

New York City Transit Authority Hybrid-Electric and Natural Gas Buses



"All New Yorkers know the problems that come with aging buses that spew black soot into the air as they travel down our streets, ...we begin an aggressive plan to clean up the air quality in New York City by replacing diesel buses. This plan using the latest technology available once again makes New York State a national leader in protecting and enhancing our environment. The MTA is at the forefront of efforts to improve the quality of the region's air by their continuing development of a pair of new buses using compressed natural gas and hybrid-electric technologies. Both programs represent the latest advances in clean air technology and offer significant air quality improvements."

*- George E. Pataki
Governor, State of New York*

Background

The New York City Transit Authority (NYCTA) has made the use of clean-fuel technology one of its top priorities. Although NYCTA is committed to environmentally sound transportation systems, the incremental cost of these more efficient technologies can be a deterrent. To help implement its goal of using clean-fuel technology in its buses and vehicles, NYCTA participated in the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) Clean-Fueled Bus Program. NYCTA received over \$10.2 million in funding for the incremental cost of new buses containing clean-fuel technology.

Initiative

The community in which these buses operate has been prone to high levels of air pollution over many years. NYSERDA funding has made possible the purchase of 192 compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and 91 diesel hybrid-electric buses that significantly reduce emissions while increasing the fuel economy of the vehicles. Lower service intervals also help reduce maintenance costs. The clean-fuel technology makes the environment cleaner while reducing our dependence on foreign oil.

In addition to providing environmental benefits to the community, these clean air buses promote the benefits of alternative-fuel vehicles in the New York metropolitan area. Drivers, passengers, and the public now perceive hybrid-electric and CNG buses positively, and drivers report that passengers are impressed with the new technology. The New York City Transportation Authority is committed to purchasing these environmentally sound buses in the future, as it works with NYSERDA in providing cleaner air for the residents, workers, and those who visit New York City.

Results

NYSERDA's funding of over \$10.2 million will help NYCTA realize:

- displacement of 10,250,968 gallons of diesel over the lifetime of the vehicles
- maintenance time and cost savings associated with bus maintenance
- up to 50% increased fuel economy

Emission reductions over the lifetime of the vehicles include:

- 1,681,728 kg NO_x
- 89,848 kg PM-10
- 144,434 tons CO₂



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