

City of Sevierville Biodiesel Overview

September 26, 2006

Loudon Biodiesel Seminar



Diesel Engine Inventory by Brand

Ford	17
Caterpillar	14
Cummings	11
John Deere	10
Case	9
International	8
Komatsu	6
New Holland	4
Perkins	4
Onan	3
Ingersoll Rand	2
Chevrolet	2
Detroit	2
Mack	1
Kubota	1
	94 Total



Our Fuel Farm: biodiesel, CNG, LPG

CNG trucks



Propane buses





Our Biodiesel Use History (part 1)

- Began using B5 Blend on January 4, 2005 by purchasing at Co-op
- Increased to B10 on September 30, 2005 by using our own fuel farm
- Increased to B15 on April 11, 2006
- Increased to current blend of B20 on May 16, 2006
- Problems have been very few...fuel filters, fuel lines, one fuel pump (on an old truck), have been the only items requiring more than regular maintenance in the first 3 tank-fills of equipment. We did experience some gelling for some reason during September 2006, but we're still investigating this.
- During the spike of high fuel prices, biodiesel blend was approximately the same price or lower than diesel. Currently B20 is 10 cents higher per gallon than regular low sulfur diesel.



Our Biodiesel Use History (part 2)

- Cold weather problems (20's is about as cold as we've had) have not been an issue. We treat most biodiesel for anti-gelling and even the untreated has not caused any start problems as proven in an informal experiment. Warm weather changes have not brought any fuel problems, separation, water retention, added filter changes, or noticed corrosion.
- Overall the minor complaints we've heard seemed unwarranted (i.e., additional fill-ups, lower fuel economy, strange smells or less power). Performance looks to be good.
- Have noticed some engines experiencing 1-2 MPG increase in fuel economy. However, in a few trucks the fuel economy has been reduced.
- Began selling fuel to our local natural gas utility during the summer of 2006. No reported problems so far with them.



For More Information

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