



# Clean Cities Quarterly Update

Spring 2008 Edition



## General News & Announcements

**Energy Bill Becomes Law:** Pres. Bush signed a major new energy bill into law which will increase the CAFE standards, expand the use of biofuels, and provide incentives for other vehicle/fuel technologies.

**California Waiver Denied:** California's petition for an EPA waiver allowing them to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from automobiles has been denied.

**Clean Diesel Funding:** Nearly \$50 million in funding for the Diesel Emission Reduction Program has been allocated for 2008 for the clean-up of diesel fleets across the nation.

**PACCAR 2010 Plans:** PACCAR has announced that they will utilize EGR and SCR technology to meet 2010 engine standards.

## Citizen's Bulletin Board

**General Conformity Revisions:** The EPA has proposed revisions to the general conformity process. Comments are due **March 10, 2008**.

**TxLED Proposed Changes:** EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Texas Low Emission Diesel program. Comments are due by **March 13, 2008**.

**DEIS for I-69 Available (32 TexReg 9873):** The DEIS for the I-69/Trans-Texas Corridor is available for review from TxDOT. Comments are due **March 19, 2008**.

## Citizen's Bulletin Board, Continued

**TERP Rule Changes Finalized (32 TexReg 10005):** TCEQ has adopted changes to the Texas Emission Reduction Program in accordance with SB 12.

**LIRAP Rule Changes Finalized (32 TexReg 9711):** TCEQ has adopted changes to the Low Income Repair & Replacement Program in accordance with SB 12.

**FEIS Available for Freeport:** The Final Environmental Impact Statement on the expansion of the channel is available from the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers.

**Revised Transportation Conformity Rules:** The EPA has published a revision of the transportation conformity rules, which incorporates changes mandated by SAFETEA-LU.

**Public Transit Funding:** The Federal Transit Administration has issued a notice in the Federal Register describing the available 2008 funding programs.

**TxDOT Planning Process Changes (32 TexReg 10060):** TxDOT has finalized changes to the corridor planning process which will allow the creation of advisory committees.

**Anti-Idling Rule Revised (33 TexReg 1345):** TCEQ has adopted revisions to the anti-idling ordinance rule, and has extended the rule through September 1, 2009.

**SH 99 FEIS Available (32 TexReg 9465):** The Final Environmental Impact Statement for the section of SH 99 from IH-10 to US 290 is available from TxDOT.

## Clean Air Product News

**B5 Formulation Approved:** TCEQ has approved a B5 TxLED formulation for usage.

**CARB Certification Extended:** CARB has extended the certification of the ECS Purifier H to include model years 1993, 2005, and 2006.

**New Freightliner Trucks:** Freightliner has announced that a new diesel-hybrid beverage truck and a new CNG-powered chassis that is 2010-compliant.

**HDM Anti-Idling:** HDM has announced that a new inverter/charger anti-idling system is available.

**Cummins APUs CARB certified:** Cummins has announced that two of its ComfortGuard APUs will meet 2008 CARB certification standards.

**RigMaster APUs Available:** RigMaster is offering 2 new APUs: the CARB compliant T4, and the Tier 2 compatible T2.

## Business Opportunities

**TERP Call For Projects:** The Texas Emission Reduction Program has announced it is accepting new funding applications. The deadline is **April 11, 2008** for incentive grants and **July 31, 2008** for rebate grants.

**Rural Public Transit:** The U.S. DOT is soliciting proposals for non-profit entities to develop and implement plans to expand rural public transportation. Proposals are due by **April 11, 2008**.

**Plug-In Hybrid RFP:** The DOE is soliciting applications for the development and demonstration of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles capable of charging by a standard 110-volt outlet. Applications are due **April 30, 2008**.

**Hybrid Tax Credits:** [Peterbilt](#) and [Kensworth](#) have announced that their Class 6 and Class 7 hybrid electric truck models are eligible for a hybrid tax credit.

Houston-Galveston Area Council  
Clean Cities  
Clean Cities Program  
Clean Vehicles Program

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## Events & Conferences

Biofuel Fundamentals: Energy Management Institute is offering a course on Biofuel Fundamentals in Houston, TX on **March 10-11, 2008**.

Diesel-Hybrid Webinar: Diesel Technology Forum will be hosting a diesel-hybrid webinar on **March 13, 2008**.

SmartWay Workshop: EPA will hold a workshop on the development of a SmartWay Truck Emissions Protocol in Washington D.C. on **March 19-20, 2008**.

Houston Clean Cities Meeting: The next meeting of the Clean Cities Stakeholder Group will be in Houston, TX on **March 26, 2008**.

Natural Gas Forum: The Alternative Fuels Vehicle Institute is hosting a natural gas forum in Anaheim, CA on **March 26-27, 2008**.

Fresh Air Friday: H-GAC will be sponsoring its annual Fresh Air Friday event in Houston, TX on **April 11, 2008**.

Biomass Conference: The 2008 International Biomass Conference & Trade Show will be held **April 15-18, 2008** in Minneapolis, MN.

AF&V 2008 Conference: The Alternative Fuels & Vehicles Conference will be held in Las Vegas, NV on **May 11-14<sup>th</sup>, 2008**.

## Spotlight of Excellence

This quarter, we salute:

Alief ISD, Clear Creek ISD, Conroe ISD, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, Dickinson ISD, Galveston ISD, Goose Creek ISD, Houston ISD, and Pasadena ISD, for receiving funds from the Texas Clean School Bus program.

## Spotlight of Excellence, Continued

Campbell Transportation Services, for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace 37 diesel engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

Dienst Distributing, for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace three diesel engines with 2007-compliant engines.

Isbell Equipment Co. (Apache Oil Company), for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace two diesel engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

Klein ISD, for receiving a grant from the Clean School Bus program to replace four diesel buses with new 2007-compliant buses.

Megasand Enterprises, Inc., for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace one diesel engine with a new 2007-compliant engine.

METRO, for introducing new park & ride service to the Katy area, extending out to the Grand Parkway.

METRO, for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace 100 diesel engines with new 2007-compliant diesel-hybrid engines.

METRO, for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace 64 diesel engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

Silver Eagle Distributors, for receiving a grant from the Clean Vehicles program to replace one diesel engine with a new 2007-compliant engine.

TCEQ & Union Pacific, for replacing 98 locomotives with new, lower-emission trains. Forty-three of these will be based in Houston.

## Fleet Manager's Toolbox

Biodiesel Availability: Renewable Energy Group has announced the availability of a new biodiesel blending program, aimed at increasing the availability of biodiesel.

New Alt. Fuels Blog: The Clean Fuels Development Coalition is launching a new blog dedicated to creating an "informative and ongoing public discussion about...the development and expansion of the nation's increased RFS..."

## H-GAC Program Highlights

On December 10<sup>th</sup>, Clean School Bus Houston received a \$50,000 donation from El Paso Corporation. At the press event, H-GAC executive director Jack Steele performed a "white glove test" on exhaust from a school bus with a DFP + CCV retrofit, and a school bus without one. The results showed just how obvious the benefits of retrofitting are for protecting children's health and cleaning up the air. El Paso CEO Doug Foshee encouraged businesses to be aware of the issue of school bus pollution, and to "take an active role in helping clean our air by supporting this program."

For more information on how your business or organization can help, please visit [www.cleanschoolbushouston.org](http://www.cleanschoolbushouston.org) and navigate to the "For Corporations" tab.

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