Northern Colorado Clean Cities

FALL 2011

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS!

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NCCC Update...

It's been a busy past few months for NCCC! We've just recently completed a plug-in electric vehicle (EV) planning and feasibility study for northern Colorado, and discovered that although there is a lot going on to get ready for the increase in EVs in the area, things could be made a little simpler to expedite implementation! Over the next year, NCCC will be working with Denver Metro Clean Cities and other statewide partners to better prepare Colorado (see full story below).

NCCC also celebrated is 15th Anniversary with an event on September 21, 2011. It was a great opportunity to reminisce about where we've been, the successes we've had, and to also look ahead for new trails to blaze!!

Northern Colorado Clean Cities (NCCC) Takes Part in Electric Vehicle Implementation Plan (Project FEVER) for State of Colorado

Denver Metro Clean Cities has been awarded $500,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as part of the Clean Cities Community Readiness and Planning for Plug-in Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure Funding Opportunity. Project FEVER (Funding Electric Vehicle Expansion in the Rockies), one of 16 funded projects in the U.S., is a year-long endeavor that will overcome obstacles associated with the expansion of electric vehicles in the marketplace. Over 60 partners, including Northern Colorado Clean Cities, are currently involved in the statewide plan which targets five core areas: regulatory; permitting; planning; policy; and marketing, education, and outreach.

The President has a goal of putting 1 million advanced technology vehicles on the road in the United States by 2015. In support of this goal, and emphasizing electricity as a transportation fuel, Project FEVER will plan and implement policies, procedures, and incentives that facilitate this development. The planning and policy activities will prepare communities for successful deployment and implementation of plug-in electric vehicles. Overall, this effort will help to decrease the nation's dependence on petroleum and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by accelerating the deployment of plug-in electric vehicles and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE).

Northern Colorado Clean Cities' Mission… Promoting alternative fuels, alternative fuel vehicles, idle-reduction, and fuel economy for economic, environmental, and energy security, *NOW!*

Upcoming Conferences

Renewable Energy Markets Conference
November 15-18
San Francisco, CA

National Biodiesel Conference & Expo
February 5-8, 2012
Orlando, Florida

Department of Energy (DOE) Launches New Tools to Accelerate Adoption of Electric Vehicles

The DOE has launched two online tools designed to help communities better prepare for widespread adoption of plug-in electric vehicles (EVs). They have developed a template to help local governments design permits for residential EV charger installations and accelerate the approval process. DOE has also released a training video to provide inspectors and electricians with a guide to facilitate inspections and installations of home EV chargers.

These tools will encourage cities to develop standardized permitting and inspection procedures and help local officials streamline their processes. They also aim to create more favorable conditions for EV businesses, including infrastructure providers and installers, to thrive as more plug-in EVs come to the market. This effort will not only speed the adoption of EVs that reduce our reliance on foreign oil, it will make it easier for EV drivers to save energy and money by charging at home.

For more information visit the Alternative Fuel and Advanced Technology Vehicle Data Center's EV deployment website.

NCCC Nominates Two Colorado Companies as National Partners

NCCC has recognized ENCANA (natural gas company) and Schwan's Food Service as national leaders in petroleum reduction, by nominating them as Clean Cities National Partners. The National Clean Cities Partnership initiative provides fleets with specialized resources, expertise, and support to successfully incorporate alternative fuels and fuel-saving measures into their fleets. The National Clean Fleets Partnership builds on the established success of DOE's Clean Cities program, which reduces petroleum consumption at the community level through a nationwide network of coalitions that work with local stakeholders. Developed with input from fleet managers, industry representatives, and Clean Cities coordinators, the National Clean Fleets Partnership goes one step further by working with large private fleets.

The National Clean Fleets Partnership is open to fleets that own or have contractual control over at least 50% of their vehicles and have vehicles operating in multiple states. Benefits of being a national partner, include single point of entry into Clean Cities, information exchange, technical assistance, and public recognition. For more information on the National Partners program, visit: www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/national_partnership.html.

What are the top 10 resources for reliable and unbiased information about alternative fuels, advanced vehicles, and other petroleum reduction strategies?

