

**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
East Texas Clean Cities Coalition (ETCCC)**

**Steering Committee and Stakeholder Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 9, 2005, 2:00 p.m.  
Large Conference Room  
East Texas Council of Governments  
3800 Stone Road  
Kilgore, Texas**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**1) Call to Order: Clean Cities Coordinator Rick McKnight, ETCOG**

Mr. McKnight called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 p.m.

**2) Welcome and Introduction**

Attendees introduced themselves and stated the organization they represent.

Attendees

- Jimmy Skeen, AEP/SWEPCO
- Jim Moore, Emission Solutions/Fuelmaker
- Karen Owen, Longview MPO
- Melissa Bechtold, Longview MPO
- Dietrich Johnson, City of Longview
- Norman Schenck, Tyler Transit
- Mark Sweeney, East Texas Council of Governments
- Rick McKnight, East Texas Council of Governments

**3) Discussion and approval of ETCCC Steering Committee meeting minutes of December 8, 2004.**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2004 ETCCC Steering Committee and Stakeholders meeting. A second was made and the minutes passed without any dissent.

**4) Update on Alternative Fuel and Air Quality Activities, Legislation, and Funding Opportunities**

Rick McKnight gave an update regarding relevant alternative fuel and air quality activities, legislation and current funding opportunities. A list of new resources and publications from the Alternative Fuels Data Center was distributed as well as

copies of the Seattle Regional Office (SRO) of the U.S. Department of Energy funding opportunity newsletter.

**5) Update on Alternative Fuel Vehicle and Refueling Station Survey for Clean Cities Annual Report**

The Annual Clean Cities Report will be submitted to the DOE in March. The report is an update to the activities of the ETCCC, current number of AFVs, and the number of refueling stations in our region. Surveys were mailed out in January to gather the required data. The report also contains information such as the total funds received in grants for ETCCC. This included money from the Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) and the U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE). Other activities reported include the annual Advancing the Choice Workshop held yearly to educate those interested parties about advanced technologies and fueling options. The report will be completed and submitted to DOE by March.

**6) Discussion of US Department of Energy's (DOE) State Energy Program Special Projects Funding**

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy will formally issue the *2005 State Energy Program/Special Projects Solicitation DE-PS26-05NT4239-6* in February. The State Energy Program (SEP) Special Projects funding is Clean Cities main source of funding. The Clean Cities categories for the solicitation are: Coalition Support; Heavy-Duty Hybrids; Idle Reduction; AFV Fueling Infrastructure; and AFV Incremental Cost. A two page proposal abstracts will be due to SECO on or by February 25. Final proposals will be due to SECO on or by April 15.

**7) Update on Honda/Fuelmaker "Clean Connections" Demo Program for East Texas**

The "Clean Connections" demo project would allow a fleet to experience a real world test of a Honda Civic GX compressed natural gas (CNG) sedan with the ease and convenience of on-site fueling from a FuelMaker. This unique program provides a fleet with an on-site demo of both a Civic GX and a FuelMaker natural gas fueling appliance. A FuelMaker unit and Honda Civic GX are provided for real world fleet evaluation for a specified period of time. The party testing the equipment is responsible for only the cost of installing the FuelMaker unit to the existing natural gas service, at your selected location. The designated official responsible for the program schedules use of the Civic GX between various departments, such as parking enforcement, code enforcement, building inspection, health inspection and public housing.

Rick McKnight has discussed with both representatives of American Honda and FuelMaker about the possibilities of testing the equipment in East Texas and received positive feedback. Currently the City of Austin has the demo and will

have it through the end of March. Once the project is finished in Austin, it could move to the East Texas area. Other advantages to participating in the demo project are discounts provided by Honda and FuelMaker, under their "Clean Connections" incentive program toward the purchase of any FuelMaker refueling system. Both Longview and Tyler will continue to consider participating in the demo project. A meeting between all the involved parties will be set up in the coming month to continue the development of the project.

#### **8) Other Business**

The next meeting of the ETCCC Steering Committee will be on Wednesday, April 13, 2005, at 2:00 p.m. at the ETCOG Offices in Kilgore, Texas.

#### **9) Wrap-up and Adjourn**

There being no further items or suggestions, the meeting was adjourned and approximately 3:30 pm.