



FINAL REPORT LADOT Transit, City of Los Angeles

AB 2766 Discretionary Fund Work Program Grant Final Report

Contract Number: AB 2766/MS07008

Date: April 11, 2014

Prepared for the Mobile Source Air Pollution Review Committee (MSRC) under the AB 2766 Discretionary Fund Work Program. Funding of incremental costs for switching from diesel-powered coaches to CNG for our Commuter Express Buses. Delivery of these buses was taken from January thru April, 2013.

This report is submitted in fulfillment of under the partial sponsorship of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) by the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT).

The statement and conclusions in this report are those of the contractor and not necessarily those of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) or the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The mention of commercial products, their sources or their uses in connection with material reported is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such products.

Description and Work Performed

During period from January 2013 through April 2013, inspected, tested and put into service 95 high-floor over-the-road CNG-powered 40' buses. Number of vehicles actually purchased did not come to the original total of 102, but rather 95. A letter for a contract amendment is presented to MSRC along with this report.

Photographs and Outreach

Outreach was conducted to introduce the buses to the public and reminding them of the funding sources. A press event was held and various publications printed parts of the press event.

James M. Lefton Introduces the Clean Fleet

"As part of the continued effort to make Los Angeles "The Greenest City in the Nation", the L.A. Department of Transportation celebrated Wednesday the addition of 95 new natural gas powered buses to the Commuter Express fleet.



"These buses are brand new," said Lefton, LADOT's Chief of Transit. "They're comfortable and they're clean fuel CNG buses, so they're helping to reduce traffic congestion. They're helping to clean the air as well."

The buses will replace the 95 older, diesel-powered buses in the fleet. With the replacement, the entire Commuter Express fleet is now powered by cleaner-burning compressed natural gas (CNG)."

A bus was on display for the press. The photo below shows placement of the MSRC sticker on our fleet.



Key Problems Identified, Solved

The contractor, LADOT had some difficulty procuring high-floor ADA-compliant over-the-road coaches in the CNG configuration. MSRC staff had excellent foresight to arrange for a very long lead time.

Emissions Benefits

Natural gas's advantages over other fuels include the following: it has fewer impurities, it is less chemically complex, and its combustion generally results in less pollution. In most applications, using natural gas produces less of the following substances than oil or coal: carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is the primary greenhouse gas; sulfur dioxide, which is the primary precursor of acid rain; nitrogen oxides (critical in Los Angeles), which is the primary precursor of smog; and particulate matter, which can affect health and visibility; than oil or coal. Technological progress allows cleaner energy production than ever for all fuels, although the inherent cleanliness of gas means that environmental controls on gas equipment, if required, tend to be far less expensive than those for other fuels.

Summary and Conclusions

LADOT has a long-standing relationship with MSRC and values the partnership and assistance in deploying our clean-air fleet. Natural gas-burning engines with their significant NO_x and particulate reductions are significantly assisting in maintaining our region's livability.