

Project: Removing Barriers, Implementing Policies and Advancing Alternative Fuel Markets in New England

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Organization: Greater Portland Council of Governments/ Maine Clean Communities

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Project ID #
TI045

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TIMELINE:

Start Date: 2/1/2013

Completion Date: 1/31/2015

% Complete

TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING:

\$725,703.00

DOE share: 100%

Contractor share : 0%

Funding received in FY13:

\$60,238.34

Funding for FY14: \$171,939.48

Percentage of Funds Spent to Date: 32%

BARRIERS: 1) Availability of alternative fuels and EVSE
2) Availability of AFVs and EVs
3) Lack of technical experience with new fuels and vehicle technologies

PARTNERS:

- Granite State Clean Cities Coalition
- Ocean State Clean Cities Coalition
- Massachusetts Clean Cities Coalition
- Vermont Clean Cities Coalition
- Hydrogen Energy Center
- Emerald Alternative Energy

Objectives:

The objectives of the *Removing Barriers, Implementing Policies and Advancing Alternative Fuel Markets in New England* are to target and remedy obstacles to alternative fuel vehicle and fuel adoption and use in regional and/or statewide sectors and niche markets. Our project is addressing these objectives in the following ways:

- Working with MPOs to include AFV and alternative fuels language in state and regional planning documents
- Conducting a Fleet Managers' survey to determine barriers to using alt fuels vehicles/fuels
- Researching and determining barriers to transporting alternative fuels
- Holding workshops and trainings for: first responders on gaseous fuels, CNG fuel tank inspection, training biodiesel technicians, and CNG for use by fleets
- Creating a biodiesel producers regional work group to determine barriers related to biodiesel and how to remedy them
- Developing a designation program for "clean fleets" in New England
- Identifying regulatory barriers for alt fueling infrastructure & drafting model language for Federal and State statutes, regulations and local ordinances

Project Supports VTP Deployment Goals:

- By 2020, to achieve petroleum reduction by 2.5 billion gallons per year through voluntary adoption of alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure.
- Leveraging Clean Cities' partnerships

Year 1:

- Formed Biodiesel Producer Working Group and held two regional meetings; 6/13 – 9/13
- Held two First Responder for Gaseous Fuels Workshops; 12/13
- Held one CNG Fuel Tank Inspection Training; 12/13
- Held two CNG for Fleets Workshops; 9/13 – 11/13
- Researched Clean Fleets programs around the U.S. and decided upon a “designation” program;
- Studied and assessed impacts of fuel taxation, identified existing codes and standards applicable to the licensing and inspection of alt fueling infrastructure and alt fuel vehicle conversion, and studied and assessed federal regulations associated with these and other policy areas;

Year 2:

- Held three First Responder on Gaseous Fuels workshops; 4/14
- Continued research on policy issues (referenced above);
- Held third Biodiesel Producer Working Group meeting; 3/14
- Completed MPO Transportation Plan Literature Review; 2/14
- Drafted Fleet Managers’ Survey; 2/14 and
- Proposed amendment for additional scope of work to add EV work to project - pending

Task 1: Project Management and Administration

Task 2: Policy Initiatives

Sub-Task 2.1: Work with MPOs to Better Understand Alt Fuels and Technologies

Sub-Task 2.2: Policy Guidance

Task 3: Barrier Reduction Initiatives

Sub-Task 3.1: Fleet Surveys

Sub-Task 3.2: Research Barriers to the Transport of Alternative Fuels

Task 4: Safety and Training Initiatives

Sub-Task 4.1: First Responder Training Deployment

Sub-Task 4.2: CNG Fuel System Inspector Certification Training

Sub-Task 4.3: Biodiesel Workshops for Diesel Technicians

Task 5: Market Development/Outreach

Sub-Task 5.1: Biodiesel Regional Working Group

Sub-Task 5.2: Develop and Launch a New England Clean Fleets Certification Program

