

## **East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition 4th Stakeholders Meeting Notes ~ July 18, 2002**

Where: The Copper Cellar's Banquet Room, Cumberland Avenue

### Attending (total of 23 people)

Barkenbus, Jack – The UT Energy, Environment and Resources Center (EERC)  
Bishop, Doug – City of Sevierville  
Brabston, Stuart – Ted Russell Ford  
Cantrell, Teresa – Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP)  
Conger, Mike – Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)  
Deputy, David – AmeriGas Propane  
Fraser, Chuck – United Cities Gas  
Greenberg, Barry – Knoxville Area Transit (KAT)  
Henry, Dean – Suburban Propane  
Hickman, Jerry – City of Sevierville  
Jagger, John – City of Pigeon Forge  
Lowe, Dejim – TVA  
Marine, Scott – City of Pigeon Forge (Fun Time Trolley)  
Mauldin, Glenn – DGM Consulting  
McCarter, Jeff – Sevier County Utility District  
Naegeli, Wolf – Foundation for Global Sustainability (FGS) + 9 Counties-1 Vision  
Reed, Greg – UTK Civil & Environmental Eng. Dept.  
Schotters, Mark – GSMNP  
Shannon, Tom – UTK Mechanical, Aerospace & Biomedical Eng. Dept.  
Stahlke, Bob – City of Sevierville  
Thomas, Susan – Electric Transit Vehicle Institute (ETVI)  
Underwood, Randy – Sevier County Utility District  
York, Carla – Ebus

### Other participant information:

Gail Farris – Executive Secretary, EERC

Thus far, a total of 55 people have participated in the 4 meetings, representing 33 different co.s, org.s, etc.

### Meeting Content

1. Called meeting to order ~ 11:15am
2. Briefly described outline for the day (see the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda on the Web site - [www.etcfc.org](http://www.etcfc.org) under "Documents")
3. Jonathan stated that he wanted to repeat (for new members) why we are working on building this coalition, which was for the dual goals of reducing dependence on foreign oil and improving air quality in the region. To support this, Jonathan made two additional notes to the assembled team, including about 1) a diesel fuel spill that occurred in Knox County in the Strawberry plains area yesterday, and 2) some air quality information from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park the day before. Jonathan used the spill to distribute some information on biodiesel, which poses almost none of the threats that regular petrodiesel does to the environment during spills. The GSMNP air quality information he spoke of was the following:
  - Ozone: The scale for ozone concentration is 0-65 ppb (parts per billion) = Good; 65-85 ppb = Moderate; 85-105 ppb = Unhealthy; 105+ ppb = very unhealthy.
    - ◆ Yesterday's (7/17/02) maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration = 97 ppb (unhealthy)
    - ◆ Yesterday's maximum 1-hour average ozone concentration = 103 ppb (unhealthy)
  - PM-2.5: The scale for PM-2.5 concentration is 0-15 ppb = Good; 15-40 ppb = Moderate; 40-65 ppb = Unhealthy; 65+ ppb = very unhealthy.
    - ◆ Yesterday's 24-hour average PM-2.5 concentration = 52 ppb (unhealthy)
    - ◆ Yesterday's maximum 1-hour average PM-2.5 concentration = 87 ppb (very unhealthy)

David Deputy made a comment afterwards about how anyone can use the fact that we have a treasured national park that is part of East TN as leverage to try and secure funding from their organization to support

coalition activity. This is made possible by the fact that the coalition has a goal of contributing to cleaning up the parks air pollution through the use of AFVs and alternative fuels.

