Subject: Virginia Clean Cities Stakeholder Update - Spring 2010

**Date:** Thursday, April 22, 2010 12:27 PM **From:** Chelsea Jenkins <cjenkins@hrccc.org>

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**Conversation:** Virginia Clean Cities Stakeholder Update - Spring 2010



# Stakeholder Update

Spring 2010

An Update on Clean Transportation Happenings and Opportunities

**Quick Links** 

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### **PLATINUM**







Spring 2010 Stakeholder Update

Dear Virginia Clean Cities Stakeholder,

We've had a busy start to the year, and are excited to introduce you to new staff, update you on the progress of some of our projects, and give you a heads up about some upcoming meetings and events.

In this update, you can read about:

- The VCC incredible new team members
- EPA Renewable Fuel Standard 2
- EPA CAFE Standards
- VCC Social Media Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube
- Funding Still Available for Green Operators Program
- Propane Corner
- Biodiesel Blog
- Updates from National Conferences
- Energy Independence Days 2010
- Spring 2010 Edition Out of Southeastern Fuels Fix
- Technical Response Service Question of the Month
- Virginia Clean Cities Projects News Roundup
- Legislative Update
- Upcoming conferences and trainings: The Alternative Fuels and Vehicles National Conference and Expo, Virginia Alternate Fuels Workshop, Natural Gas Vehicles Workshop, Biodiesel Fleet Workshop, and The Commonwealth of Virginia Energy and Sustainability





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Happy Reading!

Chelsea Jenkins

Director, Virginia Clean Cities

Virginia Clean Cities Transition Complete with the Addition of New Team Members

Virginia Clean Cities is proud to announce two new members of our team. In March, Georgiana Ball joined us to serve as Project Manager for our Southeast Propane Development Program. Georgiana has more than 20 years experience with state government and project management focused on resource conservation and promotion of green institutional practices. She also has extensive experience with policy development and compliance, as well as program outreach and training. Georgiana has worked with a variety of organizations in the public and nonprofit sector related to infrastructure development. We are very excited to add Georgiana to our team where she will lead the Southeast Propane Corridor Development Program from the Richmond region. Contact Georgiana.

Peter Denbigh joined our team as Project Officer for the Southeast Propane Development Program to assist the more than 40 diverse partners involved with the project. He has a passion for transportation that ranges from his volunteer work at the JMU Alternative Fuel Vehicle lab to racing his homebuilt racecar on road courses in the Mid-Atlantic region. At the JMU AFV lab, he led a team that converted a Chevy S-10 to a full battery electric vehicle for use at Shenandoah National Park. He has a love of technology and background in entrepreneurship and management as demonstrated through his creation and management of three IT companies. Peter is currently completing his MBA at James Madison University. Contact Peter.

We would also like to introduce our extremely talented intern Jamison. Jamison Walker is a Junior Integrated Science and Technology major at James Madison University. Jamison hails from Virginia Beach and has a keen interest in alternative fuels and advanced transportation technologies. Currently, he is actively communicating with several fleets in Virginia and preparing to analyze driver patterns and fueling information as we deploy idle reduction equipment in two school districts. Jamison has also spearheaded an initiative to track and synthesize E85 fueling pricing and availability at public Virginia

fueling stations.

Social Media - Facebook, Twitter and YouTube

Virginia Clean Cities has launched a Facebook group, a Twitter page, and a YouTube Channel. We will regularly post interesting articles, events, and funding opportunities using these tools. You can also post comments and reach us by posting through those pages.



You can find us on Facebook by <u>clicking here</u>. Or, you can search for Virginia Clean Cities from within Facebook.

You can find us on Twitter @vacleancities http://twitter.com/vacleancities

We also launched a <u>Virginia Clean Cities YouTube Channel</u>. You can view our MotorWeek Hydrogen Market Snapshot video as well as several others that are posted. If you have any cool videos related to alt fuels, please send them on!

### **EPA Renewable Fuel Standard 2 and Fleet Standards**

The Environmental Protection Agency released its final RFS2 ruling based on the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA), the agency has determined that the 2010 renewable fuel volume standard is going to be 12.95 billion gallons (bg), or 8.25% of all fuel. In addition, they set standards for specific fuels, with cellulosic ethanol at 6.5 million gallons (mg) and biomass based diesel at 1.15 billion gallons (bg).

