

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Gazette

Driving the way toward energy independence
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Waste Management Opens CNG Facility

Waste Management opened a new public-access compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station in the City of Washington in November after christening its 1000th natural gas powered trash hauler earlier in the summer. Waste Management currently operates the largest NGV fleet of recycling and waste collection trucks in North America.

The new "Clean N' Green Fuel" public fueling station will sell CNG to commercial fleets as well as individuals with CNG-equipped vehicles. The self-service station, located at 200 Rangos Lane, near the intersection of routes I-70 and I-79, will be open 24/7 and will accept Visa/Mastercard, and

Wright Express as well as Clean N' Green fleet cards. The PA Department of Environmental Protection awarded Waste Management \$700,000 in Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant funds to help support the station project.

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that using CNG reduces a vehicle's particulate matter emissions by 86 percent, carbon monoxide emissions by 80 percent, nitrogen oxide emissions by up to 32 percent, and greenhouse emissions by 25 percent. CNG trucks also run 50 percent more quietly than diesel trucks.

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President's Corner

2011 was a remarkable year for the region as interest in and adoption of alternative fueling options grew dramatically. PRCC has been very fortunate in growing just as dramatically, as our membership more than doubled, and our stakeholder group grew to nearly 500.

As we move into 2012, I would like to offer my thanks to the Board of Directors – the time you commit to the organization and the leadership that you and your organizations show in helping to reduce our dependence on imported oil and improving our air quality sets the benchmark to which others can aspire. Our Board has also grown, and now boasts fifteen members.

Thanks also go to Rick Price, our Executive Direc-

tor and Coordinator. Only through his high energy and dedication were we able to achieve the critical redesignation of our coalition through the US Department of Energy, convene enormously successful events such as Odyssey Day, two stakeholders meetings, and a host of workshops and seminars, and help bring millions of dollars in public and private investment to bear on the building of infrastructure and vehicle related purchases. We are indeed fortunate that he has come to us in his “retirement.”

And of course, I would like to congratulate our members and stakeholders for being the leaders that you are in promoting and adopting alternative fuel solutions. Together we can make 2012 even better!

Member Highlight: Carley Lang

While Carley Lang was not officially a member of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities, she has served as an intern with us since early this spring. Carley came to us under the DOE Intern Program that is run by the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory. Carley, who graduated from Penn State University this past May, has made an impact on PRCC's ability to communicate with our members, stakeholders and the general public. She revamped the webpage, making our website much easier to navigate and also making it much more content rich.

As part of the program she had to

take some of the same classes that our Executive Director had to take, allowing her to better understand our mission and responsibilities under the DOE Clean Cities Program. Carley was working a part-time internship with the Bayer Corporation while she was with us and has now been asked to extend her internship to 40 hours a week. Therefore we regretfully will be losing her services. It has been a great experience to have someone as dedicated as Carley. Please join PRCC in extending our appreciation to what she has done and wishing her the best at Bayer!



Waste Management CNG (cont.)

Waste Management of Western Pennsylvania recently acquired 25 CNG collection trucks and expects to have 40 CNG vehicles in service by next year, representing nearly half its Washington, Greene and Allegheny counties. The vehicles will help Waste Management achieve its goal of reducing fleet emissions by 15 percent and increasing fuel efficiency by 15 percent by 2020.



US Steel & Union Railroad Test Engines

United States Steel (USS) has been testing new engine designs from a number of manufacturers. USS contacted Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities to ride along with them as they tested one of the new “repowered” engines. Art Griffin, a consultant for USS, and his team have been testing a number of engines to determine the best fit for their purposes. They have received a grant to repower an engine at the USS operation in Gary, Indiana.

Union Rail Road, which is a subsidiary of USS, owns about 32 engines, and USS owns an additional four. PRCC was able to talk with them about USS’s engine testing and future plans. The new engine that they were testing at the time utilizes a system of multiple independent motor-generator sets which automatically shut down if they are not

required under the current load conditions. Traditional engines have a single, large motor-generator set that runs all the time. This innovation could be a great saving for USS and could reduce their diesel fuel usage by almost half if it meets their performance requirements.

Art and the team have been evaluating a number of different manufacturers and will soon be making a decision on which engine best fits their needs and once the new equipment is deployed, they can start to reduce the amount of diesel consumed. It should be noted that USS has already installed a CNG station inside the Irvin Works and has a number of vehicles running on CNG.



