

# REFUEL: SAN DIEGO REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL COORDINATING COUNCIL

JANUARY 21, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

File number 3200900

## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Chris Schmidt (Caltrans), called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Len Hering (Center for Sustainable Energy [CSE]) informed Refuel members of a meeting that announced the United States Navy's Green Fleet. He shared that there was no agricultural impact for this biofuel production, and added that this transaction was the single largest alternative fuel purchase in the world at a staggering 283 billion barrels of fuel.

## 3. OCTOBER 15, 2015 MEETING MINUTES (APPROVE)

Mike Grim (City of Carlsbad) motioned to approve the meeting minutes from October 15, 2015, and Jacques Chirazi (City of San Diego) seconded the motion.

## 4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kevin Wood (San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition [SDRCCC]) provided a legislative update on alternative fuel related legislative activity:

- Federal Tax Credits have been extended for alternative fuels.
- Senate Bill (SB) 350 (De Leon, 2015)
- Assembly Bill (AB) 1288 (Atkins, 2015)
- AB 692 (Quirk, 2015)
- AB 808 (Ridley-Thomas, 2015)
- AB 1236 (Chiu, 2015)
- SB 513 (Beall, 2015)
- AB 1250 (Bloom, 2015)
- AB 1032 (Salas, 2015)
- SB 32 (Pavley, 2015)
- AB 857 (Perea, 2015)
- AB 904 (Perea, 2015)
- Mr. Wood introduced two new Bills:
  - AB 1591 (Frazier, 2016)
  - 1555 (Gomez, 2016)

## 5. PUBLIC WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

Mr. Wood summarized the comments on the Readiness Plan received at the January 14, 2016 Public Workshop. Responses to these comments and those made at today's meeting would be included in the Draft Readiness Plan that will be taken to the Energy Working Group on January 28, 2016.

## 6. DRAFT SAN DIEGO REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL READINESS PLAN

Tom Bartley expressed satisfaction with the amount of information in the Readiness Plan and added that the Plan and training programs must be managed closely to ensure proper dissemination of information to stakeholders. He also suggested implementing a local transportation research institute to help support local entrepreneurship in the alternative fuel industry.

Co-chair Anna Lowe (SANDAG) and Mr. Wood presented the major components of the Draft Readiness Plan including: infrastructure investment and coverage, technology assessments, and recommendations. They also shared comments received from the January 14, 2015 Public Workshop.

Mr. Wood explained the infrastructure coverage table and maps included in the Draft Readiness Plan. The table depicted percentages of residences and/or businesses currently within 2.5 miles of a station for each fuel type, as well as a targeted coverage level. This information was used to inform a GIS exercise based on the density of businesses and residences to suggest potential station locations that would reach the targeted coverage level.

- Mr. Chirazi gave a brief update on the first hydrogen station under construction in San Diego. He mentioned that ADA requirements have delayed the project but that it is anticipated to open in March.

Mr. Wood introduced the infrastructure investment cost table found in the Draft Readiness Plan. The table showed the order of magnitude of the required investment to build-out regional infrastructure for all fuels.

- Several Refuel members asked if estimated station costs included factors such as permitting and land. Mr. Wood responded that the estimated cost was based on figures provided by the U.S. Department of Energy's Alternative Fuel Data Center. The group decided more information was needed in the text of the Readiness Plan to discuss which costs were included.
- Chair Schmidt commented that the number of stations and associated cost to reach a critical mass for a healthy market for each fuel should be discussed. Refuel members supported this type of scenario analysis as a topic for subsequent efforts.
- Mr. Chirazi noted that as more stations of any fuel type are built, costs tend to decrease over time.
- Mr. Bartley asked if liquefied natural gas (LNG) would be included separately from compressed natural gas. Mr. Wood responded that LNG was not included for the coverage or mapping components because it is typically used by long-haul trucks in a very different application from other fuels.
- Mike Evans (San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce) suggested adding the projected emissions reductions from various investments. This would help decision-makers use a cost-benefit analysis to identify priorities. Co-chair Lowe noted that there are tools in the Alternative Fuel Toolkits for quantifying a fleet's emissions reductions, but direct comparisons between fleets are difficult to make.

Mr. Wood moved on to discuss the technology assessments in the Readiness Plan, which discusses the characteristics and outlook for each fuel type. Co-chair Lowe, followed that with the recommendations section of the Readiness Plan. She presented the five recommendations and gathered input for each recommendation:

Recommendation 1: Continue to emphasize alternative fuels as a key strategy in the region's GHG reduction efforts

- Mr. Evans suggested stakeholders have a common understanding of permitting, first responders, etc. Several Refuel members expressed support for creating a case study on San Diego's first hydrogen station to help spread this information.

Recommendation 2: Continue to align alternative fuel policies across all local agencies in support of regional air quality attainment and other goals

- Nick Cormier (APCD) voiced that next steps would be to combine elements of the Readiness Plan with San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan. He added that metrics pertaining to the determination of ideal alternative fuel infrastructure and vehicle projects would help APCD maximize the effects of its grant programs.

