



## EPA Proposes to Streamline Approval Process for Fuel Conversion Systems

Goal is to encourage innovative and environmentally-friendly conversions

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to make it easier for manufacturers to gain approval to sell fuel conversion systems. The conversion systems allow vehicles to run on alternative fuels, which may appeal to consumers concerned about energy security, fuel costs, or emissions. Under the proposed approach, compliance requirements would vary based on age of the vehicle or engine being converted. EPA has found that the compliance process for older vehicles and engines could be streamlined, while maintaining environmental safeguards. As opposed to a one-size fits all approach, requirements would now be based on whether a vehicle or engine is deemed to be new, intermediate-age, or outside its expected useful life.

Conversion systems alter an existing vehicle or engine to enable it to run on a different type of fuel, such as switching a car to run on compressed natural gas. While properly engineered conversion systems can reduce or at least not increase emissions, poorly designed systems can lead to much more pollution. Consumers may only use systems that have EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) approval.

## Clean Cities Wins Award from the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Institute

DOE's Clean Cities initiative was awarded the "Golden Bullet Award" on May 11 for its speed and success in deploying alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Annalloyd Thomason, the Executive Director of the Alternative Fuels and Vehicles Institute, presented the award to Clean Cities Director Dennis Smith at the 2010 Alternative Fuels and Vehicles National Conference and Expo. Clean Cities is responsible for managing \$300 million in Recovery Act funding to support the investments made by transit authorities, state governments, and local governments in clean vehicles and alternative fuel infrastructure. Twenty-five cost-shared projects will put more than 9,000 alternative fuel and energy efficient vehicles on the road, establish 542 refueling locations, and install more than 1,000 electric charging stations nationwide. These projects include the use of natural and renewable gas, propane, ethanol, biodiesel, electricity, and hybrid technologies and will displace 38 million gallons of petroleum annually.

## CNG Trash Collection Trucks Deployed

The NJCCC is pleased to announce that 4 additional compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trash collection trucks have been deployed as a result of the NJCCC grant from the US Department of Energy (DOE). In January 2010, the NJCCC was awarded a \$15 million grant to deploy almost 300 new vehicles which use CNG as their fuel, and to build 4 new CNG fueling stations across NJ (see article above). The first 4 of those vehicles have been deployed by project partner, Central Jersey Waste & Recycling. This brings their fleet of CNG trucks to 9. The grant covers the incremental cost of the CNG vehicle over what a diesel truck would have cost.

Once fully implemented, the project will displace approximately 1.8 million gallons of petroleum per year and will eliminate approximately 900,000 pounds of identified criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases.

## The American Power Act

The Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (S.1733) was introduced recently by U.S. Senators John Kerry and Joseph Lieberman. The bill is intended to put American ingenuity to work to dramatically improve every facet of the way America generates and uses energy. The measure would also invest widely in low-carbon technologies, renewable fuels, more efficient vehicles and mass transit. A major provision of the proposed legislation would double the current federal tax credits that are available for the purchase of natural gas-powered fleet vehicles for the next 10 years. Eligible natural gas vehicle (NGV) categories include heavy-duty trucks as well as certain fleets of shuttle vans. In addition, a provision in the pending legislation would enable municipalities to take advantage of the tax credits for their fleets.

## Diesel Equipment Retrofit Grants Available

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is offering financial assistance to fund the entire purchase price and installation of retrofit devices for off-road diesel construction equipment. According to the Utility & Transportation Contractors Association (UTCA), NJDEP has available approximately \$600,000 and expects to receive an additional \$700,000 over the next two years. In order to qualify for these grant funds, contractors need to be involved in a publicly-funded construction project through the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust (NJEIT), Department of Transportation (NJDOT), NJ Turnpike Authority, or NJ Transit. The project must be located in an urban area within New Jersey, and the contractor must commit to have the retrofit device remain on their equipment for a minimum of three years with at least 50% of the equipment's time used in New Jersey. For further information, contact Robert Marcolina at [Robert.Marcolina@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Robert.Marcolina@dep.state.nj.us) or Amy Hillman at [amy.hillman@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:amy.hillman@dep.state.nj.us).

## Check Your Air Quality

Check your local air quality on the NJDEP's Air Monitoring website (<http://www.njaqinow.net/>) or by subscribing to EnviroFlash, ([www.enviroflash.info](http://www.enviroflash.info)), an online alert system, to receive critical air quality information straight to your email inbox or cell phone. New Jersey is participating in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) contest between state agencies during the month of May to see who can achieve the greatest increase in the number of subscribers to EnviroFlash. The "EnviroFlash Challenge" began May 3 and ends May 31 but the general public can subscribe anytime.

