In This Issue

Clean Cities Tampa Bay

NEWSLETTER

Reducing petroleum use in Tampa Bay **Spring 2016**

Our mission is to advance the energy, economic, and environmental security of the United States through efforts to reduce petroleum use in our six-county Tampa Bay region.

Thank You to Our Renewing Members!

AmeriGas Propane

M&B Products

NovaCharge

Karen Freedman

Stephen McNaughton

Join Tampa Bay Clean Cities today!

http://www.usf.edu/pcgs/initiatives/tbccc-membership.aspx

Tampa Bay Hosts 13th Annual National Biodiesel Conference & Expo

Biodiesel industry professionals, fleet managers, and policy experts gathered at the Tampa Convention Center from January 25-28 for this year's National Biodiesel Conference. TBCCC Coordinator Steve Reich and Clean Cities coordinators from coalitions around the U.S. were among the more than 1,000 biodiesel industry leaders and advocates who attended the four-day conference.

"We are very fortunate to have had the National Biodiesel Conference and Expo right here in the center of the Tampa Bay region," said Reich. "The sessions and presentations were outstanding and of extremely high quality. I am hopeful that those that attended from the Tampa region have a better understanding of the benefits of biodiesel and that it will lead to an increased popularity of this alternative fuel in our area."

In addition to presentations from biodiesel industry and policy experts, researchers, and students, the conference featured an expo hall, renewable fuels policy panel discussion, awards recognizing market and research contributions, a ride-and-drive event, and a vehicle showcase.

National Biodiesel Board CEO Joe Jobe opened the first general sessions with remarks on the state of the biodiesel industry. This year's conference theme was "Coast to Coast," reflecting the diversity of biofuels.

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Feature Member Profile

Photo courtesy of AmeriGas

AmeriGas®
America's Propane Company

"AmeriGas and I believe that the Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition is the leader—and vital in our community—in promoting and educating local businesses," said Senior Account Manager Joe Wheeler.

"We all need to work together to grow our membership and educate the business owners in our region to create a strong partnership, and to get more involved in reducing the demand for oil from foreign countries. There are federal and state incentives for us to promote and help reduce the cost of using cleaner burning fuels. Why aren't we doing it?"

AmeriGas Propane

AmeriGas distributes over 1.2 billion gallons of propane annually to approximately 2 million residential, commercial, industrial, motor fuel, agricultural, and wholesale customers in all 50 states. A publicly traded company, AmeriGas Partners, L.P., is the nation's largest retail propane distribution business.

Propane is a clean, versatile energy source used for a wide variety of applications. Residential and commercial customers use propane for home and space heating and appliances, while industrial customers use it to fire furnaces, as a cutting gas, and in other process applications. Propane powers over-the-road vehicles, forklifts, commercial lawnmowers, and stationary engines. Through the Partnership's AmeriGas Cylinder Exchange program, cylinders are available at nearly 48,500 retail locations throughout the United States. AmeriGas serves its customers from approximately 2,000 propane distribution locations and more than 700 local offices nationwide. As a member of TBCCC, AmeriGas frequently sponsors local events, provides presentations, and displays a variety of propane-powered vehicles.

Photo courtesy of AmeriGas

Propane autogas is the most widely used alternative fuel in the world and is an environmentally friendly fuel for alternative fuel in the world and is an environmentally friendly fuel source for school bus fleets. The school bus industry in the U.S. has seen a significant adoption of propane as their alternative fuel choice. Between 2012 and 2014, the number of propane autogas buses sold increased by 269 percent. AmeriGas has the experience and expertise to assist local schools in implementing propane autogas into their fleets.

For more information, please visit *amerigas.com.*

Regional News

M&B Products Showcases CNG Truck at Touch-a-Truck Event

Last month, M&B Products and TBCCC participated in the Temple Terrace Touch-a-Truck event. This family-friendly event provided an opportunity for kids to explore life-sized vehicles and interact with community support leaders and local businesses. Featured vehicles included Temple Terrace police, fire, and SWAT mobiles, a powerboat rig, giant tow truck, and farm equipment from TBCCC member M&B Products, which also showcased its compressed natural gas (CNG) truck.

"We at M&B Products think this event was important for two reasons," said Dale McClellan, president of M&B Products. "It gave us a chance to show our farming equipment, and more importantly, to demonstrate our new CNG semi-trucks that burn much cleaner than diesel."

TBCCC and Ryder Systems were on-hand to answer questions and distribute literature on the benefits of CNG and other alternative fuels.

