

## EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS COALITION

### 8th Stakeholders Meeting Notes ~ December 5, 2002

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

When: 11am to 1pm

#### Attending (total of 22 people)

Bardsfield, John Mark – Hydrocore

Barkenbus, Jack – The UT Energy, Environment and Resources Center (EERC)

Bishop, Doug – City of Sevierville

Brabston, Stuart – Ted Russell Ford

Conger, Mike – Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)

Fortner, Bryon – City of Sevierville

Greenberg, Barry – Knoxville Area Transit (KAT)

Hamblen, Brian – Hydrocore

Hickman, Jerry – City of Sevierville

Hillis, Steve – City of Alcoa

Lowe, Dejim – TVA

Marine, Scott – City of Pigeon Forge (Fun Time Trolley)

McGill, Ralph – Oak Ridge National Laboratory/National Transportation Research Center (ORNL/NTRC)

Overly, Jonathan – Coordinator, ETCFC

Parton, Buddy – City of Gatlinburg

Penland, Mark – TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation (TDEC), Knoxville Representative

Reed, Greg – UTK Civil & Environmental Eng. Dept.

Rhines, Darrin – Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB)

Smithyman, Linda – Sierra Club

Stahlke, Bob – City of Sevierville

Thomas, Susan – Electric Transit Vehicle Institute

York, Carla – Ebus

#### Other participant information:

Thus far, a total of 65 people have participated in the 8 meetings, representing 40 different companies and organizations.

#### Meeting Content

1. Called meeting to order ~ 11:10am; map of CNG stations across Oklahoma (**69 of them!!!**) displayed for attendees to review and peruse.
2. Briefly described outline for the day (see the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda on the Web site - [www.etcfc.org](http://www.etcfc.org) under "Documents"); then briefly discussed some additional documents that were presented to the group, including
  - ▶ the meeting notes from the last ETCFC monthly meeting (10/31/02),
  - ▶ the most recent issue of *Alt Fuel News* (articles on propane, national parks, tiger teams),
  - ▶ note on NHTSA studying mileage standards,
  - ▶ copy of the new **congressional map** for TN (with delegate contact info),
  - ▶ note on the oil tanker spill off the coast of Spain,
  - ▶ note on the **Sprawl Index** for Knoxville,
  - ▶ 1-pager on advertising with the Knoxville Ice Bears,
  - ▶ notes from the most recent Environmental Reporter,
  - ▶ an article from industryweek.com (sent by Charlie Little at Valley Proteins) on Honda's Civics,
  - ▶ an ETCFC memo on companies that convert police cruisers to run on propane, and
  - ▶ the **summary for current AFVs and infrastructure in East TN**.
3. In addition to those documents, 6 copies of the ETVI's most recent newsletter (*EVs in Transit*; Autumn 2002) were provided to the group, as well as were several copies of the Honda color brochure on the Honda Civic GX (a nice little CNG-dedicated AFV).
4. Everyone introduced themselves to the group.
5. Reminded everyone of the coalition's official **mission statement**, and the **near-term goals** that exist for the team.

6. Presented the Fall 2002 "Star Volunteer" award to **Barry Greenberg** for commitment to bring alternative fuels use to Knoxville and East TN.
7. The group discussed making the monthly meetings consistently occur on a particular day of the month, and decided on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month** as the date that would be used for the near future. The next three meetings would be on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003, February 13<sup>th</sup> and March 13<sup>th</sup>.
8. Jonathan then noted the activities that were worked on in the last month (see the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda). Of those notes, Stuart Brabston was able to provide some further insights:
  - ▶ Stuart said that he had spoken with someone at Lamar Advertising and that they were amenable to working with us to place at least one billboard to support coalition efforts (Go Stuart!) He said that the Lamar person said that this time of year is their busiest, and early next year will most likely see something of a drop-off that might be advantageous for us to be prepared for.
  - ▶ Stuart also noted that Ted Russell Ford is willing to provide a couple of cars for Earth Day.
9. Before splitting into Working Committees (WCs), Jonathan noted (for those that may not have attended a meeting or selected a WC previously) to simply pick one today to participate in.

Meeting Notes taken and submitted by Jonathan Overly.

#### Working Committee Notes

#### **AFVs & Infrastructure WC Notes**

(received 12/17/02)

Attendees:

Doug Bishop - City of Sevierville (Co-chair)

Barry Greenberg - KAT (Co-chair)

John Mark Bardsfield - Hydrocore

Stuart Brabston - Ted Russell Ford

DeJim Lowe - TVA

Ralph McGill - ORNL

Buddy Parton - City of Gatlinburg

Greg Reed - UTK Dept of Civil & Env. Eng.