Penn Future Green Power Awards Luncheon

The Citizens for Pennsylvania Future (PennFuture) held their annual Green Power Awards Luncheon on October 27, 2011 at the Fairmont Hotel. The Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities received a “Green Power: Move It” award for promoting and build infrastructure for the use of alternative fuels in the Pittsburgh and surrounding areas. The awards were presented by Christine Simeone, Director, PennFuture Energy Center, and Heather Sage, Vice President of PennFuture.

A number of PRCC’s stakeholders also received awards including:

- Eaton Corporation received a ” Green Power: Make It” award for Eaton’s work on developing clean energy technologies and electric vehicle charging stations, and for installation of a Solar Carport at its Warrendale Facility;
- Allegheny County received a “Green Power: Save It” award for the County’s Sustainability Plan for LED lighting at the Allegheny County Jail and a solar thermal array at the Ross Hill Senior Residence facility;
- Carnegie Mellon’s Charge Car received a “Green Power: Move It” award for community-centered teamwork aimed at making electric vehicles practical and affordable; and
- Fossil Free Fuel received a “Green Power: Move It” award for producing renewable fuels.



Fyda Freightliner Moves to CNG and Propane

For over two years FYDA Freightliner of Pittsburgh has been working on moving vehicles over to alternative fuels through FYDA Energy Solutions. Working with Prins and Hardstaff conversion products, FYDA is now converting light and medium duty vehicles over to bi-fuel or dual fuel, utilizing gasoline, compressed natural gas, or propane. Paul Naman, President of FYDA Energy Solutions, states that they have constructed a compressed natural gas station at their location (right off the I-79 S Houston exit). Now through a new agreement with Alliance Autogas, FYDA has almost completed their new propane refueling station.

FYDA has been working with Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities to get demonstration vehicles in the hands of fleet managers to test drive. The Borough of Monaca was the first to receive on loan a demonstration bi-

fuel propane vehicle. Demonstration vehicles will be instrumental in supporting fleet conversion to alternative fuel vehicles and the purchase of new alternative fuel vehicles. It is vitally important that fleet owners are able to test drive alternative fuel vehicles to gain a better understanding of their capacities in addition to seeing and hearing about alternative fuel vehicles at events.

Tim Hooker, Director of Business Development of FYDA Energy Solutions, attributes the growing interest in alternative fuels to the unfavorable economic trends in traditional fuel. FYDA expects to hire more employees in the future with all of the work that is anticipated from companies wanting to move to natural gas and propane.

AFS Provides \$1 Million to Fleet Operators

In today's hectic market of rising fuel costs, fleet operators are facing some difficult questions, including: "Can my organization really benefit from the use of alternative fuels? Also, which alternative fuel should I use and how much will it cost?" American Fueling Systems (AFS), a Georgia based alternative fuels development and consulting company, is seeking to provide those answers to fleet managers. American fueling Systems has announced that they are setting aside \$1,000,000 to fund a Cooperative Agreement (CA) with Fleet Companies. This CA will provide fleet owners with a detailed alternative fuel feasibility study specific to their fleet operations so that they can get those

questions answered with a detailed plan on how to make the transition.

"Every fleet operator in the country is looking for solutions to their rising fuel costs," said Rahim Charania CEO of AFS. "By setting this money aside for fleet companies we are offering our expertise, experience, and market knowledge to help them evaluate the best course of action in their transition to alternative fuels. In addition, our feasibility study will provide fleet managers and owners the tools and information to maximize the benefits of the transition."

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AFS Provides \$1 Million (cont.)

The services provided under this Cooperative Agreement will result in detailed alternative fuel feasibility studies for award recipients; thereby, providing fleet operators with actionable alternative fueling solutions. In addition, award recipients will better understand their capital costs, return on investments, paybacks, and operational benefits.” said Jorge Maroto COO of AFS. This in-depth analysis of their unique fueling behavior would normally cost them \$10,000 to \$25,000. We provide this service free of charge to applicants who are awarded the CA. In today’s economy, that is a deal you cannot turn away from.”

Fuel costs have been steadily rising for the past 5 years at an average rate of over 6% a year. In 2011 the national average for regular unleaded topped at \$3.76 per gallon. The national average for diesel was even higher at \$3.99 per gallon. This escalated and rapid rate of increased fuel pricing has put a tremendous strain on many small to medium sized fleets and is becoming more of a burden for larger fleets.

Many organizations have already made their commitment to transition to alternative fuels. AT&T and several other fortune 500 companies have started to move their fleet in the direction of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). In addition, local municipalities like DeKalb County’s refuse trucks are also making the switch to CNG. The market demand for other fuels, such as Propane (LPG), is also increasing along with new technology to reduce fuel usage and better utilize engines.