They also determined which fuels meet the new standards for greenhouse gas reduction, including indirect land use impacts. See the bottom of this email for the Clean Cities Question of the Month which discusses this topic in depth.

The EPA also established new historic federal rules for increasingly improved fuel economy standards under the Corporate Average Fuel Economy program and greenhouse gas emission standards under the Clean Air Act for 2012-2016 model year vehicles.

Starting with 2012 model year vehicles, rules require automakers to improve fleet efficiency reaching an estimated 34.1 mpg for the combined industry-wide fleet for model year 2016.

EPA estimates that with these incremental improvements, vehicle purchases in model year 2016 will represent an average \$3,000 net savings for each vehicle throughout the vehicle lifetime as technology costs are offset by lower fuel costs. These improvements represent \$2.3 billion dollars that can stay at home in our economy rather than buying oil from overseas. For more information, check out the <u>EPA's press release</u>.

### **Propane Corner**

# Southeast Propane Autogas Development Program About to Take Off

April 17th marked a milestone moment in the propane corridor project. Over 40 stakeholders, from as far away as Colorado and Texas, convened at VCC's James Madison University office to participate in a project kickoff meeting. The event began Thursday evening with a reception at the beautiful JMU Arboretum. Friday's main topics focused around the current status, what the

immediate next steps were, and the big picture view of the implementation of this historic project. The energy was contagious and the spirits were high as we all saw the scope and potential of this initiative unfold. We are fortunate to have such quality partners and stakeholders, and we are all looking forward to watching this massive project unfold!

The Southeast Propane Autogas Development Program is a unique, progressive project aimed at building the infrastructure and impetus for public and private vehicle operators to convert existing vehicles from conventional gasoline to clean propane autogas. A network of conversion centers with highly trained certified technicians will convert almost 1,200 active fleet vehicles to propane, resulting in the immediate displacement of approximately 16 million gallons of gasoline over the four-year project period and the establishment of a solid base of alternative fuel vehicles across the Southeast. In addition to vehicle conversions, this program will implement over 17 propane fueling stations along high-impact roadways from Washington, D.C. to Florida to Mississippi in the development of the nation's first Propane AutoGas Corridor.

Propane: Propane, Liquid Petroleum Gas, or AutoGas is an alternative vehicle fuel that is available and a viable transportation fuel. The efforts to complete this ambitious project will be carried out by companies proven to possess the experience and expertise required to develop strong alternative fueling corridors through 9 southeastern states.

### **New Certifications**

The EPA recently certified that 2010 ROUSH E-150, E-250, and E-350 LPI system conforms to the Federal emissions standards in place for the control of air pollution from New Motor Vehicles. Production and shipment of conversion systems and of ROUSH-built vehicles can commence immediately. The EPA certification covers the 2010 model year Ford E-150, E-250, and E-350 cargo vans, wagons, and certain cutaway configurations with a GVWR of up to 10,000 pounds (the Heavy Duty Vehicle 1 classification), utilizing the Ford 5.4L, 2V V-8 engine.

### **Propane Engine Fuel Summit Live Webcast Now Archived**

If you missed the <u>2010 Propane Engine Fuel Summit</u>, that's okay because all of the live webcast presentations were recorded and are now available for viewing online. Visit the site to view the archived versions.

# Fuels Fix, Spring 2010

The Spring edition of the *Southeastern Fuels Fix* is now available. This publication includes regional and Virginia discussions and serves as an excellent resource. The current e-zine can be found online at <a href="https://www.fuelsfix.com">www.fuelsfix.com</a>



What's inside the Spring 2010 edition of the Fix:

- · EPA-certified E85 Conversions Come to Market
- · NAFTC Works on Outreach & Education (Can you say "Odyssey?")
- · Lead Article Don "Zeus" Francis Knows Electric Cars
- · Startup Lowering the Price of Biofuels At-the-Pump and Reducing Diesel Emissions
- · Gettin' Gaseous in Asheville
- · Fuel Efficiency Gains At Palm Tran
- · Charlotte Moves on Electric Vehicles
- · Greenhouse Gas Reductions from Alternative Fuels A Review
- · Alt Fuels Genesis in South Carolina
- · plus much more...

Funding Still Available for Green Operators (GO) Program

The Green Operators Program provides funding to retrofit or replace older dray trucks serving

the Virginia Port Authority. The improved emissions for these trucks help the Port achieve goals for reducing air pollution and greenhouse gasses associated with transport of goods.