Darrin Rhines - KUB

Carla York - Ebus

Carla York, representative from Electric Transit Vehicle Study Authority, gave an update on several projects and stated that no progress had been made on ethanol in the Park. Also, Carla stated that the public report for the propane sites would be available from the fire Marshall's office in approximately two (2) weeks. A general discussion was held about alternative fuel vehicles and the fuels available for this project.

Mr. Doug Bishop, City Administrator for the City of Sevierville discussed the prospect of sending out bid specifications for 10 police cruisers that are needed by the Sevierville Police Department and stated that it would be a possibility for the City of Sevierville to purchase future cars that would use alternative fuel. Mr. McGill stated that the NREEL website would be a good source to find this particular data. Carla York will check website and find prospective comparative values and details on alternative fuels and get back with this information. The handling, merchandising, and operation of compressed natural gas fuel and propane fuel was then discussed around the table.

It was stated that the City of Gatlinburg has three (3) new police cruisers already ordered at the present time. KUB, who operate 87 "alternative-fuel" vehicles, stated that they would get a 2-3 year comparison of compressed natural gas v/s regular fuels and the cost of both for the group to study. Research and development in Europe produced a new way to charge electric vehicles by induction in the ground with a moveable plate in the bottom of the vehicle that will drop and charge for a short or long period of time.

The Tennessee Valley Authority will reduce pollutants by 70% by the end of the decade and automobiles' emissions in general will be reduced 80% by the end of the decade. In two (2) years air pollution will start to decline and continue to drop until the year 2025 when growth catches up based upon no technologies.

Mr. John Mark Bardsfield stated that a company by the name of Hydrocorp would present hydrogen as an alternative fuel with production beginning in the next 18 months. Research and development is being done on the effectiveness of this fuel and how it could be used in internal combustion engines and turbines.

The meeting of the Committee was adjourned at approximately 12:45 P.M.

Meeting Notes taken by Doug Bishop.

### **Education & Marketing WC Notes**

(received 1/2/03)

Attendees:

Susan Thomas - ETVI (Co-chair)  
Mike Conger - Knox Regional TPO  
Brian Hamblen - Hydrocore  
Scott Marine - City of Pigeon Forge  
Mark Penland - TDEC  
Linda Smithyman - Sierra Club  
Bob Stahlke - City of Sevierville

- ▶ Discussed marketing concepts. Susan Thomas presented several ideas for billboard advertising.
- ▶ Discussed possible events. Consensus was that first event should preferably be geared towards impacting fleet managers. Several questions came up, including: Who is invited (bus fleet mgrs., private taxi companies; govt. fleet mgrs., etc.). Group felt that the following elements should be included in the event: AFV manufacturers/dealers should be present; Fleet managers who are currently using AFV's should be present; must clearly present and demonstrate the advantages to converting to AFV's.
- ▶ Group felt it would be worthwhile to have a display at the next Earth Day.
- ▶ Discussed PSA's. Group consensus was the second option, with a few minor changes. Susan will work on this.
- ▶ Group discussed developing a display for use at events. Brian Hamblen volunteered to help design a display board.
- ▶ It was suggested that the coalition have give-away marketing items, such as magnets, key chains, etc. Items should include logo, telephone numbers, website address.
- ▶ Group recommended that a FAQ (frequently asked questions) sheet be developed for use as a handout at events. Also recommended that a FAQ page be added to the coalition website.

Meeting Notes taken by Bob Stahlke.

### **Legislative WC Notes**

(received 1/7/03)

Attendees:

Jack Barkenbus - EERC (Co-chair)  
Bryon Fortner - City of Sevierville  
Jerry Hickman - City of Sevierville  
Steve Hillis - City of Alcoa

The Legislative Working Committee of the ETCFC met on December 5 to explore options. There was consensus that we should not go forward with legislative recommendations in isolation from other state groups working in the area (primarily the Middle Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition and the Tennessee Alternative Fuels Task Force). A coordinated approach is absolutely essential. Ideas the group felt had some merit for further consideration included:

- ▶ Designating a percentage of the gas tax for alternative fuels development (including support for the Clean Cities efforts)
- ▶ Have motor vehicle license plates issued free of charge for alternative fuel vehicles
- ▶ Sell alternative fuels with no, or low, tax rates
- ▶ Provide tax credits for those commercial entities that seek to install alternative fuel infrastructure along a inter- and intrastate network of suppliers.

Meeting Notes taken by Jack Barkenbus.