

Federal Fleet Files

Vol. 1, No. 2 – June 2009

Highlighting the latest news and developments affecting Federal fleets.

EPAct Section 701 Waiver Process Begins Anew

The annual Energy Policy Act (EPAct) of 2005 Section 701 waiver process is underway. Section 701 requires Federal agencies to use only alternative fuel in all dual fueled vehicles (e.g., E85 flex-fuel vehicles) except where the vehicles have received a waiver from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Agencies may qualify for a waiver if the needed alternative fuel is not reasonably available (e.g., within a five mile or 15 minute drive) or is more expensive per gallon than gasoline. This year's waiver request process includes several changes, including:

- Vehicle locations can now be specified by ZIP code, physical address (e.g., street), or latitude and longitude. Providing more specific vehicle locations delivers better accuracy when determining alternative fuel availability.
- Agencies can now prescreen waiver applications by entering vehicle location data into the Federal Automotive Statistical Tool (FAST). FAST compares this information against the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL's) fuel station locator to determine the likelihood of waiver approval for that location. Be advised that DOE will not reconsider waiver approval without a detailed description of the request if a waiver approval appears unlikely during prescreening.
- Several agencies received updated Microsoft Excel templates for importing waiver requests ahead of the data call. The template is also posted to the FAST sign-in page and on relevant pages within FAST's waiver request input forms. Ensure that the current template version is being used.

Section 701 Waiver Request Steps and Timeline for Federal Agencies

- The waiver request data call began on June 1, 2009. All waiver requests must be submitted to DOE by **midnight on June 30, 2009**. Agencies can enter waiver requests any time during this period. There are currently no plans to extend the deadline.
- Notify FAST users within your agency of the data call and request waiver applications for agency vehicle fleets as soon as possible.
- Change the "interim" Section 701 close date for your agency within FAST to allow sufficient time to review waiver requests for agency vehicle fleets.
- DOE will review waiver requests throughout July and August, beginning after the data call closes. DOE will request and review follow up data and/or documentation as needed.
- In September, agencies will receive final determination on waiver approvals and denials from DOE.

The Office of Management and Budget's waiver criteria to achieve "green" on the Transportation Management Scorecard are that less than 50% of an agency's alternative-fuel vehicles (AFVs) are waived and the agency achieves a 2% reduction in waivers from the previous year; or more than 50% of AFVs are waived but the agency achieves a 10% reduction in waivers from the previous year.

FAST system problems that cannot be addressed by your agency's administrator can be directed to Michelle Kirby at michelle.kirby@inl.gov. Policy questions related to EPAct Section 701 can be directed to Mike Helwig at michael.helwig@nrel.gov.

OMB Transportation Scorecard Update

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Transportation Scorecard information must be sent as soon as possible, but **NO LATER THAN Thursday, July 2, 2009**, to federal_energy_score_cards@ee.doe.gov with a copy to michael.helwig@nrel.gov. This update is in response to OMB's recent announcement that the next Agency Senior Officials Meeting, in compliance with Executive Order 13423, will be held on Monday July 27, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Truman Room of the White House Conference Center. At the meeting, OMB will distribute the final July 2009 scorecard assessments on energy, transportation, and environmental stewardship to the agencies.

Reminder: FedFleet 2009

FedFleet 2009 is fast approaching. This year's conference will be held July 28-30 in Chicago, IL.

Additional information is online at www.fedfleet.org.

Call for INTERFUELS Speakers

INTERFUELS is now accepting speaker submissions. Non-Federal speakers must have a Federal sponsor. For additional information, contact Marc McConahy at marc.mcconahy@gmail.com.

Newsletter Contact

For newsletter comments or suggestions, contact Ryan Daley at ryan.daley@nrel.gov.

Protec Helps Increase E85 Availability in Florida

Protec Fuel Management recently announced E85 availability at new stations in the Miami metropolitan area. In participation with U-Gas (Urbieta Oil), the Renewable Fuels Association, General Motors, and Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Protec Fuel helped expand E85 availability in South Florida from one U-Gas station in 2007 to 12 stations in 2009. Visit www.protecethanol.com for more information, or www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/locator/stations/ for station locations.

