

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Gazette

Driving the way toward energy independence

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PRCC and Stakeholders Visit Rep. Joe Markosek

Bob DeLucia, Air Star Transportation Group, Justin Evans, Giant Eagle, Kevin Collins of CP Industries, President, Jan Lauer, and Executive Director Rick Price, met with Representative Markosek to talk about the importance of keeping the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant Program. The meeting was organized and coordinated by Penn Future's Evan Endres. Each participant talked about their alternative fuel related projects and the environmental and economical benefits that are realized under this important program.

The General Assembly restored all funding for AFIG in the 2012-12 fiscal year state budget, overturning a proposal to permanently end dedicated funding. AFIG will now continue to receive annual funding from the gross receipts tax of approximately \$5.8-\$6.1 million.

The AFIG program is critical to Pennsylvania remaining a national leader in the development of alternative fueled vehicles and the refueling and recharging infrastructure needed to support them.

President's Corner

PRCC would like to congratulate the General Assembly for the reinstatement of funding for the Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant. We also applaud the funding for natural gas vehicles included under Act 13, the updated oil and gas law. At some point, the direct return on investment for alternative fueled vehicle purchases will drive the market, but until then, incentives are key.

As the market grows, the price of the retrofit kits and factory ready vehicles will likely decline or come into line with other options. Over time, the cost of petroleum based fuel will certainly rise, but the cost of alternative fueling options will not rise as quickly, widening the gap between the cost of gasoline and diesel and their alternatives. Refueling options will grow with the installation of more and more stations., helping to keep the price low

and increasing accessibility. At some point these factors will converge to create a price point where for most consumers and fleet operators, alternative fueled vehicle just make sense. But until then, we need to support the early adopters and encourage the growth of the market with public incentives. The General Assembly is leading the way with its recent actions.

We would like to thank those members and stakeholders who reached out to their Legislators and encouraged them to support funding. We would also like to recognize the great work of PennFuture in pushing hard in support of funding for alternative fueled vehicle programs. Thank you all for your leadership.

Westport LD Brings NG Vehicle to Pittsburgh

On May 22nd Westport LD brought its new WiNG Super Duty bi-fuel pickup truck to Allegheny Ford on the Southside. Attendees were treated to a BBQ lunch and were able to drive the new pickup. The new vehicle can be ordered at any Ford Truck Dealer.



DEP Announces Natural Gas Vehicle Resource

The Department of Environmental Protection has announced the launch of a Natural Gas Vehicle (NGV) website and plan to help municipal and commercial fleet owners make informed decisions about converting their fleets to compressed natural gas and liquefied natural gas, in advance of a related grant program.

“These web-based resources will educate fleet owners and other potential grant applicants in advance of workshops being scheduled for the fall,” DEP Secretary Mike Krancer said. “Website users have a unique opportunity to submit information to DEP about projects they may be considering, so that we can craft a program to best serve their needs and help make resulting grant applications competitive.”

“This new website will put information at the fingertips of those who are interested in learning more about natural gas vehicles,” Public Utility Commission Chairman Robert F. Powelson said. “As we found with our recent forum on alternative fuel vehicles, people are eager to explore the role of

natural gas vehicles in Pennsylvania.

The new website offers information on the Natural Gas Energy Development Program as well as existing NGV fueling tools and resources, such as cost-savings calculators, fueling maps and technical assistance sites.

Those interested are also encouraged to register on the website to be notified of workshop dates, the opening of the initial grant round and other outreach opportunities.

DEP will host six regional NGV seminars this fall and may also hold additional sessions for specific groups, such as municipal associations, school board associations and public transportation groups.

For more information about the program and the future workshop schedule, visit www.dep.state.pa.us and click on the Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program button.

