

**Core Stakeholder Meeting
COG Offices
August 19, 2009**



ATTENDEES:

Grady Truett
Larry Lane
Dave Navey
Rich Deming
Marcie Smith
Mike Keziah
Bill Gray
Brian Kasher
Mike Allison
Allen Dean
Alan Giles
Jason Wager
Sarah Niess

MINUTES:

Welcome/Introductions:

Chairman Mike Keziah gave a welcome to the group. Each attendee introduced themselves.

Subcommittee Activities:

Electric Vehicle Subcommittee

Jason Wager gave an overview of the EV subcommittee's meeting, which took place earlier in the morning at the COG offices. Jason said that the group agreed on the objective/goals developed at the last Core Stakeholder Meeting with the addition of an objective to work to streamline the permitting process for residential charging stations. Mike Rowand from Duke Energy said that this is a critical issue with the manufacturers. The group is going to meet again in September to try to learn more about the Raleigh Project Get Ready program. Dave Navey also gave a recap of the July 28th meeting in Raleigh on electric transportation issues.

The following people attended the first subcommittee meeting:

Dave Navey, Lou Lambruschi (Parker), Rob Phocus (City of Charlotte), Mike Rowand (Duke Energy), Jason Wager and Sarah Niess.

Legislative Subcommittee

Sarah reviewed with the group the subcommittee's activities since the last Core Stakeholder Group meeting. The coalition has set up 8 meetings with legislators and completed 4 of these meetings. Jason and Sarah are trying to reschedule the remaining meetings.

The legislative subcommittee (consisting of Larry Lane, Marcie Smith, Dave Navey and Rich Deming) have been attending these legislative meetings with Sarah and Jason.

Coalition Projects:

Funding Items:

Alan Giles gave an update on the GRADE+ program. He expects that an RFP will be out September 2nd with a deadline of October 31st. There will be a website, www.gradeplus.net that will be launched ahead of the RFP with all relevant information. The grant will fund off-road (including stationary generators) and on-road highway diesel engines. Repowers will be funded at 75% and replacement engines at 25%. The maximum award will be \$150,000. The projects must be located in the 13 county Charlotte metropolitan area including NC and SC counties.

The NC State Energy Office is expected to announce an RFP for alternative fuels in the coming weeks. The funding would cover alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure for a total of around \$3.8M.

CCFC Pilot Project Program

The coalition has received a grant from the NC State Energy Office that includes \$15,000 for demonstration or pilot projects in the region. At the last Core Stakeholder Group meeting, the group suggested that the coalition put a call out for projects for the funds. Sarah and Jason developed a draft RFP for pilot demonstration projects and reviewed the key items with the group. The group only had input on the timeline and communication requirements – everyone thought a 30 day turnaround would be sufficient and that only email should be used for questions, not phone.

2009 Action Plan

Sarah and Jason revised the coalition's Action Plan for 2009 and distributed it for input to the group. Although it is halfway through 2009 the timing is good because the Department of Energy is now requesting an annual operating plan from the coalition in September. Sarah gave some background and reviewed only the highlighted items in the plan – these items were issues that feedback from the group was requested. The major issues covered included:

- *Developing a larger workshop for Charlotte:* Many in the group thought that having a workshop on some of the financial and implementation tools and incentives (rather than the technologies) would be most helpful to fleets. These topics would include RECs, cap and trade programs, carbon credits, tax incentives and the difference between government and private entities (also the issue of leasing and how these incentives can translate into lower vehicle prices). Several suggested that because of limited travel budgets that a webcast be used for the workshops. COG has the ability to do webcasts but it also might be helpful to see what CPCC and UNC Charlotte have for resources for webcasts. Most agreed that a series of smaller workshops would be more useful than a large two day conference. Other workshop ideas included hosting a larger

ethanol national conference and looking at the life-cycle of batteries and the issue of disposal for EVs.

- *Niche focus on refuse haulers and taxis:* Jason and Sarah have been trying to develop a program for taxis for years but have never had the time or right solution available. The group recognized that taxis are a difficult fleet to reach because they are individually owned and are often used and less expensive vehicles. The regulatory side might be the best approach to this issue. Given this input, the group decided this should not be a priority of the coalition and should be kept in a “parking lot” instead. Refused haulers, however, represent an opportunity to create a niche focus because they are centrally fueled, there is a NG source onsite and run the same route everyday. Mike Allison suggested that we get plugged into the HTUF conference on October 28th in Atlanta.

Presentation:

- Allen Dean from Fueleon gave a presentation on “Public/Private Partnerships for Sustainable Energy Solutions.” Fueleon is a company that will locate a processing facility in a region to convert waste oil into biodiesel for bus and transit fleets.