



Clean Cities Quarterly Update

Summer 2007 Edition



Transportation News

Biodiesel Additive: The TCEQ has approved the first biodiesel additive for use in B20 blends called OXYRE LED.

Locomotive & Marine Standards: The EPA is proposing new emission standards for locomotives & for certain marine diesel engines. Comments will be accepted through July 2, 2007.

Diesel Particulate Filter Certified: CARB has conditionally verified the EGR Technologies LLC/CleanAIR Systems diesel emission control system (DECS) as a Level 3 diesel emission control strategy.

Hydrogen Information Request: The DOE is requesting stakeholder input regarding the commercialization of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies. Comments are due by June 30, 2007.

Fuel Economy Senate Bill: S. 357, which would set fuel economy standards for "work trucks", will be reportedly favorably to Congress by the Transportation Committee.

New Engine Standards: The EPA has issued a proposed rule setting emission standards for new off-road spark-ignition engines. Comments are due by August 3, 2007.

HOV Rules: The EPA has published a notice of proposed rulemaking regarding the HOV eligibility of low-emission vehicles. Comments are due by July 9, 2007.

RTP Draft: H-GAC has posted a draft of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, and is accepting comments thru July 2, 2007.

Transportation News, Continued

SCR Guidance: The EPA has issued a final guidance document on the certification of SCR technology for NOx control.

Renewable Fuel Standards: The EPA has issued final rules establishing the first renewable fuel standards, requiring at least 7.5 billion gallons of renewable fuel is blended into the nation's gasoline supplies by 2012.

Air Quality News

SIP Moves Forward: The TCEQ has adopted revisions to the HGB SIP that will be submitted to the EPA by June 15, 2007, but which do not show attainment.

Supreme Court Ruling: The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that CO₂ is a pollutant under the Clean Air Act, and that the EPA must reconsider their decision not to regulate it.

El Paso Redesignation Withdrawn: The EPA is withdrawing the direct final rule which redesignated the El Paso area as attaining the CO standard, due to adverse comments.

IPCC Impacts, Mitigation Reports: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has issued two reports which summarize the potential impacts of global climate change and potential mitigation strategies to combat it.

EPA PM 2.5 Guidance: The EPA has issued a final rule which outlines how the PM 2.5 NAAQS is to be implemented.

State of the Air 2007: The American Lung Association has published its annual report on the nation's air quality.

Announcements & Events

Clean Cities Awarded Grant: The Houston-Galveston Clean Cities outreach program was awarded a \$10,000 grant from GM for program development!

APU Training: APU maker Auxillary Power Dynamics is offering installation and service certification for technicians of fleets that purchase the equipment.

CMAQ Funding Guide: The Diesel Technology Forum has posted a new guide for understanding and assessing the CMAQ Program and diesel retrofit opportunities.

Biodiesel Investor Conference: A biodiesel investor conference will be held in Houston, TX on June 28-29, 2007.

TxDOT Conference: TxDOT will be sponsoring their second annual Texas Transportation Forum in Austin, TX on July 18-20, 2007.

Cummins Calculator: A new payback calculator for Cummin's APU ComfortGuard System is now available for fleet managers.

Announcements & Events, Continued

Advancing the Choice Conference: H-GAC's annual conference will be held in Stafford, TX on June 27, 2007.

Biodiesel Conference: The Biodiesel Coalition of Texas is holding their 2nd annual Biodiesel Conference & Expo in Austin, TX on Sept. 5-6th, 2007.

Business Opportunities

TxDOT Public Transportation RFP (p.38): TxDOT has issued an RFP for public transportation projects intended to assist disabled individuals. Proposals are due June 22, 2007.

TCEQ's **Rebate Grants Program**, is open for applications. A portion of the monies will be set aside specifically for small businesses. The deadline for submittal is June 29, 2007.

XPrize for Innovative Autos: A multi-million dollar prize will be awarded to the winner of an XPrize competition that races a clean production-capable vehicle traveling the equivalent of 100 mpg.

Refuse Hauler Grants: The TX General Land Office announced that \$5 million in grants will be available for public refuse haulers to convert their fleets to natural gas.

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Spotlight of Excellence

This quarter, we salute:

METRO, for deploying 10 new hybrid diesel buses, with 20 more on the way!

METRO, for installing 21 bike racks on their new hybrid buses, the first of 800 promised to come by December!

UPS, for announcing they will introduce 50 new hybrid trucks into their fleets in 4 cities, including Houston. The trucks will utilize next-generation lithium-ion batteries.

Sheldon ISD, for being awarded a Clean School Bus grant to replace an older bus with a new 2007-compliant bus.

Humble ISD, for being awarded a Clean School Bus grant to replace four older buses with new 2007-compliant buses.

R.S. Concrete LLC, for being awarded a Clean Vehicles grant to replace five older engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

Advanced Gas, for being awarded a Clean Vehicles grant to replace two older engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

New Clean Air Product Offerings*

SmartWay Certified Trucks: Truck manufacturers now have the option of offer trucks that are SmartWay certified by the EPA for improving fuel economy.

Kohler APU: Kohler is offering a new, 5KW APU which is certified by the EPA as meeting tier 2 emission regulations; it is also certified by CARB.

Sun Power Idling Alternative: Sun Power Technologies is offering a new battery-based heating and cooling product called Eco-Air.

Racor Filtration Products: Racor is offering several new filtration products, including a crankcase system called Crankvent.

Freightliner Truck's "Cascadia": Cascadia, a new class 8 truck, is currently in production and is scheduled for customer delivery by the end of the year. Freightliner states that it will meet '07 emission standards, cut fuel consumption, and will be readily adaptable to the 2010 emission standards.

**Please note, items listed in this section are not guaranteed or endorsed by Clean Cities or H-GAC.*

Question of the Quarter

We know that air quality, transportation, funding, and policy issues are dynamic and complex, and that a myriad of questions often arise while navigating the maze. Beginning next quarter, we will be selecting one reader-submitted question to research and to highlight in this section. If you have a question that you would like answered, we invite you to submit it to us by emailing Christine.Smith@h-gac.com. Please include your name, your title, and your company/organization with your submission (if your question is selected, we will cite this information along with your question in the newsletter). Question selection will be based on the extent to which other readers may share your inquiry and the timeliness of the topic; questions should also lend themselves to fact-oriented answers, rather than subjective or commentary-oriented answers. We appreciate your cooperation and participation, and we look forward to receiving your submissions!

H-GAC Program Highlights

The H-GAC has launched a brand-new website for the [Clean School Bus program](#). The website features information describing the impacts of diesel pollution on children, a general overview of options to reduce diesel pollution, avenues for businesses to donate, and application information for school districts interested in applying for Clean School Bus funding.

The Clean School Bus's mission is to:

"To protect the health of children and their communities by helping school districts to retrofit or replace aging, polluting school buses with newer, cleaner transportation technologies and to promote no-idling policies."

The Clean School Bus program is administered by the [Area Emissions Reduction Credit Organization \(AERCO\)](#), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The national program was initiated by the E.P.A to improve children's health, and the Gulf Coast regional program was established in 2003. H-GAC assumed management of the program in 2006.

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