Exec. Director Speaks at Erie Shippers Conference

Rick Price, Executive Director of PRCC, spoke at the Erie Shippers Conference held at Penn State Berhrend, in Erie on May 24th. While the conference is mostly about economical development, this years' conference added alternative energy to the agenda. Rick was asked to speak specifically about natural gas as a transportation fuel. The event also included the Congressman Thompson. Rick spoke about the economical and environmental benefits of natural gas as well as how the growth in Pennsylvania is moving forward. Most folks are interested in the use of natural gas, but they wanted to try to make sure there are corridors and infrastructure available including Interstate 79 to Pittsburgh and Interstate 90 between Buffalo and Cleveland the Executive Director stated.

West Hills Nissan Now Selling Nissan Leaf!

Under a grant provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Alternative Fuel Incentive Program, West Hills Nissan has installed four level two charging stations at the dealership, and West Hills Nissan now has Nissan Leaf's for sale. Service Manager, Steve Quickel, stated that he has taken the Nissan Leaf on his 65 mile trip home to Ohio and back with no problems. He said, "The Leaf, which has a range of about 100 miles, is great, and the key thing is I didn't have to use any gasoline."

Now that the four charging stations are in, they can recharge the vehicles faster than before when they plugged them into a standard outlet. Steve plans to take the vehicle to events and have people drive it to see first hand the great benefits of driving an all electric vehicle.



Chargers at West Hills Nissan

Nissan Leaf



Aeroenvironment charger

South Park Mitsubishi Selling the Miev!

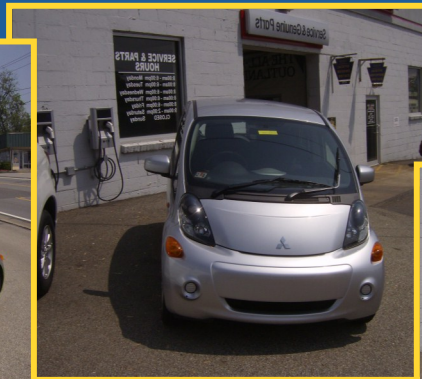
From Rick Price:

Someone mentioned to me that South Park Mitsubishi was selling the Miev, so I had to see for myself! I stopped in at the dealership on Route 88 in South Park and right out front was a Miev and two charging stations on the wall. So I went in and introduced myself to Bill Burns, the Sales Manager. I explained what PRCC was and explained how we educate the public on alternative fuels and vehicles. I asked if they would be will

ing to participate in our EV events and other outreach. Bill said definitely, we will support the outreach on the EV market. He also he had already sold a Miev to a couple from Beechview and he had four more coming in around June. The Mitsubishi Miev has the ability to charge on a DC fast charging station in under a half and hour and has a 62 mile range as an all electric vehicle.



Miev with two wall mounted charging stations



All-electric Mitsubishi Miev



Member Spotlight: Jason Pacewicz

Jason Pacewicz is Fleet Manager for Duquesne Light Company. His duties include management of 850 vehicles in a fleet that covers five service territories in the Pittsburgh area.

Jason is responsible for making certain that the Duquesne Light fleet of vehicles is operational and can be easily be adaptable to respond to the needs of the company. Duquesne Light has recently purchased a Chevy Volt and has installed an electric charging station at its facility on New Beaver



Avenue on the North Side. They also have a number of flexi fuel vehicles in their fleet.

Jason is a member of the Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Board of Directors, and he also serves as the Chair of the PRCC Electric Vehicle Committee. As the chair he leads a group of members and stakeholders who are looking to advance the use of electric vehicles (EV) and plug-in electric vehicles (PHEV) and encourage the development of recharging infrastructure in Western Pennsylvania.

PSU Students Win Awards at EcoCAR Competition

A dozen Penn State engineering and communications students represented Penn State at the national collegiate EcoCAR competition in Los Angeles in May, winning six awards.

Penn State is one of 15 North American teams competing in EcoCAR 2: Plugging In to the Future. The goal of the three-year contest is to reduce the environmental impact of a General Motors-donated 2013 Chevrolet Malibu by improving its fuel efficiency and reducing its emissions while retaining its performance and consumer appeal. Students were judged on presentations including mechanical, electrical, controls, hardware-in-the-loop, outreach and business.