4. Everyone introduced themselves to the group.
5. Jonathan made a few notes on the Web site, namely
  - The "Documents" page is where you'll find most of the documents he speaks of that he places on the Web site.
  - There is another page on the site called "Online Resources," but that is only a fancy name for offsite links.
  - The site is a work in progress, with current work focusing on the AFVs section and completing the "Stakeholders" page.
6. Where were are holding the lunch meetings was discussed next. Jonathan asked if any one wanted to switch locations for any reason. The group seemed happy with meeting at the Copper Cellar, and thus that will be the location for the meetings held in the near future.
7. Jonathan recognized July's "Star Volunteer," Stuart Brabston with Ted Russell Ford. Stuart helped out with several initiatives the coalition was/is working on including trying to secure funding to support an infrastructure proposal and doing the background work in trying to secure a coalition AFV that will serve as a rolling billboard for the coalition.
8. Jonathan went through a list of activities that he has been working on to move the coalition closer to designation, which are the following:
  - Putting Program plan together (discuss outline with basics for what is done thus far)
  - Discussing membership/dues structure with individual stakeholders; briefly discuss the plan for allowing dues to help cover one-quarter of the necessary core costs that the coalition will have, and who you have spoken with about becoming a "Founding Partner" (AmeriGas, ORNL, UTK, City of Knoxville, City of Pigeon Forge, Ted Russell Ford, TVA), and who you plan to speak with about becoming a Founding Partner (AVS Bus, Eastman, IdleAire, KUB, Pilot Travel Centers LLC, Sevier County Utility District [SCUD])
  - Discussing project ideas with individual stakeholders (minimal thus far; starting off with discussing what is currently going on)
  - Contacting people as of yet not contacted (e.g., Knoxville Zoo, Airport Authority, City of Alcoa, Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership, Honda/Toyota of Cleveland, Pioneer Oil, IdleAire, City of Gatlinburg, Sevier County Executive)
  - Writing letters to Wamp and Frist to introduce the coalition and attempt to produce a first meeting
  - Writing a proposal to Knoxville TPO for CMAQ funding to cover core costs of coalition and some educational work for the coalition
  - Developing bylaws for the coalition; not started, but other coalitions' bylaws are being reviewed to determine the quality and quantity necessary to develop ours
9. Jonathan then briefly described some of the bylaws that are being developed.
10. At this point, some of the other members took turns describing their alt fuel related projects to the rest of the stakeholders, including the following:
  - Jeff McCarter discussed what Sevier County Utility District (SCUD) is doing to setup infrastructure for the cities of Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, and that SCUD is also using several AFVs themselves.
  - Doug Bishop described that the city of Sevierville has the funds to purchase two buses, and are looking at some hybrid electrics as their choice.
  - Barry Greenberg then discussed what KAT is doing, including working toward purchasing some propane-fired hybrid electric buses and dedicated vans (and a propane-fired street sweeper!), and is also working on the necessary infrastructure to support those vehicles.
  - Mark Schotters with the GSMNP described his desire to put biodiesel (B20) in all of his 200 vehicles in the Roads and Autoshop division that he oversees. He noted that this initiative is currently in a holding pattern due to the potential for slightly increased NOx emissions from using that alt fuel. He also spoke of another initiative he has to start using bio-based hydraulic fluid in his fleet.
  - Last but not least, Stuart Brabston of Ted Russell Ford described some of the work he is doing to try and secure a bi-fuel F-150 as the coalition vehicle and other funding to support the coalition. He also mentioned that Ford is trying to move to focusing on propane and natural gas vehicles more, and that there are discounts available for fleet purchasers and the best time of year for purchasing those in December and January.
11. During those informal information presentations, several discussions came up. The following comments were made:

- Thomas Shannon noted that Butch Irick, a professor in the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Engineering at UTK, could perhaps provide some insights on the tradeoffs of using different alternative fuels
  - Carla York mentioned that she is speaking with Lee University about participating in the coalition
  - Mike Conger noted some clarification as to what is known and what is not known about future nonattainment (for the 8-hour ozone standard and the PM-2.5 standard) and CMAQ funds provided to area counties. Mike clarified that some discussions at the federal level on when those standards will actually go into effect for our state are holding up their implementation, and that right now it looks like the counties that would most likely go into nonattainment in this area (i.e., Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon, Sevier) would all share the same amount of money that now goes to only Knox county.
  - Greg Reed then commented that it looks like 17 counties across TN would go into nonattainment when the state's schedule is set (for providing information to EPA), based on current three-year data (1999-2001). It is possible that that number (of counties) could go up if the state data submission occurs later on (2003 or after) because that data will include the current year's information and the information already in-hand points to a greater amount of exceedances now and in the future than occurred in the previous three years.
  - Doug Bishop noted that some vehicle conversions that are going on in Ohio for are taking a long time to get completed and returned to Tennessee.
12. At that point, the coalition broke out into the three Working Committees (WCs), and met for the first time. The session started with introductions of each WC member to the WC, then progressed into discussions surrounding that WC's issues. This meeting of the WCs was meant to serve as a starting point to finding out how these groups would work together, and allowing them some time to get to know one another better. Future coalition meetings will include more time for WC meetings, and a summary of the content of those meetings will be included in future meetings notes.

Meeting Notes taken by Gail Farris and Jonathan Overly; respectfully submitted by Jonathan Overly.