

# MEETING NOTES

## EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS COALITION 25<sup>th</sup> Stakeholders Meeting ~ May 13, 2004

Where: UTK Conference Center Building in downtown Knoxville

When: 10:35am to 1:30pm

Lunch: Provided by Famous Dave's and sponsored (paid for) by the TN Soybean Promotion Council!

### Attending (total of 24 people)

Trish Abercrombie – Dream Works Printing ☺

John Mark Bardsfield – Hydrocore

Marc Cardoso - EcoGenics ☺

John Carter – Blue Sky Biodiesel

Reed Detring – Big South Fork National Park

Margie Detring ~ *Interested Citizen* ~

Mark Downing – Oak Ridge National Lab. (ORNL) / Nat'l Trans. Research Center (NTRC)

Linda Gass ~ *Interested Citizen* ~ ☺

Barry Greenberg – Knoxville Area Transit (KAT)

John Hickam – City of Gatlinburg

Lib McShaw – Hydrocore

Richard Molsbee – Plasma Gasification Consultants (PGC)

Wolf Naegeli – Foundation for Global Sustainability / 9 Counties. 1 Vision.

Jonathan Overly – Ex. Dir., ETCFC

Amy Parkhill – Dream Works Printing

Buddy Parton – City of Gatlinburg

Tyler Parton – City of Gatlinburg

Dan Pursglove – Seymour Herald & *Interested Citizen* ☺

Bo Saulsbury – ORNL

Brooke Sinclair – Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB)

Harry Steuer ~ *Interested Citizen* ~ ☺

John Trollinger – McNutt Oil ☺

Kelly Vaughn – Knox County Dept. of Air Quality Mgmt.

Parks Wells – Tennessee Soybean Promotion Council (TSPC)

Evelyn Winther ~ *Interested Citizen* ~

Other participant information:

A total of 6 new people (☺) attended this meeting.

Thus far, a total of **145 different people** have participated in the 25 meetings, representing **74 different companies and organizations**.

### Meeting Content

1. ETCFC Executive Committee (EC) met at 10:35am. In attendance were Mark Downing, Brooke Sinclair and Jonathan Overly. Jonathan noted that he still needs to complete the Bylaws changes, and hopes to have those changes made so that the new Bylaws can be presented to the Exec. Cmte at the next meeting. Also, a discussion was held on bringing on new members to the Steering Committee (since it is time to rotate 3 members off and 3 new members on). Decided that the criteria to being on the SC were 1) attendance at 75% of meetings, 2) already being a dues-paying member and 3) your organization working on at least one alt fuel project (either AFVs, infrastructure or educational). The EC selected three SC members that have either not attended meetings in a year or who have recently left their related company to cycle off the SC. For the Working Cmte discussions, began by talking about the Hydrogen Economy WC. Need to get this cmte steered toward developing the first H2 car project in East TN. (Conveyed this directly to John Mark and Richard M. at about 11am). Next, the Education & Marketing WC needs to continue its analysis of what audience should we focus our advertising dollars on. That WC needs to advance its list of potential clients and review what ways will be the most cost-effective to getting our message to those people. AFVs & Infrastructure WC discussion was decided to be an overview of what KUB is thinking for putting together

a Knoxville-based project that would connect utility, municipal and possibly for-profit fleets, infrastructure and alt fuel. Adjourned the EC meeting at about 11:05am.

