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# Stakeholder Update

June - July 2010

*An Update on Clean Transportation Happenings and Opportunities*

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[Virginia Clean Cities](#)

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## Stakeholder Update

Dear Virginia Clean Cities Stakeholder,

We've had a busy few months, and are excited to 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:

- Electric Vehicles Roundtable
- Chargepoint America Deployment - NOVA
- E85 Station Grand Opening - Norfolk 7/30
- E85 UL Certification and Funding
- Green Operators Port Truck Retrofit & Replacement
- Additional NGV and LPG Offerings
- Energy Bills
- Upcoming Events & Webinars
- Project Updates
- Technical Question of the Month
- Open Federal Grants

Happy Reading!

Chelsea Jenkins  
Director, Virginia Clean Cities



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## Virginia Get Ready - Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure

Convened by Virginia Clean Cities and the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Virginia Get Ready Roundtable gathered for an introductory meeting and established an initial cooperative plan for deployment of electric vehicles in Virginia. Virginia Utilities have installed and converted Prius vehicles, bucket trucks, and have agreed to purchase test Volt units when available. The Commonwealth has installed free access vehicle charging units at one rest area. Virginia entities are assessing charging capacity, investment needs, and roles in jumpstarting vehicle adoption and infrastructure deployment.

Virginia companies make batteries, motors, charging stations, and design and deploy electric vehicles and convert hybrid vehicles to plug-in hybrid vehicles and battery electric vehicles. Northern Virginia is connected within the 70 mile radius of the DC ChargePoint America deployment and early adoption vehicle enthusiasts. Charlottesville Virginia is involved in a robust smart grid and vehicle conversion deployment program and has a high number of early Prius adoptions. Charlottesville also has a federally funded level 3 charger demonstration in cooperation with a local business. Richmond Virginia has a large fleet presence and a local electric vehicle initiative. Hampton Roads includes large federal fleets in close proximity that are likely to benefit from electric improvements. Virginia fleets currently have 35 electric vehicles and there are numerous charging stations available, including modern units and EV1 deployment units from the late 1990's.

State and local government entities, fleets, universities, utilities, civic organizations, vehicle manufacturers, and businesses are represented and stakeholder numbers are growing in the Virginia electrification effort.

The planning [was formally endorsed and announced by Governor McDonnell on Wednesday, July 16](#). If you would like to know more, become involved in these efforts, or to sponsor this process, please contact Alleyn Harned at 540-568-8896.

## Chargepoint America - Free Chargers in Northern VA

Coulomb Technologies recently announced it will deliver free home and public ChargePoint® Networked Charging Stations for electric vehicles throughout the United States. This includes a deployment in Washington DC, and the outlying 70 mile radius. Installation of the ChargePoint charging stations for electric vehicles will begin immediately. Chargers are free, but installation costs must be shouldered by the recipient. For additional information, or if you are interested in a free charger please contact VCC's Alleyn Harned at 540-568-8896 or [aharned@hrccc.org](mailto:aharned@hrccc.org).

ChargePoint Network stations are network-enabled, capable of reporting energy usage and communicating over the network with Software Application Services and Network Support Services to activate capabilities such as:

- Providing open access for all drivers using any standards-based RFID card
- Generating revenue for station owners to offset electricity and maintenance costs
- Sending SMS or Email notifications to drivers for charging complete or interruptions in charging
- Controlling access to eliminate energy theft and to enhance safety
- Integrating with the utility Smart Grid for demand side management and preferred pricing

Charging stations owners can set their own prices for charging through the Flex Billing™ system. The Flex Billing system enables station owners to set pricing as a function of time of day, calendar date, and driver - much like a parking meter. Those same stations can also be configured to provide "free" access to EV drivers.

### **Infrastructure Success Story: Norfolk Navy Public E85**

On July 30, 2010, Protec Fuel will begin offering E85 just outside the fence line of Norfolk Naval Base in Norfolk, Virginia. Development of this station involved a collaborative effort between Norfolk Naval Base, Protec Fuel, the Virginia Clean Cities, and other community leaders. Open to the public, seven Federal agencies will be able to use E85 in more than 1,000 vehicles that currently receive EPA Act Section 701 waivers. The station will serve the City of Norfolk and other local fleets as well.