1. ***Alternative Fuels & Advanced Vehicles Data Center (AFDC)***: www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc. A clearinghouse of data on alternative fuels, advanced vehicles, idle reduction, fuel economy, and other petroleum reduction strategies. The AFDC Tools page (www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/applications.html) provides calculators, interactive maps such as Alternative Fueling Station Locator, Vehicle Searches ,and Incentives and Laws Search tools.
2. ***Clean Cities:*** www.cleancities.energy.gov. The national Clean Cities website includes links to relevant news, events, publications and financial opportunities
3. ***Fueleconomy.gov:*** www.fueleconomy.gov. Search for fuel economy information for light-duty vehicles or for cars that don't use gasoline, gas mileage tips and MPG fuel economy tracking.
4. ***U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)'s Alternatives to Traditional Transportation Fuels:*** www.eia.gov/renewable/alternative_transport_vehicles/index.cfm. Provides data on the number of alternative fuel vehicles supplied and in use, the amount of alternative fuel consumed, conventional fuel prices and production.
5. ***DOE's Energy Policy Act (Epact) Information***
   The following DOE websites provide information about Epact regulatory activities:
   a. Epact Transportation Regulatory Activities: www1.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/index.html
   b. Federal Fleet Management: www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/fedfleet_management.html
6. ***DOE National Laboratories***
   The DOE national labs perform research, implement programs, and publish documents related to alternative fuels and advanced vehicles. Visit energy.gov/offices for a list of labs and information on their programs.
7. ***Clean Cities Coalitions***
   www.afdc.energy.gov/cleancities/coalitions/coalition_locations.php is a great resources for information and case studies. You may also reach out to the coordinator listserv with specific questions.
8. ***U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):*** www.epa.gov
   The EPA website features information on reducing vehicle emissions
   a. Alternative Fuel Conversion Regulations: www.epa.gov/otaq/consumer/fuels/altfuels/altfuels.htm
   b. Renewable Fuels Standard: www.epa.gov/otaq/fuels/renewablefuels/index.htm
   c. Aftermarket Retrofit Device Evaluation "511" Program: www.epa.gov/otaq/consumer/reports.htm
9. ***Other Federal Government Agencies***
   The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; U.S. Department of Agriculture; and U.S. Internal Revenue Service websites' offer info on alternative fuel vehicles and technologies www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/laws/fed_summary/Agency.
10. ***State and Local Government Agencies***
    a. The National Association of State Energy Officials list of state and territory energy office websites and contacts (www.naseo.org/members/states).
    b. EPA's list of state and territorial environmental agency websites (www.epa.gov/epahome/state.htm).
    c. AFDC State Incentives and Laws website (www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/laws/state).

Industry associations and nonprofit organizations such as NAFA Fleet Management Association (www.nafa.org) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (www.iclei.org) can be helpful resources.

Key terminology associated with aftermarket vehicle and engine conversions:

Below is a glossary of terms related to alternative fuel and advanced vehicle and engine conversions, broken down into categories. Please note that this information is meant to be a general Clean Cities reference guide; other agencies and organizations may define these terms differently.

Aftermarket conversion – An aftermarket conversion is a vehicle or engine which is modified to allow it to operate using a different fuel or power source than the one for which it was originally designed and certified to use. An aftermarket conversion can also be referred to as a **retrofit** or an **upfit**.

Bi-fuel (dual-fuel) – Vehicles that can operate on a combination of alternative and conventional fuel. The terms bi-fuel and dual-fuel are often used interchangeably and are defined differently by various agencies and organizations, but may include:

- Vehicles that operate on a blend of an alternative fuel and a conventional fuel stored in one fuel tank; commonly called **flexible-fuel vehicles**.
- Vehicles that operate on an alternative fuel or conventional fuel stored in separate tanks, using one fuel at a time.
- Vehicles that operate on an alternative fuel and use a conventional fuel for ignition assist. These vehicles automatically switch over completely to an alternative after the engine has warmed up.

Conversion manufacturer - An entity that produces and sells aftermarket conversion systems. A conversion manufacturer may have technicians that install the conversion system or may work with a qualified system retrofitter (QSR) to complete the installation.