“All of these technologies and types of fuel will play a big part in weaning our nation off of its dependence on foreign oil. We agree with market experts when they state that with the continued unrest in the Middle East and increasing demand for oil in emerging markets, demand and therefore price will continue to increase.” commented Rahim Charania.

At the current price of oil at around \$100 per barrel, alternative fuels are making more and more sense. Fleet operators are seeing several alternative fuels

that can be used to reduce their petroleum dependence, such as CNG, Propane, Bio-Diesel and battery powered.

Each fuel comes with its own pros and cons, one of the biggest being accessibility. While CNG and propane may be viable alternatives for a fleet, the question that follows is “where do I fuel.” AFS is one of a few industry leaders who are working diligently to ensure that the time for a question like that is coming to an end. “We believe in a dual approach to the growth of this industry,” said Rahim Charania. “The first is to present the facts about different fuels to fleet management so that they can understand the benefits and costs. Second, build and operate fueling facilities that would cater to these organizations and their fuel needs.”

With new programs incentivizing the conversion to alternative fuels coming in 2012 and an expectation that gas will be back to \$3.50 a gallon by the first of the year; more companies are seeing alternative fuels as a real option to protect their businesses for the future. AFS will begin taking applications from fleet operators for their Cooperative Agreement on January 15, 2012. You can download an application package at their website www.americanfuelingsystems.com.



Zoresco is Hitting Its Stride



Buzz Tabone is the Vice President of Sales and is responsible for the compressed natural gas program that is growing at a great pace at Zoresco Equipment. Zoresco is an authorized upfitter for BAF, IMPCO and Landi Renzo which provide upfitting for Ford and General Motors. Zoresco has been around for almost 30 years under the strong leadership of its owner, Vic Tedesco. Zoresco is currently in the process of converting over 60 vehicles for EQT.

Zoresco has the ability to design and build all necessary parts and accessories for many of the special designs required by companies on their vehicles. While Zoresco has been known for years for their accessories - from snow plows to lift gates - it now can now add compressed natural gas conversions to its offerings. Zoresco is planning for significant growth in alternative fuels and will be expanding its Turtle Creek based operations in the region.

PRCC at Western Area CTC Career Fair

On Dec. 6, the Tri-County Oil & Gas Expo Committee, Southwest Training Services Inc., Job Training for Beaver County, and Western Area Career & Technology Center brought together nearly 700 students and teachers from the area's high schools with nearly 40 companies to talk about career opportunities in the local oil and gas industry. The event was designed to focus on career opportunities and develop a pipeline of the future workers in the industry.

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities was invited to attend and brought a 2012 Compressed Natural Gas Honda Civic that was on loan from Gladstein Nedross Associates (Honda). Joe Balaban, WACTC's auto mechanics instructor, showed students a diesel engine test stand and how the test stand could be used to test students' ability to di-

agnose engine problems. Rick Price talked about different types of CNG fueling, vehicle range, and CNG fueling prices and invited questions from the students.



Tulsa Flyer Makes a Stop in Pittsburgh

The Tulsa Flyer, an 800 mile range CNG vehicle, traveled 2867 miles from Santa Monica California to our nation's capital to demonstrate the viability of NGVs. The journey began with a trip from Tulsa, Oklahoma to Los Angeles and only required one refill along the way. On this first leg of its journey, it only cost \$185 to travel the more than 3,000 miles round-trip back to Tulsa. This amazing vehicle and its driver, Allie McHughes, are proof that CNG represents a solid alternative to expensive imported petroleum-based fuels.

Making 17 stops in cities like Las Vegas, Oklahoma City, Nashville, New York City, Columbus, and Indianapolis, it finally arrived in Pittsburgh on Octo-

ber 28th. Rick Price, Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Executive Director, and Arthur West from ShopNGV.com. were there to meet Ted Massad of CNG Oklahoma and Ms. McHughes when they came to fill up at the EQT CNG Station at 2926 Smallman Street in the Strip District. Arthur West stated that besides the clean burning characteristics of natural methane gas, its abundance, especially in Oklahoma, was the impetus for the Tulsa Flyer's Drive Across America.

The Drive Across America Tour was sponsored by ShopNGV.Com, Chesapeake Energy, CNG Source, and Clean NG.



South Hills Municipalities Test CNG

Over a three week period in the month of December, three South Hills municipalities had a chance to test a 2012 Compressed Natural Gas Honda Civic that was provided to the Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities by Honda Representative Gladstein, Nedross and Associates (GNA). Barbara Bentano, Senior Associate at GNA, states that "we understand that the way to get these vehicles on the road in Pennsylvania is to let folks drive them." GNA has three new 2012 Honda Civics to demo in the Northeast United States. Presently there are no dealerships with CNG vehicles in Pennsylvania. EQT and Giant Eagle purchased their CNG vehicles in Maryland. The test vehicle provided a great opportunity for these townships to see how a CNG vehicle performs.