For more information, visit the Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center (AFDC) at [www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/locator/stations/](http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/locator/stations/).

### **Growth Energy Blender Pump and E85 Funding Still Available**

Growth Energy is providing \$2,500 to \$5,000 to install E85 and blender pump infrastructure throughout the country. This funding can be used in addition to Virginia Clean Cities grant funding.

Growth Energy will be reviewing applications and issuing awards on a first come, first serve basis. All interested retailers should fill out the application and submit it to Growth Energy for their review process. Growth will consider the application and respond within 5 working days with a determination of the projects eligibility for funding. Contact Sara Courter directly if you have any questions in regards to the program, [scourter@growthenergy.org](mailto:scourter@growthenergy.org) or 402-932-0567 ext 211.

### **E85 & E25 Systems are now UL Certified**

In June 2010, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) certified fuel-dispensing systems for E85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline). The fuel-dispensing system includes dispenser, hose, nozzle, swivel, breakaway, and shear valves. UL developed a testing subject (procedure) for E85 dispensing equipment in 2007 and worked with manufacturers and government agencies to get the appropriate equipment through the certification process.

In March 2010, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) certified dispensers (UL Subject 87A-E25) from

the two U.S. retail fuel dispenser producers, Dresser Wayne and Gilbarco. These newly listed dispensers, Dresser Wayne Ovation Eco Fuel and Gilbarco Encore Flex Fuel S, dispense ethanol blends up to E25. They are the first UL-certified dispensers approved for ethanol blends above E10. At this time, no hanging hardware is certified for E25, which includes hoses, swivels, nozzles, and breakaways.

More updates can be found at [http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/technology\\_bulletins.html](http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/technology_bulletins.html)

### **Chevy, GM, and Ford Announce CNG and LPG Vans for Fleets**

CNG and LPG vans have been available for fleet and commercial users, but now they can acquire them with a much easier and more direct process. Chevy and GMC have announced that their new 2011 model Chevy Express and GMC Savanas will be available from the OEMs as dedicated CNG and LPG powered vans. They will come equipped with GM's Vortec 6.0L V8 engine that has been modified with harder exhaust valves and intake for improved wear from gaseous fuel. The systems will be fully integrated in the vehicles at specified GM plants and be directly available to SVMs, GM dealers, or Fleet Customers.

The vans will meet all EPA and CARB certifications and meet all existing safety standards. They will also carry GM's new 5-year/100,000 mile transferable powertrain limited warranty and be available as cutaways to serve as delivery and shuttle bus vans. "No other manufacturer offers a commercial CNG or LPG option that provides a solution with this level of support and availability. We recognize the value in providing our fleet and commercial customers with a range of fuel saving and alternative fuel technologies," says Joyce Mattman, director of GM's commercial products and specialty vehicles.

NGV America maintains a list of all vehicles for which there is an EPA-approved CNG conversion system available. There have been recent additions to this list, so please check it out at [www.ngvamerica.org/pdfs/marketplace/MP.Analyses.NGVs-a.pdf](http://www.ngvamerica.org/pdfs/marketplace/MP.Analyses.NGVs-a.pdf).

Ford Motor Company recently announced that this fall they will offer both a natural gas and a propane engine prep package for its 6.8 liter F-450 and F-550 Super Duty chassis cab. The V-10 engine will come with hardened exhaust valves and valve seats for improved wear resistance and durability. The company also said that this fall it would add CNG/LPG capability to the F-53 motor home chassis and new F-59 commercial strip chassis. In making its announcement, Ford noted that gaseous fuels are increasingly popular choice for fleet operators looking to cut fuel costs and reduce greenhouse emissions. Ford noted that it will continue to provide calibration guidance to "to numerous highly competitive CNG and LPG upfitters" for the E-series, F-series and Transit Connect, and that the vehicles converted according to this guidance will maintain its factory engine warranty.