Sub-Task 5.3: CNG workshops for Private, Municipal and Refuse Fleets

Project Accomplishments



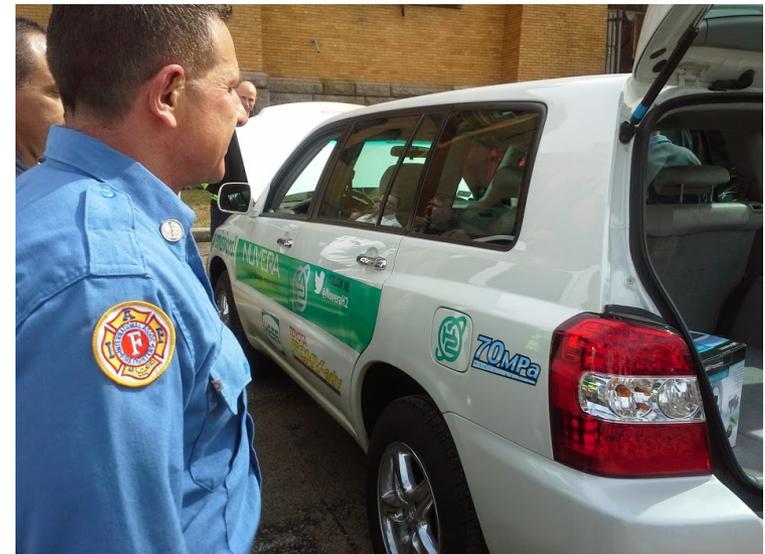
Created Biodiesel Producer Working Group – 3 meetings Held – Developing Report on Barriers and Remedies – Working Group will Continue



Project Accomplishments

Held Trainings & Workshops

- 5 First Responder on Gaseous Fuels
- 2 CNG for Fleets
- 1 Biodiesel Tech Trainings
- 1 CNG Cylinder Inspection Training



Clean Cities Coalitions:

- Granite State Clean Cities Coalition
- Ocean State Clean Cities Coalition
- Massachusetts Clean Cities Coalition
- Vermont Clean Cities Coalition

Sub-Recipients:

- Hydrogen Energy Center
- Emerald Alternative Energy

New England Biodiesel Producers:

- Maine Standard Biofuels
- Cape Code Biofuels
- Newport Biodiesel
- White Mountain Biodiesel
- Biodiesel One
- Black Bear Biodiesel

Others:

University of Southern Maine
Southern Maine Community College
Maine Fire Chiefs' Association
National Grid
Nashua Community College
New Hampshire Fire Academy
North American Equipment Upfitters
Bangor Natural Gas
National Biodiesel Board
NAFTC
Genscape
City of Concord, NH
NH DOT
NH DOS Fire Academy
Fire Instructors & Officers
Association of New Hampshire
Eastern Gas and Propane
Patsy's Bus Sales
Vermont Gas
The Vermont Fire Academy
Proctor Gas
ICF International

Proposed Future Work:

- Complete Policy Work: develop policy guidance & create state level guidelines for streamlining development of alt fueling stations
- Complete MPO Work: outreach and meetings with MPOs, develop electronic resource and write final report
- Complete and administer Fleet Managers' Survey on alternative fuel barriers
- Complete research on barriers of transporting alt fuels
- Hold remainder of trainings and workshops
- Hold last Biodiesel Producer Work Group Meeting and finalize report on barriers/solutions
- Complete and launch New England Clean Fleets designation program

Related Efforts (Not Project Funded):

- EV Loan Program

Project Summary



The *Removing Barriers, Implementing Policies and Advancing Alternative Fuel Markets in New England* Project has completed, and continues to work on, tasks in a variety of areas to promote the use of alternative fuels and vehicles in Northern New England.

Specifically:

- Promoting alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles
- Educating fleet managers, biodiesel technicians, first responders, CNG fuel tank inspectors
- Researching regulations and drafting policies to remove barriers to the advancement of alternative fuel infrastructure
- Educating MPOs about alternative fuels and infrastructure for inclusion in Transportation Plans
- Developing and implementing a fleet managers' survey to determine what the real barriers are to incorporating alternative fuels and vehicles for fleets
- Created a New England Biodiesel Producers Work Group to investigate barriers and solutions to biodiesel usage, supply and distribution in Northern New England
- Developing a New England "Clean Fleets" designation program

Critical Assumptions:

- Task 5.2 was originally designed as a program that would “certify” fleets as meeting certain criteria. We found that there wasn’t enough time or funding to accomplish this task successfully.
- Mid-way through the project we found that our spending was lagging but that we were set to complete all deliverables by the end of the grant period.

Solutions:

- Task 5.2 solution was to change the deliverable to a “designation” program but include materials for a future certification program including a rating system for fleet initiatives and promotional materials.
- Submitted a proposed amendment to add some complimentary EV work into the project, since EVs were originally not included.