

The Initiative for Resiliency in Energy through Vehicles

Realizing the energy security benefits of alternative fuel vehicles and fueling infrastructure

Emergency vehicles are crucial assets that help communities prepare for and recover from disasters. However, in many disaster situations, disruptions in petroleum and electricity supply hinder emergency vehicles from providing critical services. Incorporating alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) into emergency response fleets helps states and communities diversify fuel sources, lessen their vehicles' vulnerability to shortages and disruptions, and prepare a coordinated response effort. Like conventionally-fueled emergency response vehicles, AFVs have the ability to:

- Move vulnerable citizens out of harm's way;
- Transport and provide emergency care for sick or injured people;
- Pick up debris and clear roadways; and
- Transport personnel to repair energy and other critical infrastructure.

With support from the U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Program, the Initiative for Resiliency in Energy through Vehicles (iREV) launched in June 2015 with the goal of helping states and localities understand and incorporate AFVs into their emergency preparedness and response efforts. A diverse set of experts led by the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) will work to educate, coordinate, and equip the emergency preparedness and response community with the data, tools, and resources they need to integrate AFVs into emergency response planning. Together, iREV partners will:

- Develop case studies and the iREV-Tracking tool to help emergency planners
 access needed data and understand the potential benefits and costs of
 deploying natural gas, propane, biofuels, electric vehicles and other emerging
 technology in emergency situations;
- Hold regional workshops to share key findings and demonstrate the iREV-Tracking tool (to be held in spring 2016); and
- Work directly with states and localities to develop customized policy and planning toolkits that incorporate the use of AFVs in emergency situations.

WHY ALTERNATIVE FUELS? NATURAL GAS IN ACTION DURING HURRICANE SANDY

In Atlantic City, dozens of "jitneys," minibuses run by owner-operators that are fueled by compressed natural gas (CNG), were pressed into action during and after Hurricane Sandy. The CNG buses evacuated people who could not transport themselves, transported clinic patients to medical treatments, and helped those staying behind gather emergency goods such as food and water. The use of CNG for vehicles is an asset in the aftermath of natural disasters, as gasoline is often in short supply.

Photos courtesy of U.S. Department of Energy







Partners

Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition

Center for Sustainable Energy

Concurrent Technologies
Corporation

Edison Electric Institute

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Office of Energy

International Association of Emergency Managers

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices

Nevada Governor's Office of Energy

Propane Education and Research Council

American Public Gas Association

Clean Communities of Central New York

Eastern Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Transportation

Empire Clean Cities

Greater Long Island Clean Cities Coalition

Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

National Biodiesel Board

Natural Gas Vehicles Association

New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Office of Energy Programs

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