Outreach team members won second place for the competition's Overall Outreach Award. Members also received the EcoCAR 2 Best Website Award and Best Clean Cities Collaboration Award for work with **Rick Price, the executive director of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities**. The team won third place in the competition's Best Electrical Presentation Award and Best Mechanical Presentation Award. In total, the team won \$12,500 in prize money to be used in the next two years of the competition.

Gary Neal, the team's faculty adviser and department head at Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory, won the National Science Foundation Outstanding Long-Term Faculty Award.

Read more here: <http://www.centredaily.com/2012/05/30/3211853/psu-students-win-awards-at-ecocar.html#storylink=cpy#storylink=cpy>

PRCC: Out and About

APWA Annual Equipment Showcase

The American Public Works Association holds an annual equipment showcase every year at Blueberry Hill Park in Franklin Township. For the second year in a row PRCC was asked to recruit alternative fueled vehicles for display at the June 7 event. This year PRCC was also asked to speak at the event. Rick got a chance to speak to Public Works Managers about Act 13 funding opportunities as well as PRCC's infrastructure projects.

Not only this year did PRCC help to recruit a variety of over the road vehicles, but PRCC also invited a propane fueled lawn tractor that attendees were able to test drive. This year's event included speakers such as Jerry Lindsay from Metro Lawn (Heritage Propane) and Rachael Filippini from the Group Against Smog and Pollution. Peoples Natural Gas, FYDA Freightliner of Pittsburgh, Alliance Auto Gas, Century III Chevrolet, and City of Pittsburgh brought alternative fueled vehicles for display.



FYDA Bi-Fuel Vehicle



People Natural Gas Bi-fuel Ford Transit



Jerry Lindsay speaking at Western PA APWA Event



FYDA Bi-Fuel Vehicle

General Motors 2013 Vehicle Presentation

PRCC received a request from Jeff Tomlin of GM to speak at their annual 2013 vehicle presentation—also on June 7!

Rick spoke about some of the new projects that Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities and its stakeholders had underway. He also talked about the state's new natural gas funding program (Act 13, Marcellus Shale Development Program) and how they might take advantage of it to reduce their fleet costs.



Rick Price speaking at GM event

PRCC and DOE Visit Waste Management

In May some of the Department of Energy Clean Cities Program Managers and staff visited the Waste Management facilities in Washington, PA. The trip was setup by Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Executive Director Rick Price. Rick has been talking with Rich Moran about their use of natural gas in their trash haulers. The visit started with an overall briefing about how many trucks are using natural gas and the future plans for continued use of this alternative fuel. Rich explained that they had over 60 vehicles running on natural gas and that that had over 50 refueling posts installed that the vehicles hookup to on a time fill each night. With over 300 vehicles under his purview, the plans are eventually to move all vehicles over.



Rich Moran of Waste Management Talks with Visitors

Waste Management had received a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Alternative Fuel incentive Grant to install a station which is supplying fuel to the fill post as well as a public station at their site in Washington, PA. Rick was asked how many private folks are using the public station which sits about two miles of Interstate 70. He stated quite a few are using it like Chesapeake Energy and others. One of the most interesting projects that they have going on at the facility is the use of gas from their dump facility which is used to run six natural gas generators which produces enough electricity for 4000 homes.



Fueling Posts at Waste Management



Waste Management Trucks Refueling

Does my emergency response plan include ethanol? Am I confident in my knowledge concerning ethanol safety standards? Can I treat ethanol like regular gasoline? **What should I do in an ethanol emergency?** Do I have the right type of fire extinguisher for an ethanol fire? Am I familiar with my emergency equipment? **Is ethanol safe?** Am I prepared with clearly posted emergency numbers? Do I know what needs to be included in an emergency plan? **Why is ethanol safety important?** Who can answer my questions about ethanol safety? Where is the emergency shut-down button located?

If you have questions, we have answers.



