

EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS



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The ETCFC is a designated
participant in the U.S. DOE's
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NEWS RELEASE

JONESBOROUGH HAS MOVED TO FLEETWIDE B20 Town Takes the Initiative and Does Their Own Work to Make B20 a Success

Jonesborough, TN - During the last year, Tennessee's oldest town located in Washington County has phased in the use of B20 in most of their diesel vehicles and equipment.

The town has a mixed fleet of diesel-powered equipment ranging in age from the 1970's to 2006 models. During the initial testing period, B20 was used in everything including fire engines, dump trucks, backhoes, a leaf collection vacuum and a small mower used to groom medians. They now have 100 percent of their mobile diesel fleet using B20, or about 30 vehicles.

Gary Lykins, the town fleet manager, says, "drivers and operators were given a questionnaire during the test phase concerning equipment performance and other comments. The response was overwhelmingly favorable to the biodiesel B20."

Lykins continues, "as the fleet manager, I can honestly say I have not encountered any equipment failure directly related to the B20. The filter problems associated with the change-over were not a factor on our fleet. The majority of responses from the equipment operators are easier starts and more power even in cold weather."

The mayor, board of aldermen and town administrator all supported the use of the fuel after an initial test study on cost and availability. Lykins didn't have any problems locating fuel suppliers that could provide the B20 blend; the town uses about 3,000 gallons of B20 per month.

"Our experience has been that the price of B20 has been a few cents higher or a few cents lower than diesel, not making much of a difference for us," says Lykins.

Biodiesel is a cleaner-burning, renewable, American-made fuel that can be used in any diesel vehicle or equipment and is made from vegetable oils or animal fats. It is not vegetable oil mixed with diesel. Its expanded use by public and private fleets and individuals is improving air quality in East Tennessee and reducing our nation's dependence on petroleum, including that sourced from foreign countries.

The ETCFC now estimates that over 100 fleets in East Tennessee are using biodiesel blends. To see a list of the known fleets in East Tennessee that are using biodiesel, and to see all the public stations that offer biodiesel in the region, see <www.ETCleanFuels.org>.



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