### **Energy Legislation - Transportation**

Recent federal energy bills and climate bills have included several transportation initiatives and enhanced national programs for clean transportation and alternate fuel vehicles. In consideration of the energy and environmental impacts of the transportation sector, please consider contacting your federal legislators to support comprehensive, multi-fuel clean vehicle investments in federal energy or climate legislation.

## **DOE Webinar Today: Resources and Tools for Petroleum Reduction**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Technical Assistance Program (TAP) for state and local officials will host a Webinar Today, Wednesday, July 28, titled Clean Cities and Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center (AFDC)-Resources and Tools for Petroleum Reduction in the Transportation Sector.

At the Webinar, you will learn about online tools developed at the DOE National Renewable Energy Laboratory that are available to help you augment transportation and petroleum reduction programs. Attendees will learn how to download maps and data

The TAP Webinar will take place from 3:00-4:15 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time and is free of charge, but you must register in order to obtain a URL to view the slides and video from your desktop and phone number to hear the presentations.

Register for the Webinar <https://www304.livemeeting.com/lrs/8000963084/Registration.aspx?pageName=4qcdjvdw13ncq161>

## **Upcoming Conferences and Events**

*July 30, 2010* - VA's 4th public E85 Station Opening and \$.85 E85. Protec Fuel will begin offering E85 just outside the fence line of Norfolk Naval Base in Norfolk, Virginia. Development of this station involved a collaborative effort between Norfolk Naval Base, Protec Fuel, the Virginia Clean Cities Coalition, and other community leaders. The station will serve the City of Norfolk and other local fleets and the public as well.

*October 12-14, 2010*: The Commonwealth of Virginia Energy and Sustainability Conference (COVES) is scheduled for October 12-14 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](mailto:aharned@hrccc.org).

## **VCC Project Related News**

### **Idle Reduction Pilot Programs**

VCC is working with Virginia Beach Public Schools to launch an idle reduction program. Virginia Beach has installed 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 over the 2009-2010 school year 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.

**Get Ready**

Virginia Clean Cities organized a collaborative electrification initiative meeting in Richmond on July 14th. This second group meeting involved representation from now more than 80 key electric vehicle stakeholders and advanced the active discussion on preparing Virginia for upcoming electric vehicles.

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

Funding is still available to subsidize the cost to install infrastructure related to the retail sale of E85. Virginia's 4th public E85 station opens on July 30th in Norfolk.

**Hydrogen Education for Decision Makers Project**

This program was extended through September, 2011. Virginia Clean Cities and partners will host a series of "Hydrogen 101" seminars and electronic webinars and in the coming year. In addition, we may be able to provide hydrogen education as a for credit course for those interested in continuing education credits. Please [contact us](#) for more information. We are looking for organizations to collaborate with on co-hosting these events.

**Southeast Propane Autogas Development Program**

Baker Equipment hosted US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack in Richmond on July 15th for a tour of some of the nearly 1,200 propane vehicle conversions. Several completed vehicle conversions were on display as well as a dispenser. See [press release](#) for more information, or contact us.

**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 [fact sheet](#) 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 received delivery of their 4 Blue Bird propane buses, marking the second propane school bus fleet in Virginia.

**Clean Cities Question of the Month**

**Question of the Month:** Where can I find information about alternative fuel infrastructure and infrastructure development?

**Answer:** Over the past few years the United States has seen an increase in the number of alternative fuel stations. Continued infrastructure development will be critical to expanding acceptance and ensuring success of alternative fuels nationwide. Fleets and individuals need to be able to locate and access fuel for their vehicles within a reasonable distance at a competitive price. The resources below can help you find information about locating, developing, and promoting alternative fuel infrastructure.

