



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **PMSA Applauds Approval of the Fuel-Incentive Program by the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach**

**(Los Angeles, Calif.)**—Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) applauds the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports (unanimous) decision today to approve an incentive program introduced by PMSA to reduce emissions at the two Southern California ports. Under the voluntary incentive program, the ports will offset the cost difference between currently used bunker fuel and costly low-sulfur distillate fuel for vessels that switch fuel at least 20 miles--and as far as 40 miles-- from the ports. If successful, the proposal would cut oxides of sulfur by 11% and diesel particulate matter by 9% from vessels.

“The public/private partnership formed between PMSA and the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles provides the groundwork in reducing emissions at the ports,” said Sean Connaughton, Administrator of the Maritime Administration, United States Department of Transportation. “The collaborative approach found in this incentive program marks a milestone in making California greener.”

PMSA announced its partnership with the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles last week as part of its effort to reduce port congestion, expand port capacity and improve air quality initiatives within a global green growth plan.

“This program represents another important step in a continuing process toward improving the air quality of Southern California,” said John McLaurin, President of PMSA. “Further, PMSA and its members commend the Harbor Commissioners and Mayors for their actions in partnering with us in this unique and mutually beneficial proposal. We hope that this incentive-based approach serves as a model for future endeavors toward this goal of overall emission reductions.”

Vessels participating in the incentive program must also use low-sulfur fuel in their auxiliary engines while at berth. Further, ships will also need to participate in the ports’ voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction Program which limits speeds to 12 knots during the low-sulfur fuel switch.

*Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) is a regional trade association of operators of marine cargo terminals and owners/operators of U.S. and foreign-flagged cargo and passenger vessels. The Association has offices in Long Beach, San Francisco and Seattle.*

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