There is still funding available for independent owner-operators as well as trucking firms interested in cleaning up their dray truck fleets.

To find out more about the program, visit the VPA GO website.

Current GO Trucking Firms:
Andy's Trucking
Century Express
Evan's Delivery, Inc.
GILCO Trucking
C & K Intermodal Trucking
GTL Transport
D.D. Jones Transportation Services



### **Biodiesel Blog**

# Virginia Clean Cities to Help Launch Biodiesel Grant Program ... As Soon as Tax Credit Reinstated

VCC worked with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality last year to secure \$350,000 of State Clean Diesel Program funding to assist with the equalization of biodiesel pricing to that of petroleum diesel. The lapse in the tax credit has held up the launch of the program.

The biodiesel tax incentive expired on December 31, 2009. The tax incentive is designed to make biodiesel price competitive with conventional diesel fuel, and is structured as an excise tax credit that allows the value of the incentive to be recognized immediately in the market price of the biodiesel. Thus, expiration of the tax incentive has significantly challenged the production and use of biodiesel in the U.S. and has placed the 23,000 jobs that are currently supported by the domestic biodiesel industry in immediate jeopardy. Both the House and Senate have passed bills to retroactively extend the biodiesel tax credit. However, the two chambers must still reconcile the differences between the two versions of the bill before it can be sent to the President.

If you would like to be added to a list for updates, please contact us at info@hrccc.org.

Virginia Clean Cities Blogs at National Conferences



Virginia Clean Cities has posted blogs from the EDTA and National Ethanol Conferences. All conference blogs can also be found from our main page. Direct links below:

Electric Drive Transportation Association (EDTA) 2010 Conference and Annual Meeting: January, 2010 VCC EDTA blog link

National Ethanol Conference: February, 2010 VCC NEC Conference blog link.

**Energy Independence Days 2010** 

Energy Independence Days (EID) is a partnership between coalitions and industry supporters of the almost 90 Clean Cities coalitions that exist all over the United States. EID 2010 was February 28 - March 3. The main activities were a day-long educational seminar on March 1 followed by educational meetings and briefings with federal policymakers on March 2. Virginia

Clean Cities was able to meet with 10 members of the Virgina Congressional Delegation and their staff to discuss Virginia alternate fuel happenings and issues. Please visit the <a href="Transportation Energy Partners">Transportation Energy Partners</a> site (http://transportationenergypartners.org/) for more information about EID, and how you can support the 2011 event.

**Upcoming Conferences and Events** 

May 9-12, 2010: The Alternative Fuels and Vehicles National Conference and Expo is scheduled for May 9-12, in Las Vegas. This is the largest Alternative Fuels and Vehicle event in the country, and is a great networking event.

May 20, 2010: Virginia Clean Cities is co-hosting a Virginia Alternate Fuels Workshop with the national trade associations of the alternative fuels industry. This workshop will be hosted at the TV Worldwide studio in Chantilly, VA and will be broadcast live for free May 20, 2010. The workshop will cover many topics on all fuels, including fuel quality, infrastructure, available vehicles, sustainability, energy balance, safety, and environmental impacts. Those involved in transportation or fleet management, alternative fuels, or are looking to become involved, are strongly encouraged to attend this full day of information. The full day event will cover the national and Virginia Clean Cities market overview, biodiesel, propane, natural gas, ethanol, incentives and funding prospects. Website: <a href="http://www.altfuelsalliance.org/">http://www.altfuelsalliance.org/</a>

May 26, 2010: The Compelling Case for Natural Gas Vehicles is a comprehensive one day workshop for public and private fleet operators and clean-air/clean-transportation policy makers. This workshop will be held at the Crystal City Hilton at Reagan National Airport. Please visit <a href="http://www.cleanvehicle.org/workshop/Arlington.shtml">http://www.cleanvehicle.org/workshop/Arlington.shtml</a> to register. Fee covers course materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment break.

June 16, 2010: VCC is hosting a biodiesel workshop for fleets and end users in Hampton Roads, Virginia on June 16, 2010. More information to come.

October 12-14, 2010: The Commonwealth of Virginia Energy and Sustainability Conference (COVES) is scheduled for October 12-14 at the Stuart C. Siegel Center in Richmond. This conference features technology innovations, economic development approaches, and policy solutions to enhance Virginia's role in creating a secure clean energy future.

