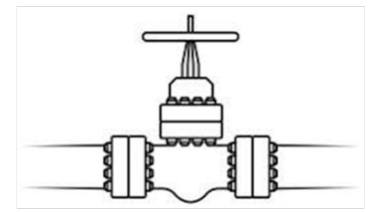


THE RNG PIPELINE-



COMMUNITY & INDUSTRY NEWS

A Monthly Newsletter Made Possible by: Raton Natural Gas

FEBRUARY, 2022

NATGAS AS ALTERNATIVE VEHICLE FUEL — FROM ENERGY.GOV

Natural gas offers opportunities for reducing the use of petroleum in transportation, especially in medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. These fleets, which include a variety of vehicles such as transit buses, refuse haulers, delivery trucks, and long-haul trucks, currently consume more than a third of the petroleum used for transportation in the U.S. The Vehicle Technologies Office previously and currently supports the development of natural gas engines and other research on natural gas. See the Alternative Fuels Data Center for a description of the uses and benefits of natural gas vehicles and information on tax incentives for natural gas vehicles.

VTO has supported the development of natural gas engines for heavy-duty vehicles since 1992. In fact, nearly all heavy-duty natural gas engines sold in the U.S. can trace their roots to DOE's support of research and/or partnerships between VTO and industry. In particular, VTO's work with Cummins-Westport led to the development of their 8.9 L ISL G engine, which met EPA's 2010 emissions standards years before the requirement.

Also, VTO worked with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the California Energy Commission, and the South Coast Air Quality Management District to support projects to develop highly efficient natural gas engines for medium and heavy-duty trucks and buses. For example, Cummins-Westport has developed an 11.9 L natural gas engine that they are integrating into refuse trucks and Class 8 delivery trucks.

In 2015, the Fuel and Lubricant Technologies subprogram continued to advanced gaseous fuels research by funding projects to remove barriers to the use of new, more efficient technologies for gaseous fuel use in medium- and heavy-duty applications. For example, one project is developing a robust dual-fuel engine control system to enable to use of natural gas and diesel in heavy-duty applications. VTO continues to work with stakeholders to discuss research needs for natural gas engines and vehicles through the Natural Gas Vehicle Technology Forum.



Large commercial fleets already utilize natural gas to fuel some vehicles.

To increase the sustainability of natural gas, VTO has also supported research into the production of renewable natural gas. Renewable natural gas is a purified version of biomethane that results from decomposition at landfills, wastewater treatment plants, and livestock facilities. When it is used in vehicles in place of diesel, it reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 88 percent or more. For more information on this fuel's potential, see the AFDC's renewable natural gas resources. Collaborating with industry and national laboratories, VTO demonstrated the feasibility of purifying biomethane from landfills. VTO's research has also identified more than 300 landfills producing biomethane that could each produce up to 20,000 gallons of liquefied natural gas per day. Since then, further research has identified more than 8,000 livestock facilities that could also support renewable natural gas production. Building on this work and often with the assistance of Clean Cities coalitions, a number of companies have since implemented this technology. Now, landfills and livestock facilities are using this technology to produce fuel and power local natural gas vehicles, including refuse haulers, milk haulers, and transit buses. With VTO's support, the organization Energy Vision released a guide for developing renewable natural gas projects.

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THE 811 PROCESS



FOR HOMEOWNERS

1 NOTIFY

Notify your local one-call center by calling 811 or making an online request 2-3 days before work begins. [Click here](#) for information about your local one-call center and online service availability. The one-call center will transmit information to affected utility operators.



2 WAIT

Wait 2-3 days (varies by state; please [click here](#) for state law information) for affected utility operators to respond to your request. On average, between 7-8 utility operators are notified for each request.



3 CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utility operators have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the one-call center notified. State laws vary on the process for confirmation; please check with your local one-call center for more information.



4 RESPECT

Respect the marks. The marks provided by the affected utility operators are your guide for the duration of your project. If you are unable to maintain the marks during your project, or the project will continue past your request's expiration date (varies by state), please call 811 to ask for a re-mark.



5 DIG CAREFULLY

Dig carefully. If you can't avoid digging near the marks (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state law), consider moving your project to another part of your yard. If you must dig near the marks or use machinery of any kind, please [click here](#) to read "The 811 Process for Contractors."



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