MDEQ PROGRAM PROVIDES CLEANER BUSES FOR GREENVILLE PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Jackson, Miss.) – The Air Division of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
(MDEQ) will begin the installation of Diesel Oxidation Catalysts for Greenville Public School District
buses beginning Tuesday this week. The Diesel Oxidation Catalysts (DOCs) will help protect students’
health by reducing tailpipe emissions. DOCs reduce particulate matter by 40 percent, hydrocarbons by
70 percent, and carbon monoxide by 40 percent. The funding for the project is a combination of
grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and stimulus funds from the American
Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Waters Truck and Tractor will conduct the installations at the district’s bus
shop.
“We are pleased to work with the Greenville Public School District, the American Lung
Association of Mississippi, and the Mississippi Department of Education to implement this program to provide
a healthier situation for students by installation of the Diesel Oxidation Catalysts. School buses are the
safest and most efficient way to transport students, but we want to ensure that it’s a healthy trip,” said
Trudy Fisher, MDEQ Executive Director.
A DOC is a porous ceramic honeycomb-like structure that is coated with a material that
catalyzes a chemical reaction to reduce pollution. There is no maintenance for the DOCs, and they do not
affect the fuel economy of the buses. The diesel oxidation catalysts will be installed statewide on eligible
buses built from 1998 to 2006 in participating school districts. Newer buses do not need retrofitting due to
stricter emissions standards for diesel engines implemented in 2007. Purchase and installation of these
devices will be paid for by MDEQ at no cost to school districts.
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