



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

April 12, 2012

Mr. Keith Leech
Clean Cities Coordinator
Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition
City of Sacramento
5730 24th St., Building #1
Sacramento, CA 95822

Dear Keith,

The Department of Energy is pleased to congratulate you on a job well-done on your re-designation webinar held on March 14, 2012, and to inform you that we have re-designated the Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition as an official Clean Cities program for the next three years (effective date: 3-14-2012).

As demonstrated in the webinar, you have assembled an active and enthusiastic group of stakeholders, and a knowledgeable and involved Board, which has contributed to the coalition's success. We commend you on your comprehensive approach to petroleum displacement, your diversity of projects, your collaborations with the Public Equipment Managers Association and the East Bay Clean Cities coalition, and your plans for developing technician and first responder training programs. Your coalition has done an excellent job with part-time staff, one that many coalitions with full-time Coordinators would have trouble equaling.

In assessing the coalition's effectiveness, we also conducted telephone interviews prior to the webinar with a number of Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition stakeholders. On balance, they were very pleased with the direction the coalition is heading, and with your leadership. Your meetings and events are seen as valuable opportunities to bring stakeholders together. Several stakeholders remarked that your coalition meetings are the best way to connect with local fleet managers, and that your events are of the highest quality, making it easy for fleet operators to learn about alternative fuels. Both you and Tim are well-respected by your coalition members.

Based on the webinar and stakeholder interviews, we believe that the Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition can continue to have a significant impact on both petroleum displacement and air quality improvement in the region in the coming years.

To ensure the continuing success of the Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition, we present the following suggestions:

- Several stakeholders mentioned the need to involve more private sector fleets in the coalition. Coordinate with Mark Smith, the DOE contact for the National Clean Fleets Partnership Program, to identify available infrastructure and encourage Partnership fleets such as UPS and FedEx to play an active role in the coalition. Mark can be reached at Mark.Smith@ee.doe.gov or 202-287-5151.

- A few stakeholders commented that the coalition is driven from the bottom up, with little participation or representation from the political leadership or state and local government department heads. The coalition's location in the state capital presents a tremendous opportunity to promote the many successes you have had, and to play a leadership role in developing petroleum displacement policies that can have a statewide impact. Brainstorm with your Board members and key stakeholders to develop strategies to encourage more state and local leaders to actively participate in Clean Cities.
- Investigate the potential for increased propane use throughout the coalition's area, especially for school buses, due to the relatively low cost of refueling infrastructure. Continue working with the Sacramento School Bus Consortium and propane providers in your region to determine which fleets might benefit most from using propane fuel.
- Coordinate with Caley Johnson of NREL to ensure that the VMT reduction numbers reported on your 2011 Annual Report qualify for inclusion. Caley can be reached at Caley.Johnson@nrel.gov or 303-275-3607.
- Consider applying to the Clean Cities Workforce Development Program for an intern to assist with outreach and education, including website updates and other social media development, as well as coordination with the state and local air quality agencies and other Clean Cities coalitions in the state.
- Follow up with Wendy Dafoe of NREL for information on the Clean Cities mentoring program. Wendy can be reached at Wendy.Dafoe@nrel.gov or 303-275-4470.

Again, congratulations on the good work you have done with the Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition, and we look forward to working closely with you in the future. Thank you for your commitment to the Clean Cities program.

Sincerely,



Dennis A. Smith
National Clean Cities Director



Linda Bluestein
National Clean Cities Co-Director

C: Tim Taylor, Manager, Land Use, Communications & Mobile Source Div., SMAQMD
Brett Aristegui, DOE Regional Manager, Western Region
Ellen Bourbon, Senior Analyst, New West Technologies