Tampa International Airport and Tampa Electric Unveil Solar Energy Project

In February, Tampa International Airport and TECO unveiled a canopy of solar panels on the top floor of the airport's South Economy Parking Garage, which provides solar energy to Tampa Electric's customers and shade for parking patrons. At 2 megawatts, the solar panels produce enough electricity to power up to 250 homes.

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Photo courtesy of Aerial Innovations

GAIN Clean Fuel CNG Station Grand Opening

TBCCC was joined by members EPC, Clearwater Gas System, and TECO to celebrate the grand opening of the area's newest public CNG station, owned and operated by GAIN Clean Fuel. TBCCC coordinator Steve Reich acted as Master of Ceremonies for the event, which featured presentations from CNG experts and industry leaders. To learn more about Tampa's newest CNG station, visit the AFDC station locator.

TECO Adds Plug-in Electric Trucks to Its Green Fleet

The latest additions to TECO's Green Fleet include three plug-in electric, full-size 2016 Chevrolet four-wheel-drive pickup trucks, modified by VIA Motors. Similar to the extended-range Chevy Volt, the VIA-modified pickup can be driven the first 44 miles in all-electric mode before a fuel-efficient onboard generator or "range extender" generates its own electricity, providing an additional 400 miles of range. For most drivers, this is equivalent to about 100 miles per gallon in typical daily driving.

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Extended-range plug-in electric Chevy pickup truck from VIA Motors | Photo courtesy of TECO

HART Wins Innovative Energy Project Award for CNG

TECO Peoples Gas recently hosted the Energy Solutions Center (ESC) March 2016 Technology and Market Assessment Forum in Tampa. TECO presented an award for innovative energy projects to Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART) for the conversion of its van and bus fleet to CNG.

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Two More CNG Fueling Stations for Waste Pro in Florida

Longwood, Florida-based waste and recycling firm Waste Pro has awarded a construction agreement to design and build compressed natural gas (CNG) stations at its Sanford and Sarasota facilities to Clean Energy Fuels Corp. Waste Pro said that the Sanford CNG station will accommodate 90 CNG-powered service vehicles, while the Sarasota station will be capable of fueling 30 CNG vehicles.

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Photo courtesy of Waste Pro

Keith Gruetzmacher of TECO and Lynda Crescentini of HART Photo courtesy of TECO

Wireless Electric Car Charging: The Future of Plug-in Electric Vehicles Is Going Cordless

Researchers from Oak Ridge National Laboratory test a wireless charger on the fully electric Toyota Scion iQ at a demonstration site. Photo courtesy of Oak Ridge National Laboratory

What if charging your plug-in electric vehicle was as easy as parking it? No need for cords or cards. Just as Wi-Fi has freed consumers of wires when accessing the Internet, wireless charging technology may soon be as widespread, thanks to research supported by the Energy Department.

With support from the Vehicle Technologies Office, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and Hyundai America Technical Center Inc. have been working since 2012 to demonstrate wireless charging on a variety of vehicles. ORNL is working with a mix of Toyota vehicles, including models of the all-electric RAV 4, plug-in hybrid electric Prius and all-electric Scion iQ, while Hyundai America Technical Center Inc. is testing its technology on five all-electric Kia Souls. The technology behind wireless charging creates a connection between a transmitting pad on the ground (such as in a garage) and a receiving pad integrated on the bottom of the vehicle.

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Jobe recapped some of the major industry news, and shared his optimistic outlook for the growth potential of the biofuels industry in 2016.

"We just came through a two-and-a-half-year period of very difficult struggle because of the EPA's delay in issuing the rule-making on the Renewable Fuel Standard, said Jobe. "We're positioned to break a record again in 2016."

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National Biodiesel Board CEO Joe Jobe Photo courtesy of ZimmComm

Want to learn more about **biofuel**?
Visit the ***Alternative Fuel Data Center***

DOE Announces $80 Million in Funding to Increase SuperTruck Efficiency

Photo courtesy of Energy.gov

Building on the notable successes of the SuperTruck initiative, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Reuben Sarkar announced on March 1 SuperTruck II, an $80 million funding opportunity, subject to congressional appropriations, for research, development, and demonstration of long-haul tractor-trailer truck technology. Sarkar made the announcement at the GreenTruck Summit in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Department of Energy launched its SuperTruck initiative in 2010.

