



VOLKSWAGEN FEDERAL ACTION

Mitigation Plan Overview

Purpose of Settlement

The intent of the State Mitigation Trust is to fully mitigate the total, lifetime excess nitrogen oxide emissions from the violating vehicles.

Opportunity

The VW settlement provides an unprecedented opportunity to strategically invest in low emission technologies and transform Washington's transportation fleet.

Mitigation Plan Principles & Priorities

Principles:

- Improve air quality in disproportionately affected communities.
- Maximize air quality co-benefits beyond nitrogen oxide reductions.
- Maximize public health benefits.

Priorities:

- Accelerate fleet turnover to cleanest engines.
- Ensure cost effectiveness.
- Achieve substantial emission reductions beyond what would already occur absent trust funding.
- Leverage additional matching funds.
- Accelerate adoption of electric vehicles, equipment, and vessels with emphasis on public fleets.

Mitigation Plan Requirements

The plan is:

- A high-level vision for use of the funds.
- Non-binding, can be modified and adjusted over time.
- Not a project list, nor criteria for selecting projects.
- Provides up to 10 years to spend funds.

The plan must include:

- Overarching goals for use of the funds.
- Percent invested in eligible categories.
- Estimate of emissions reduced.
- Description of public engagement process.
- How we consider disproportionately impacted communities.

Steering Committee

The steering committee, with representatives from the governor's policy staff, Office of Financial Management, Attorney General's Office, and Departments of Commerce, Ecology, Enterprise Services, and Transportation, provides guidance, expertise, and recommendations in three critical phases:

- I. Mitigation plan development.
- II. Designing the funding program the state will use for administering the funds.
- III. Project selection.

Public Outreach

We are required to seek, consider, and explain our public input process on our mitigation plan. This is intended to promote transparency and opportunities for community engagement. Over the past year, Ecology has held a robust public engagement process and:

- Hosted well attended public webinars to educate the public and stakeholders.
- Opened public surveys and garnered input that helped shape the state's direction.
- Met with legislators and stakeholders to get feedback on the state's approach.