## BJ's Wholesale Club Fundraiser

BJ's will make a donation to the New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition for each BJ's membership sold or renewed to members of the NJCCC! Please take notice that this offer is extended to all employees, friends and family members. This offer is not available online or at store locations. To participate in these savings and extra months, and to help raise funds for the NJCCC, please call Sarina Mulleavey, BJ's Representative, at 201-874-0998. As a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, the NJCCC relies on the support of our members to help fund our activities. Please help us out by taking advantage of this great offer!

## Recent NJCCC Events

The NJCCC helped coordinate an alternative fuel and advanced technology **vehicle fair** at the Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation (CAIT) at Rutgers University Busch Campus on April 24. We had about a dozen vehicles on display including a Tesla roadster, a CNG-fueled Garbage collection truck and other exciting new vehicles. The Fair was very well received and it went a long way to demonstrating that alternative fuel vehicles are here and available now. Thanks to all who participated!

The NJCCC organized a panel discussion at the 34th Annual New Jersey State Transportation Conference & Expo held on April 28, 29, 30, 2010. More than 1,000 people, from more than 22 states and Canada, attended this Conference & Expo, with approximately 60 in attendance for our panel. The panel discussion on **Alternative Fuels Deployment in NJ** included NJCCC members: Chuck Feinberg of Greener by Design & the NJCCC; Joe Biluck of the Medford (NJ) School District, Graham Barker of Air & Gas Technologies; and, Paul Heitman of eTec, and was moderated by Evie Wills of American Bus and Coach.

Chuck Feinberg participated on a panel about the NJCCC and our \$15 million DOE grant at the AF&V national conference in Las Vegas. In its sixteenth year, AF&V 2010 is the DOE industry event representing all fuels, vehicles and technologies that provide an alternative to petroleum. This fuel and technology neutral Conference brought industry experts, transportation leaders and policy makers together to help fleet managers and other decision makers sort through which fuels and vehicles make the most sense for them. The conference showcased natural gas, ethanol, biodiesel, propane, electricity, and hydrogen, and their companion vehicles. The NJCCC was well represented, with several other NJCCC members at the conference.

Chuck also spoke at a New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) **Green Energy Forum** at NJNG's headquarters in Wall, NJ. This forum highlighted ways to save energy and money in municipal operations, including recent changes to the Sustainable Jersey™ program. A second forum is planned for Morris County later this spring.

## SAVE THE DATES!

In conjunction with the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA), the NJCCC is planning two workshops to provide education on the use of **Ethanol and Flex Fueled Vehicles**. With more than 100,000 Flex Fueled Vehicles registered in New Jersey, it is time we get serious about increasing the availability of appropriate blends of ethanol. The dates of the workshops are September 14 and 15, the first will be at the offices of the Atlantic County Utilities Authority in Little Egg Harbor, and the second will be hosted by Bayshore Recycling at their Eco-Campus in Keasbey. More info to come as it gets closer.

## Other Items of Interest

The next US Business Council for Sustainable Development ([www.usbc.org](http://www.usbc.org)) Midatlantic ByProduct Synergy Meeting will be held on May 18, 2010 at Bayshore Recycling in Keasbey, starting at 9 am (with light refreshments at 8:30). Advance registration required as seating will be limited. Parking Pass required to enter site. Contact Ed Russick at [erussick@gti-e.com](mailto:erussick@gti-e.com).

Energy Vision is hosting a seminar and reception on May 27 in NYC entitled, "Natural Gas on Trial". The evening will feature expert presentations on discussion on a variety of topics of concern relating to the need for increased use of natural gas for long term energy security and economic renewal in the US. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Jennifer Fortin at [fortin@energy-vision.org](mailto:fortin@energy-vision.org).

The second annual Northeast Sustainable Communities Workshop will be held in Newark at NJIT on June 17th. This promises to be an informative conference about best practices in brownfields redevelopment and the topics will be of interest to community members, developers, economic development professionals and public officials. Please visit <http://nscw.net> for details and to register. Workshop Partners include: NJDEP, PADEP, CTDEP, NYC Office of Environmental Remediation, Newark Sustainability Office, and others.

NJ CLEAN CITIES COALITION is a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to the advancement of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies in order to increase domestic energy security, enhance economic development and improve regional air quality. We rely on membership fees and sponsorships to carry out our activities.  
**Please help support our activities!**

[www.njcleancities.org](http://www.njcleancities.org)