October 15, 2010: National Alternate Fuel Vehicle Day Odyssey is scheduled for October 15 at several locations throughout the Commonwealth including Harrisonburg Virginia and the Hampton Roads region. Please stay tuned for additional information. These events will showcase alternative transportation technologies and educate a wide range of attendees. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For information about sponsorship, please contact aharned@hrccc.org.

**VCC Project Related News** 

### **Idle Reduction Pilot Programs**

VCC is working with Gloucester County and Virginia Beach Public Schools to launch idle reduction programs. Both programs will make use of aftermarket auxiliary heaters used to warm up engines and passenger compartments and includes timers to automatically start the heating function. VCC will collect and analyze data to determine how effective these devices are at reducing idling. VCC also prepared a briefing paper on options for implementing an idle reduction program, including curriculum, technology options, and education/outreach. If you are interested in piloting an idle reduction program in your school, or fleet, please contact us for more information.

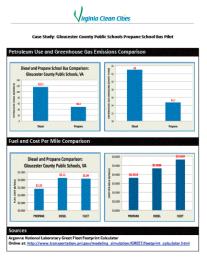
# **VA-MD-DC E85 Infrastructure Project**

Funding is still available to subsidize the cost to install infrastructure related to the retail sale of

E85. Alleyn attended the National Ethanol Conference in February and posted industry updates from the conference. Virginia and Maryland E85 prices at all public E85 stations are now being tracked consistently online at <a href="mailto:e85prices.com">e85prices.com</a>.

# **Hydrogen Education for Decision Makers Project**

VCC will host a series of "Hydrogen 101" seminars and electronic webinars and in the spring and summer. In addition, we may be able to provide hydrogen education as a for credit course for those interested in continuing education credits. Please contact usfor more information.



### **Propane School Buses Showing Favorable Results**

Virginia Clean Cities has been working with Gloucester County to collect and analyze data related to their 5 propane school bus demonstration launched last fall. Download a <u>fact sheet</u> we created to give some background on the program, the Gloucester fleet, and some of the exciting results we are seeing!

Virginia Clean Cities is also working with Spotsylvania County Public Schools on a propane school bus demonstration made possible through EPA National Clean Diesel Campaign ARRA Funding. Spotsylvania expects the delivery of their 4 Blue Bird propane buses in late April, marking the second propane school bus fleet in Virginia.

Vegina Cleae Cities / at James Madison University / 701 Carrier Orive, HHS 0301 / MSC 4115 / Harmsonburg, VA 22807

Clean Cities Question of the Month - Feb, March and April 2010

**Question of the Month**: What is the process for registering fuels with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and which conventional fuels and fuel additives are currently registered?

### Answer:

**Download Answer Here** 

**Question of the Month:** What are the changes to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) that resulted from the recent EPA rulemaking?

### Answer:

Download Answer Here

### Question of the Month:

How does the recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rulemaking define renewable fuels? Which fuels has EPA determined qualify under the new categories of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)?

### Answer:

**Download Answer Here** 

Virginia Legislative Update

Below is a listing of some of the alternative fuel legislation in the 2010 General Assembly Session.

Senator Whipple has introduced <u>SB272</u>: **Biodiesel and green diesel**; **procurement by state public bodies.** This amended bill requires analysis of negligible volumes of biodiesel procurement by DGS by October 2011.

- This legislation was amended significantly and passed by the Senate and House.

Senator Whipple also introduced <u>SB269</u>: **Driver education programs; fuel efficient driving practices.** This bill requires the Board of Education to include fuel-efficient driving practices as part of the driver education curriculum.

- With amendments, this legislation was passed by Senate and House.

Delegate Poindexter submitted <u>HB806</u>: **Virginia Alternative Fuels Revolving Fund**. This bill adds improvement of infrastructure such as refueling stations as a goal of the Fund and requires that the Commissioner aggressively pursue grants and other sources of funding for the Fund.

- This legislation was unanimously passed by both houses of the General Assembly and was signed by the Governor.

Delegate Sherwood submitted <u>HB1322</u>: **Waste kitchen grease**; **transportation**; **fees**; **penalty**. This bill requires any person who transports waste kitchen grease to register with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services unless he qualifies for an individual exemption. Registrants must pay annual fees of \$100 for registration and \$100 per vehicle used to transport waste kitchen grease.

- This legislation was amended but these new fees were approved by both House and Senate.

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