ETHANOL Safety Seminar

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Emergency Responders
Fire Departments
EMTs
Local Emergency Planning Committees
Police
Safety Managers

WHERE: Allegheny County Emergency Services

Emergency Operations Center
400 North Lexington Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

WHEN: September 13, 2012

TIME: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
or
5:30 pm – 10:00 pm

REGISTER: www.rfa.traincaster.com

QUESTIONS: Jen, 402-391-1930 or
events@ethanolrfa.org

A tour of the Allegheny County Emergency Operations Center and 911 Center has been set up at 2pm-3pm and 4:15pm-5:15pm.

FREE to attend! Registration is limited to the first 150 people per seminar. Lunch and dinner will be provided. Certificates of Attendance will be handed out to all attendees at the completion of the course.



PRCC /Peoples Gas/Veterans Taxi Attend PUC Forum

The Pennsylvania Utility Commission held a public forum seeking comments on electric and natural gas vehicles and their use in Pennsylvania. The morning session focused on natural gas vehicles and the afternoon was spent on electric vehicles. Speakers from Chesapeake, Clean Energy, Marcellus Shale Coalition, Aqua America, Gulf Oil, NGV America, Clean America Transportation Alliance, PECO, Equitable Gas, and the DOE Clean Cities Co-Director Dennis Smith who talked about CNG but also stated his comments apply to electric as well. Dennis spoke about where the Clean Cities Programs can help to educate the public about alternative fuels and technology.

The afternoon session included speakers from eV-go/NRG Energy, Philadelphia International Airport,

Nissan, Electric Power Research Institute, and PJM Interconnection.

A group from Pittsburgh travelled to the meeting to understand better what the PUC had in mind in terms of how it could help move alternative fuels forward. Rick Price said that the highlight of his trip was the ride back and forth on the Turnpike to Philadelphia in Bob DeLucia's new natural gas powered VPG MV-1 wheel chair accessible Veteran's Taxi. They filled up at the EQT station in the Strip District, drove 318 miles, and then refueled at the PECO station near Philadelphia. "The vehicle has power and rides very smoothly and quietly," stated Rick Price, Executive Director, Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities.



Filling up at EQT station for trip to Philadelphia



Veterans Taxi at Turnpike Service Plaza in Fuel Efficient Vehicle Parking

Baum Boulevard Automotive Installs EV Charging

Baum Boulevard Automotive has expanded its green fuel infrastructure by installing a level two electric vehicle charging station. Located in Pittsburgh, PA, the full service repair shop officially announced that its EV wall charger is open for use. The charger accommodates public consumers that own electric and hybrid vehicles. Chargers normally benefit fuel savings by 30-60 percent, but people are



able to re-charge their vehicles here for free. There are 45 other new EV charging stations being installed in the Western Pennsylvania area.



Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Propane Expo

Region Clean Cities held a Propane Expo at the Community College of Allegheny County West Hills Center on June 22. The event highlighted the advantages of propane and its emerging status as a reliable alternative source of fuel throughout the Pittsburgh region. At under \$3.00 a gallon, this non-toxic fuel reduces consumer fuel costs and improves environmental conditions. Presentations were given by Alliance AutoGas, American Alternative Fuels,

Cellones Bread, FYDA Freightliner, ProGas and Veterans Taxi. Along with education on propane conversions, guests were able to watch a propane school bus fuel demonstration. Other model vehicles included propane taxis, a propane bread truck, propane flat beds and a propane van. The event was another successful, hands-on learning session for PRCC and propane development.



Blue Bird Auto representatives stand in front of their 72 passenger propane school bus.

ProGas Propane Flat Bed Model





DOE Clean Cities team members drive alternative fueled vehicles with Rick Price

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule for 2012

October 3, 2012

Ethanol Safety Seminar

September 13, 2012, 9 am - 2 pm or 5:30 pm - 10 pm

Allegheny County Emergency Operations Center

Training class—Intro to Hybrids, 3 credits

Starts September 6th, Tuesdays/Thursdays 6:30pm to 9:45 pm

West Hills CCAC ,see <http://www.ccac.edu/default.aspx?id=138611>

Odyssey Day

October 19, 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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