Recommendation 3: Seek new funding sources for alternative fuel vehicle and infrastructure deployment

- Mr. Bartley suggested approaching manufacturers directly to contribute to market studies and other efforts.

Recommendation 4: Enhance education and outreach efforts to promote awareness of alternative fuel options

- Chair Schmidt commented that the focus should be on educating fleet managers on the business case for adopting alternative fuels.

Recommendation 5: Accelerate market growth through workforce development, training, and local entrepreneurship

- Chair Schmidt noted a parallel to the solar industry in that workforce training could be a great facilitator for increased adoption. However, it may be a challenge to reach out to everyone in the vehicle and infrastructure development, maintenance, and deployment pipeline.

Chair Schmidt explained that the feedback received today would be addressed and that we were seeking acceptance of the Readiness Plan to move it forward in the approval process. Mr. Evans motioned to approve the Draft Readiness Plan, and Jeff Wyner (City of Escondido) seconded the motion. Refuel members unanimously accepted the Draft Readiness Plan and associated Recommendations.

Co-chair Lowe appreciated the group's invaluable input throughout the process and said the work of Refuel would continue in other venues such as the San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition, Plug-in SD, and the SANDAG Regional Energy Working Group.

## **7. UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

Chair Schmidt explained that the Draft Readiness Plan will go before the SANDAG Regional Planning Committee on February 5, 2016 to be recommended for approval by the SANDAG Board of Directors on February 26, 2016.

Susan Freedman (SANDAG) reminded the Refuel members that the Energy Working Group meeting will be held on January 28, 2016.

## **8. MATTERS FROM MEMBERS**

Allison Wood (SANDAG) provided a brief update on the Plug-in SD project noting trainings for local permitting staff to be announced soon.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

**January 21, 2016, SAN DIEGO REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING  
ATTENDANCE**

REPRESENTATION	JURISDICTION / ORGANIZATION	NAME	MEMBER / ALTERNATE	ATTENDING
South County Subregion	City of Chula Vista	Barbara Locci	Member	NO
North County Coastal Subregion	City of Carlsbad	Mike Grim	Member	YES
	City of Oceanside	Mo Lahsaie	Alternate	NO
North County Inland Subregion	City of Escondido	Jeff Wyner	Member	YES
East County Subregion	City of Santee	Kathy Valverde	Member	NO
	City of San Diego	Jacques Chirazi	Member	YES
	County of San Diego	Susan Freed	Member	NO
San Diego Association of Governments		Anna Lowe, Co-Chair	Member	YES
		Susan Freedman	Alternate	YES
San Diego Regional Airport Authority		Brendan Reed	Member	NO
Caltrans, District 11		Chris Schmidt, Chair	Member	YES
Unified Port District of San Diego		Michelle White	Member	NO
		Kellie Carlson	Alternate	NO
San Diego Gas & Electric		Randy Schimka	Member	NO
		Greg Haddow	Alternate	NO
Center for Sustainable Energy		Colin Santulli	Member	YES
University of California, San Diego		Jim Ruby	Member	NO
Miramar College, ATTE Program		Greg Newhouse	Member	NO
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District		Nick Cormier	Member	YES

ADVISORY MEMBERS			
JURISDICTION / ORGANIZATION	NAME	MEMBER / ALTERNATE	ATTENDING
City of Coronado	Bill Cecil	Advisory	NO
City of Del Mar	Kristen Crane	Advisory	NO
City of El Cajon	Matt Lyer	Advisory	NO
City of Encinitas	Bryce Wilson	Advisory	NO
City of Imperial Beach	Chris Helmer	Advisory	NO
City of La Mesa	Howard Lee	Advisory	NO
City of Lemon Grove	Mike James	Advisory	NO
City of National City	Ray Pe	Advisory	NO
City of Poway	Eric Heidemann	Advisory	NO
City of San Marcos	Lisa Fowler	Advisory	NO
City of Vista	Lyn Dedmon	Advisory	NO
Metropolitan Transit System	Sharon Cooney	Advisory	NO
North County Transit District	Vacant	Advisory	NO
Department of Defense/Military	David Powell	Advisory	NO
San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition	Kevin Wood	Advisory	YES
Energy Policy Initiatives Center	Nilmini Silva-Send	Advisory	NO
University of San Diego	Michael Catanzaro	Advisory	NO
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce	Mike Evans	Advisory	YES
CleanTECH San Diego	Jason Anderson	Advisory	NO

**Others in attendance:**

Jennifer Bailey, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority  
Kevin Kelly, Vision Fleet  
James Tillman, Vision Fleet  
Katie Hentrich, SANDAG  
Michelle Martinez, SANDAG

Colin Santulli, CSE  
Randy Wilde, CSE  
Allison Wood, SANDAG