:

- Causes more oil and oil filter deterioration
- Increases the need for more oil and filter changes
- Lessens engine lifespan and hastens the need for engine rebuild

## Long-duration truck idling annually emits:

- 11 million tons of carbon dioxide
- 180,000 tons of nitrogen oxides
- 5,000 tons of particulate matter

## And idling long-haul trucks annually:

- Consume over one billion gallons of fuel
- Cost over \$2 billion

## Did you know...

An idling engine delivers zero miles to the gallon.

Vehicle exhaust is the leading source of hazardous air pollution in the state of Washington.

Toxic air pollutants account for an additional 700 cases of cancer for every million Washington residents.

Diesel exhaust contains microscopic soot, about 200 times smaller than the period at the end of this sentence.

Diesel exhaust is classified as a probable human carcinogen by many governmental authorities, including the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the U.S. National Toxicology Program, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It is classified as a known carcinogen by the state of California.

Diesel exhaust contains both very small particles and 40 chemicals that are classified as “hazardous air pollutants” under the U.S. Clean Air Act.

<sup>1</sup> US EPA, Smartway Program