2012 an “Electric” Year for EV Industry

After the Nissan LEAF and Chevy Volts success in 2011 new EVs could provide competition for car buyers’ attention. Pike Research predicts that more than 250,000 plug-in vehicles will be purchased worldwide in 2012, largely because new EVs from automakers like Ford, Toyota, and Tesla will provide EV car buyers with greater choices in style, brand, size, performance, and price.

10. **LEAF** and **Volt** (\$32,780/\$41,000) – Although released in 2011, GM and Nissan will be expanding their EV markets in 2012. GM expects to roll out Volts to Canada and the UK in 2012. The LEAF should be available in all 50 states by March of 2012.



9. **Smart ForTwo Electric Drive** (Sept. 2012) – Daimler reports that it will launch its third-generation Smart ForTwo Electric Drive to 30 markets around the world in September 2012.



8. **Honda Fit EV** (Summer 2012/\$36,625) – The Fit EV will be partially released, with only a few hundred cars to be sold in Oregon and parts of California this summer. Over the next three years Honda plans to produce 1,100 Fit EVs.



7. **Mitsubishi i-MiEV** (July 2012/\$29,125) – Although Mitsubishi has already been shipping its i-MiEV in Japan and to the UK for several months, a nationwide US rollout is scheduled for July 2012. The i-MiEV is an affordable addition to the nation’s EV portfolio with a \$29,125 list price before state and federal incentives.



6. **Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid** (Spring 2012/2013) – The Plug-in Prius will be available in 15 states in spring 2012 with nationwide available in 2013. The Plug-in Prius will have the highest MPG rating in the Prius family.



5. **Ford Focus Electric** (Spring 2012/\$39,995) – The Focus Electric will be the first pure EV released by one of the Big 3 automakers in spring

“Electric” Year for EV Industry (cont.)

2012. Much like the Nissan LEAF the Focus Electric will offer around 100 miles of range. The Focus Electric will offer some additional features to the LEAF with a high speed on-board charger, an actively liquid cooled and heated battery pack, and a high customizable gauge cluster.



4. **Fisker Karma** (2012/\$106,000) – The 2012 Top Gear Car of the Year has seen numerous production delays but should be release of its \$106,000 luxury EV this year. Similar to the Tesla Model S the Karma boasts a 400 hp electric drive motor, a sub 6 seconds 0-60 time, and a top speed of 125 mph.



3. **Toyota RAV 4 EV** (mid-2012) – This joint venture between Toyota and Tesla is scheduled for sale in mid-2012 but, initial sales will be limited to California.



2. **Ford C-Max Energi** (2012) – The C-Max Energi is a plug-in hybrid version of the Ford C-Max wagon. This plug-in is scheduled for a 2012 release in North America and a 2013 release in Europe. Ford expects the C-Max Energi to top the Prius plug-in's electric only mode rating of 87-mpge (miles per gallon equivalent).



1. **Tesla Model S** (mid-2012/\$57,900) – Deliveries begin in mid-2012 for the lucky 6,500 reservation holders for the Tesla Model S. With the Tesla Supercharger a 50 percent charge can be achieved in 30 minutes. With a 300 mile range, 0-60 in 5.6 seconds, and a top speed of 125 mph the Tesla Model S is not your father's Nissan LEAF.

The list of ten new electric vehicles that will be available next year was adapted from a December 26, 2011 article entitled Electric Cars Coming in 2012, written by Patrick Connor and published at plugincars.com.



Upcoming Events

CCAC West Hills

An Introduction to Hybrid Vehicles (3 CEUs)
 3/12/2012-04/30/2012 Monday, Wednesday, 06:30PM - 09:40PM
 Contact Bob Koch at 412-788-7378 for more information.

Board of Directors Meetings

April 4, 2012
 July 3, 2012
 October 3, 2012

Membership

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities is always looking for new members! Our job is to help you understand the value and importance of converting to alternative fuels. We can tell you about the incentives available to you for using alternative fuels. We can help guide you through making smart financial and environmental choices about purchasing an alternative fueled vehicle or using an alternative fuel. Become a member, and we can help you assess your fleet and objectives, as well as work with you to acquire funding assistance. If you would like to join and/or volunteer, please contact Rick Price at coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org

Contribute Your News!

We want to showcase your news and successes, and we welcome ideas for articles. Please feel free to contact Rick Price, Executive Director/Coordinator, at 412-735-4114 or at coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org



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