2. Asked everyone to get some food at 11:15am and then be ready to start shortly.
3. Called full meeting to order at 11:25am.
4. Briefly described outline for the day and discussed the documents that were provided to the group. These included a special Clean Cities conference issue of the newly redesigned "Clean Cities News" (the DOE publication "Alternative Fuel News" was revamped to this title due to the program's expanded focus, which now includes support for idle reduction, fuel economy, hybrids and fuel blends (i.e., ethanol blends less than 85%, biodiesel blends less than 20% and CNG/H2 blends).
5. Briefly discussed what's transpired in attempting to set our MOU signing date.
6. Introductions were provided from all in attendance.
7. Coalition core cost funding was discussed. About 75% of our funding needs for 2004 are met. Reviewed how much funding was raised at the Inaugural Run for Clean Air.
8. Let the group know that it is time to bring 3 new Steering Cmte members on-board. Individuals interested in being on the SC need to submit their name to Jonathan before the next meeting. (Current listing of SC members is on the Website on the "Stakeholders" page.
9. At that point, Jonathan asked everyone to read the agenda and then we would have a discussion afterwards (in lieu of regularly speaking about items on the agenda for about 30-45 minutes). The questions that were raised afterwards, and the comments made during the update from regional organizations, included the following:
  - ▶ Is there any legislation that addresses nonattainment? Several people responded, but the key issue to note is that while some state legislation will probably be needed to help East TN reach attainment, much work is needed at the local level. Gatlinburg was the only example of local legislation (they have an anti-idling law) that related to the body of ideas that are generally respected as the main things that need to be done to help us reach attainment. John Mark mentioned the state ethanol/biodiesel bill that will most likely not be passed, and Barry noted that that legislation is most likely too narrow for success. Dan asked about anti-idling laws, which solicited Buddy's comment about Gatlinburg.
  - ▶ Marc Cardoso noted the movement by his company, EcoGenics, to produce biodiesel.
  - ▶ Parks noted the McMinnville distributor's facility appears to still be moving forward toward production.
  - ▶ Dan Pursglove noted that he thought it was wrong of him to be writing for the Seymour Herald on cleaner alternative sources of energy in the community and not being driving an alt fuel vehicle, so he went and bought one! A 2002 VW Jetta TDI that he promptly took to Maryville for a fill-up of B20 (at Calloway Oil's store, which isn't really setup for public supply yet). On this note, Jonathan noted VW's recent fiasco in attempting to void customer's warranties if they run biodiesel in VWs (in the U.S.). VW was sued and subsequently lost the case, and now must honor their warranty even if it is found that biodiesel was run in the vehicle (they still can refuse warranty coverage if the fuel [biodiesel] was determined to be the cause of engine or vehicle damage).
  - ▶ John Carter of Blue Sky Biodiesel noted that they are still in Phase I of their plan, which produces about 300 gallons/day. Phase II will be about 1,000 gallons/day, and hopefully they are not too far from getting there.
  - ▶ Buddy noted that the Gatlinburg biodiesel and propane trolley projects are still moving forward.
  - ▶ Mark Downing noted his personal vehicle work with biodiesel, and that ORNL and DOE are still working on using biodiesel and seeing if it is possible to make one of the DOE E85 stations available to the public (very difficult for federal organizations).
  - ▶ Brooke noted that KUB is looking at a project that she will be able to tell us more about at one of the next few meetings.
  - ▶ John Mark noted that Hydrocore just returned from the national hydrogen conference and found out much about new vehicles and infrastructure, much of which he shared with the group via pictures and informational sheets.
  - ▶ Richard noted that he can't say yet about a project his group is working on, but will be able to at a future meeting.
  - ▶ Reed noted that they are taking delivery of a dedicated CNG Silverado pickup truck (!) and need to workout their infrastructure needs. Their biodiesel project is moving forward... their new tank has been

placed and they expect to receive their first shipment of biodiesel next week. They are still working on ethanol.

- ▶ Barry noted that several new larger 20 passenger vans are on order (that will run on propane) and that they will replace the last of the original World's Fair 1982 vans (the oldest in the KAT fleet). That will leave the oldest in the fleet being 1995 or later. The newer diesel vehicles that are being purchased have exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) which reduces NOx emissions. They are using propane at such a rate that they now need daily deliveries of propane. This is leading to the need for a larger tank, which is expected to be placed in the near future. On the biodiesel side, they plan to start with B5 to allow slower cleaning of the vehicles, then after some time move to B20, and perhaps a larger percent biodiesel mix!
- ▶ John Trollinger noted that McNutt has made biodiesel available to the public at three different stations in three different counties in East TN (Cocke County in Newport, Blount County in Alcoa, and Loudon County in Loudon).

10. Noted the dates and locations for the next 5 months meetings – through September 2004 (see the agenda).

Meeting Notes submitted by Jonathan Overly.

#### Working Committee Notes

Due to the limited amount of time left for WC discussions (about 30 minutes), no notes were taken.