**Locating Alternative Fueling Stations**

A common concern of fleets or individuals considering purchasing or converting their vehicles to

alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) is whether the fuel is available along a normal driving route or within a certain service area. The Alternative Fuels & Advanced Vehicles Data Center (AFDC) [Station Locator](#) allows users to search by fuel type (including biodiesel blends of 20% (B20) or above, compressed natural gas (CNG), electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), E85, hydrogen, liquefied natural gas (LNG), or propane) and location. The results are mapped, and by clicking on the individual station, users can see additional information such as hours of operation. The Station Locator includes both public and private stations, but the Advanced Options search gives the user the option to search for public access stations only. The Station Locator is also available as a mobile tool (<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/locator/m/stations/>). Data in the Station Locator is verified annually and updates are made on a rolling basis as new information becomes available.

In addition, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory developed [TransAtlas](#), a tool that allows users to see alternative fuel station density on a larger scale. TransAtlas uses the same data as the Station Locator, but the user can generate larger and more interactive maps of fueling stations with the option to incorporate additional data on hybrid electric, flexible fuel, and diesel vehicle density and fuel production facilities.

### ***Developing Alternative Fueling Stations***

If a fueling station is not available in your area, there are a number of resources available to provide information on developing and operating fueling infrastructure. Issues that should be considered prior to construction include location (siting), customer/fleet demand, sizing (capacity), design, fuel availability, storage, permitting, and cost (financing). The following AFDC Infrastructure Development pages give a good overview of these considerations for the individual fuel types:

[Biodiesel](#)

[E85](#)

[Natural Gas](#)

[Propane](#)

Additional information about EVSE development can be found in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s [Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Review](#).

In addition, the May 2003 issue of Alternative Fuel News (a precursor to Clean Cities Now) includes an article on ["Building Successful Alternative Fuel Vehicle Fueling Stations - Tips, Best Practices, and Lessons Learned"](#). Many of the considerations discussed in this article are still relevant.

Station development often requires significant upfront investment. Some of these costs can be offset by the federal [Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Tax Credit](#) (note that this credit currently is set to expire at the end of this calendar year). In addition, many states have additional fueling infrastructure financing incentives. A few examples are included below:

[Tax credits](#) (e.g., Kansas' Alternative Fuel Tax Credit Program)

[Grants](#) (e.g., Colorado's Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Grants)

[Rebates](#) (e.g., New Jersey's Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Program)

[Loans](#) (e.g., Nebraska's Dollar and Energy Saving Loan Program)

[Retailers](#) may also take advantage of state tax credits on the fuel sold once the station is in operation (e.g., Iowa's E85 Retailer Tax Credit).

**Corridor Development**

Recently there has been a focus on alternative fuel corridor development to promote AFV use along certain heavily-traveled routes in the United States. For example, the [I-65 Biofuels Corridor](#) in Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama encourages the development of biofuel stations along route I-65. In addition, the Clean Cities projects funded by the American Recovery and [Reinvestment Act of 2009](#) include several projects that will result in a more concentrated development of alternative fueling stations around the country. Projects such as these can help drive the deployment of AFVs by ensuring that drivers have an extended network of fueling stations available to them along highly traveled routes.

**Local Climate Energy Grants**

- EPA Funding for Facilitating Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Planning and Communicating Climate Change Impacts (\$550,000), due 7/30/10
- DOE Weatherization Assistance Program (\$210 million), due 8/1/10
- EPA Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Greenhouse Gas Reporting Systems: Outreach to Reporting Facilities and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Opportunities (\$2 million), due 8/9/10 (notice of intent to apply was due 7/16/10)
- DOT Transit Investments for GHG and Energy Reduction (\$75 million), due 8/11/10
- Joint HUD and DOT Community Challenge and Transportation Planning Grants (\$75 million), due 8/23/10 (pre-application was due 7/26/10)
- HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program (\$100 million), due 8/23/10
- EPA Seeks Proposals for Reducing GHG Emissions Through Energy Efficiency in Homes, Buildings (\$5.36 million), due 9/2/10
- EPA Black Carbon, Climate and Air Quality (\$7 million), due 9/22/10
- EDA Global Climate Change Mitigation Incentive Fund (\$14.7 million), due 9/30/10

For more information or to subscribe, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/listservs/index.html> - Please contact Virginia Clean Cities if you are interested in partnering with us on a grant.