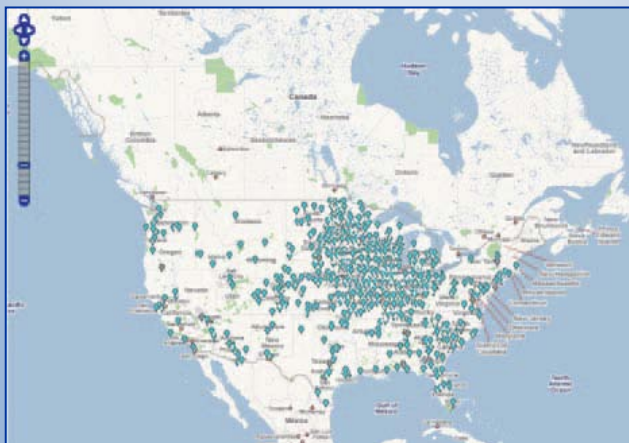
REMINDER: EISA Section 246 Data Call

Section 246 of the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007 requires Federal agencies to install renewable fuel infrastructure at fueling centers under their jurisdiction by January 1, 2010, and to provide annual reports on progress in doing so. NREL initiated this year's reporting data call on behalf of DOE on May 19, 2009, via e-mail. Completed spreadsheet submissions are due **August 31, 2009**, and should be submitted via e-mail to federal_fleets@ee.doe.gov and michael.helwig@nrel.gov.

Federal Fleet Resources

Federal fleet managers can turn to the Web for alternative-fuel resources. Available resources include:

- **New:** Transportation Atlas:
<http://rpm.nrel.gov/transatlas/launch>
- Alternative Fuel and Vehicle Information:
<http://www.afdc.energy.gov>
- Heavy Duty Vehicle Comparisons:
<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/vehicles/heavy>
- Frequently Asked Questions about Federal Fleets:
http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/pdfs/federal_fleet_fa_q.pdf
- History of Actions and Mandates Relative to Federal Fleets, Alternative Fuel Vehicles, and Alternative Fuel Use:
http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/pdfs/fs_federal_fleets.pdf
- Annual Events in Federal Fleet Management:
http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/pdfs/fleet_annual_schedule.pdf



Screenshot of the NREL Transportation Atlas Tool

EISA Section 142 Executable Plans

EISA Section 142 requires Federal fleets to decrease petroleum consumption, increase alternative fuel use, and develop an executable plan to meet target goals. These executable plans are due **December 31, 2009**. DOE will provide initial recommendations for these plans, but rulemaking on Section 142 is still underway. Official guidance will be provided once rulemaking is complete.

Industry Day II Request for Input

The second-annual Industry Day will be held this fall in Washington, D.C. The one-day conference brings Federal fleet managers and alternative fuel providers together in hopes of developing alternative fuel infrastructure and increasing alternative fuel consumption. In preparation for this conference, DOE is requesting input from Federal fleet managers and other interested parties surrounding conference session topics. What would you like to learn at Industry Day II? Send ideas and comments to Sebastian Silvani at sebastian.silvani@ee.doe.gov.

REMINDER: DOE Regional EPAct Workshop

The DOE State and Alternative Fuel Provider Fleets Program is sponsoring regional workshops across the United States. These workshops, implemented by NREL, cover EPAct 1992 and EPAct 2005 alternative fuel requirements, infrastructure development goals, and deployment issues. The workshops intend to facilitate collaboration between state and alternative fuel provider fleets; representative Clean Cities coordinators and stakeholders; Federal fleets; and fuel marketers and distributors. Attendance is limited to 50 people on a first come, first served basis. FEMP is seeking contact information for interested Federal fleet managers in the locations below. Please send contact information and any questions to Ryan Daley at ryan.daley@nrel.gov.

Invitations will be sent out prior to each workshop. Upcoming workshop dates and locations include:

- **June 16:** Williamsburg, VA
- **August 5:** Denver, CO
- **August 18:** Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX
- **September 17:** Miami, FL