Vehicles developed under SuperTruck I are Class 8 combination trucks—commonly known as 18-wheelers—that dramatically increase tractor-trailer fuel, engine, and drivetrain efficiency through the use of advanced technologies. As the backbone of domestic freight transportation, 18-wheelers haul 70 percent of all freight tonnage. SuperTruck II projects will research, develop, and demonstrate technologies to improve heavy-truck freight efficiency by more than 100 percent, relative to a manufacturer's best-in-class 2009 truck, with an emphasis on technology cost-effectiveness and performance.

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Pennsylvania Taps Trillium CNG for $84.5M Public-Private CNG Station Expansion

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Secretary Leslie S. Richards has announced that a Trillium CNG team, including Larson Design Group of Williamsport, has been selected for the department's compressed natural gas (CNG) transit fueling station Public-Private Partnership (P3) project.

Trillium, which was recently purchased by Love's Travel Stops, will design, build, finance, operate, and maintain CNG fueling stations at 29 public transit agency sites through a 20-year P3 agreement. Stations will be constructed over the next five years, and the firm will also make CNG-related upgrades to existing transit maintenance facilities. The project is estimated to cost approximately $84.5 million.

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FTA Offering Up to $55 Million for Low or No Emissions Transit Vehicles

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced the availability of $55 million of Fiscal Year 2016 funds (FTA-2016-003-TPM) for the purchase or lease of low or no emission vehicles as well as related equipment or facilities under the Low or No Emission (Low-No) Program.

The main purpose of the Low-No Program is to support the transition of the U.S. transit fleet to the lowest polluting and most energy efficient transit vehicles.

Funds awarded for the Low-No Program will finance the purchase or lease of low or no emission vehicles that use advanced technologies, including related equipment or facilities, for transit revenue operations. Projects may include costs incidental to the acquisition of buses or to the construction of facilities, such as the costs of related workforce development and training activities, and project development.

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Cummins Team to Develop Plug-in Hybrid That Reduces Fuel Use by 50%

Cummins announced the company was awarded a $4.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a Class 6 commercial plug-in hybrid electric vehicle that can reduce fuel consumption by at least 50 percent over conventional Class 6 vehicles.

When fully loaded, Class 6 vehicles weigh between approximately 19,000 and 26,000 pounds and typical examples include school buses or single-axle work trucks.

With their expertise in internal combustion engines and related products, Cummins researchers will optimize the powertrain by selecting the engine with the best architecture to use as an electric commercial vehicle range extender, using the engine to manage the charge level of the all-electric-drive battery pack. The range extender will be integrated, using advanced vehicle controls, with the electrified powertrain and other applicable technologies. Ultimately, the researchers aim to demonstrate improved fuel consumption and state-of-the-art drivability and performance regardless of environmental conditions.

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Interested in Learning More?

Derry Township School District Deploys School Buses Fueled by Propane

Cummins Announces Smart Efficiency

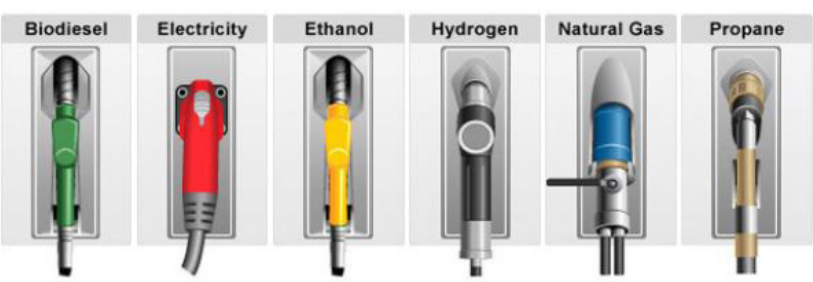
Duke Energy to Power Four Renewable Energy Stations Using Biogas

New Vehicle Initiative Aims to Make Fuel and Engines Work More Efficiently

View from the Summit: Alternative Fuels Here to Stay

Global Market for Alternative Fuel Vehicles is Set to Total $13.20B by 2020

Tesla's Model 3 Already Has 325,000 Preorders



Clean Cities Question of the Month

It's tax time! What are some common questions related to the federal tax credits for alternative fuels and infrastructure?

It's Tax Time! Understanding Alternative Fuel and Infrastructure Tax Credits

Recent federal tax incentive extensions and changes impact alternative fuel and infrastructure tax credits.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (H.R. 2029) retroactively extended several tax credits, including the Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit and Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Tax Credit. It also included updates to the calculation method for Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit amounts, specifically for propane and liquefied natural gas (LNG). Below we discuss three frequently asked questions about these credits.

How have the Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit amounts changed for propane and LNG in 2016 and beyond?

The Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit applies to alternative fuel sold or used to operate a motor vehicle. Previously, the excise tax credit amount for propane and LNG was based on a volumetric basis ($0.50 per gallon). For fuel sold or used starting January 1, 2016, however, the excise tax credit amount for propane and LNG is based on an energy equivalent basis. This means the credit for propane is now measured per gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) and LNG is measured per diesel gallon equivalent (DGE). Specifically, the updated Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 8849, Schedule 3 defines 2016 tax credit rates for propane and LNG as follows:

Propane: One GGE is equal to 5.75 pounds (lbs.) or 1.353 gallons of propane.
LNG: One DGE is equal to 6.06 lbs. or 1.71 gallons of LNG.

What does this mean for propane and natural gas retailers and fleets? In short, the tax credit for the same amount of fuel is now less. The propane tax credit was previously $0.50 per gallon and is now $0.50 per GGE (1.353 gallons of propane), which equates to $0.37 per gallon. The LNG tax credit was previously $0.50 per gallon and is now $0.50 per DGE (1.71 gallons of LNG), which equates to $0.29 per gallon. The tax credit amount for compressed natural gas (CNG) is still based on the GGE, where one GGE is equal to 121 cubic feet.

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Resources

Tools & Maps

Alternative Fuels Data Center

Information, data, and tools to help fleets and other decision makers find ways to reduce petroleum consumption.

AFDC Station Locator
Find alternative fueling stations near an address of ZIP code or along a route in the United States.

Truck Stop Electrification Sites
Locate truck stops with electrification sites.

Vehicle Cost Calculator
Uses information from your driving habits to calculate the total cost of ownership.

AFLEET Tool
Calculates a fleet's petroleum use, cost of ownership, and emissions.

CNG VICE Model 2.0
Evaluates ROI and paypack period for natural gas vehicles and infrastructure.

JOBS Model
Estimate the economic impacts of natural gas, hydrogen, or fuel cell infrastructure.

Find ways to **save fuel**, **reduce idling**, and take advantage of **alternative fuels** & **technologies** at

fueleconomy.gov

Read More...

Visit the new ***EV Everywhere website*** to get the most updated information on electric vehicles. Read the latest edition of ***Clean Cities NOW*** to catch up on Clean Cities' program activities, accomplishments, and resources. Download the ***Model Year 2016 Fuel Economy Guide*** from Fuel Economy.gov to check out the latest in fuel economy information.

Publications

Download the ***Strategic Planning to Enable ESCOs to Accelerate NGV Fleet Deployment*** and ***Strategic Planning to Implement Publicly Available EV Charging Stations*** to review findings of a two-year research initiative to develop innovative finance mechanisms aimed at accelerating the deployment of AFVs and fueling infrastructure.

Upcoming Events

Local

April 20 | Electric Bus Demo
4:30 pm - 6 pm
Center for Urban Transportation Room 102
USF Tampa Campus

April 22 | HCC Beyond Sustainability
10 am - 4 pm
Ybor City Campus, Student Services Building
TSSB 3rd Floor, Tampa, FL
Click here for more information

April 23 | EcoFest
Lowry Park Bandshell Area
10 am - 4 pm
7525 N. Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33604
Click here for more information

May 5 | EPC Clean Air Fair
Poe Plaza in Downtown Tampa
Click here for more information

May 11 | TBCCC Spring Stakeholder Meeting
Hosted by Tampa International Airport
More details to follow!

National

April 19-22 | NAFA 2016 Institute & Expo
Austin, TX
Click here for more information

April 29 | AFV GHG Emissions & AFLEET Tool Updates Webinar
Click here to register

May 2 -5 | Advanced Clean Transportation Expo
Long Beach, CA
Click here for more information

BevOps Fleet Summit 2016
Las Vegas, NV
Click here for more information

Membership

TBCCC Founding Members

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Gold

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John Batchelder
Joann Damelio
Joy Ingram
Gary Ivers
Arthus Miskis
Karen Freedman
Stephen McNaughton

Membership Information

Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition

The Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition is a membership-based organization created to coordinate and promote the use of non-traditional and cleaner energy for transportation in the Tampa Bay region. The effort was launched in the summer of 2012 with financial and in-kind support from the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County, TECO Energy, the USF Patel College of Global Sustainability, and the USF Center for Urban Transportation Research. Tampa Bay Clean Cities works in concert with, and supports, the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Vehicle Technology Program - Clean Cities.

Join TBCCC today!

For information on joining, see the membership page by clicking here.

The system accepts electronic checks and all major credit cards. For additional assistance, contact Jana Huss at hussj@cutr.usf.edu

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