Dedicated –Vehicles that operate exclusively on an alternative fuel.

Non-engine fuel type – Involves changes to the vehicle components (not including the powertrain) to enable the engine to operate on an alternative fuel, but does not involve significant changes to the vehicle's OEM-certified engine.

Original equipment manufacturer (OEM) – An entity that produces new vehicles and engines "off the assembly line." Some OEMs produce vehicles and engines that are prepped for conversions, meaning they include components that are compatible with certain alternative fuels.

Powertrain – Involves changes to the vehicle powertrain, and could involve installing an additional electric motor.

QSR – An entity that operates independently of, but works closely with, conversion manufacturers to perform aftermarket conversions. QSRs are also commonly referred to as **upfitters** or **installers**.

Rebuild – Involves modifying the original engine to be powered by a different fuel type.

Repower – Involves replacing the existing engine with a new, rebuilt, or remanufactured engine powered by a different fuel type.

For additional information about vehicle conversions, please refer to the recently updated Alternative Fuels & Advanced Vehicles Data Center Vehicle Conversions website: http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/vehicles/conversions.html.

FREE Colorado Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition Workshop

Informative and innovative event focused on the benefits and opportunities provided by natural gas vehicles. Not only will this be an excellent educational event, but it will provide an opportunity through working breakout sessions for you to participate in promoting a plan for action here in Colorado.

3pm, Tuesday, November 8, 2011

-to-

5:15pm, Wednesday, November 9, 2011

Inverness Hotel and Conference Center
200 Inverness Drive
Englewood, CO 80112

Click here for preliminary agenda and here to register.

NCCC Stakeholders Annual Survey Coming Up!!

Thank you to all our members and stakeholders who provided valuable fleet information for our 2010 annual survey conducted in January. It is coming time again for us to complete our 2011 survey, and we hope that you will be generous with your numbers again!!

This survey gives us an opportunity to see where Colorado is making strides in petroleum reduction and also to gauge where are efforts are still most needed. We will be looking at those strategies where your fleet has been able to reduce petroleum usage. This includes using alternative fuels or purchasing/ converting vehicles to alternative fueled vehicles. But we don't want to forget those less obvious strategies such as idle reduction, reducing miles traveled, or using alternative modes of transportation!

Be on the lookout for your survey to come sometime in December!!

Clean Cities Membership…

If your organization's or business's own mission matches that of NCCC, we ask that you support our efforts by renewing your membership or joining the NCCC coalition. In turn, your membership will provide you with the following benefits:

- Free access to the *NCCC Clean Fleet* program. Includes use of Clean Cities' logo on your alternative fuel vehicles and help with a customized petroleum reduction plan.
- Business name listed on event and meeting agendas. Meeting attendance ranges from 15-100 fleet managers and others.
- Listing and active link on NCCC website. Over 70,000 hits in 2010.
- Your local petroleum reduction stories posted on NCCC website.
- Email updates on a variety of alternative fuel and fuel economy topics. Receive between 5 and 15 emails a month on funding and other petroleum reduction news. Our portfolio includes hydraulic hybrids, hybrids, idle reduction, other diesel reduction strategies, ethanol, biodiesel, CNG, and more!
- Invitation to show alternative fuel vehicles, related products, or related concepts at our events. NCCC holds 3 to 5 events a year with approximately 5-100 fleet attendees, sometimes more.
- Ability to serve on NCCC's Steering Committee. Helping to direct our alternative fuel activities here in northern Colorado.
- Timely grant announcements. Lists of alternative fuel vehicles available and other useful information.
- New customers and shared lessons from neighbor fleet managers.

Membership opportunities include:

Individual/Student Member ($50/year)
Non-profit Member ($100/year)
Regular Member ($250/year)
Statewide Member ($500/year) (if you have activities across the entire state)

To join, please visit our website at www.northcolocleancities.com to complete the online application.

If you do not have internet access, you can contact
Sheble McConnellogue at (970) 302-0914 or at northcolo@cleancitiescolorado.org.

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