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OED, UCC, NASEO release Alternative Fuel Vehicle and Emergency Plans report

SALT LAKE CITY (Nov. 4, 2019) — In support of the Governor’s Declaration on Alternative Fuel Awareness Month and Utah’s Energy Action Plan to 2020, the Governor’s Office of Energy Development (OED), Utah Clean Cities (UCC) and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) today released the “Alternative Fuel Vehicle and Emergency Plans: A Planning and Policy Report for Utah.”

The report examines how alternative fuel vehicles can bolster Utah's resilience, and be leveraged as an emergency response resource in the event of a disruption to the state’s transportation fuels sector. Currently, 46 alternative fuel fleets exist across Utah with more than 6,400 light and heavy-duty vehicles operating on natural gas, propane, biodiesel, ethanol, electricity or hybrid fuels.

“We are proud to become one of the first models nationally for strategic energy emergency planning across the transportation sector by collaborating on this critical report and other educational and informative tools,” said Laura Nelson, the Governor’s energy advisor and executive director of the Governor’s Office of Energy Development. “By strengthening our partnerships, technologies and infrastructure, Utah will continue to be well-positioned to meet the demands of the future through its continued emphasis on delivering fuel diversity across the public and private sector.”

To help emergency planning entities understand the various AFV and infrastructure assets at their disposal, NASEO used information maintained by the Alternative Fuels Data Center (www.afdc.energy.gov), Clean Cities Coalitions and other disaster readiness tools, to develop an online Alternative Fuel Vehicle and Infrastructure Tracking Tool (the iREV-Tracking Tool). This tool provides the locations for 249 public and 48 private alternative fuel stations throughout Utah, with many clustered near population centers. It also identifies dispensing facilities for CNG, LNG, propane, E-85 ethanol, B-20 biodiesel, and electricity.
In its final section, the report offers nine key recommendations to strengthen Utah’s resilience and better leverage alternative fuels by driving greater collaboration, education and adoption among public and private entities. It also calls for modified language to the Utah Energy Emergency Plan to allow for fuller inclusion of alternative fuels and vehicles in its overarching strategy.

"Utah's state emergency operations and energy plan will increase resiliency in our transportation sector through all-fuels inclusivity across the state of Utah," said Tammie Bostick, UCC executive director. “It is a prime example of the Utah-way of working together to address complex problems such as emergency response during severe weather events and other climate-driven episodes like fires, floods, drought and seismic activity. We are committed to diversifying the two-fuel-only model of traditional gas and diesel. We are doing this by working on the front lines to ensure preparedness response modeling with Utah's public and private fleets. This commitment ensures Utah has the most advanced transportation options that are currently available and consistently deployed in both our urban and rural communities.”

Following two successful pilot projects, NASEO selected Utah through a competitive Request for Applications to develop the report. Over the past four months, NASEO worked closely with the OED and UCC to review Utah’s state emergency operations and energy plans, assess petroleum vulnerabilities and threats to the state, collect data on alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure locations, develop recommendations for Utah to integrate alternative fuel vehicles into future emergency and energy plans, and to support the deployment of alternative fuels generally.

“Integrating alternative fuel vehicles into emergency planning and response activities is a critical, needed strategy that State Energy Offices across the country are implementing to enhance the resilience of our transportation and energy systems,” said David Terry, NASEO Executive Director. “NASEO was pleased to work with the Utah Governor’s Office of Energy Development and Utah Clean Cities to craft meaningful recommendations and help Utah reach their energy, security, and economic development goals.”

To read the report, visit energy.utah.gov/publications, and here for the direct link.

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**About Governor’s Office of Energy Development (OED)**
Web: energy.utah.gov

Governor Gary R. Herbert recognizes energy as one of the four cornerstones of Utah’s strength, along with education, job creation, and self-determination. In recognition of this priority, the Governor’s Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in 2011 to advance the responsible development of Utah’s energy and minerals sector to provide significant and lasting value to the state through the provision of affordable, reliable and sustainable energy.

**About Utah Clean Cities**
Web: utahcleancities.org

The mission of the Utah Clean Cities Coalition is to advance the energy, economic, and environmental security of the United States by supporting local decisions to adopt practices that reduce the use of petroleum in the transportation sector. Working closely with the Department of
Energy’s Technology Integration Program, federal and state government, as well as our local stakeholders, we leverage our resources to bring funding into Utah to support the development and deployment of advanced fuel infrastructure and vehicles with an emphasis on renewable energies and technologies. We are committed to expanding transportation modeling by offering consultation services to access proven, state-of-the-art technological vehicles and equipment with proven return on investment for smart mobility fleets. We are here to support actionable steps to meet the challenges of our carbon-constrained world, to meet state and federal mandates, and implement sound business practices to tackle the serious nonattainment conditions in our state.

About NASEO
Web: https://www.naseo.org/

NASEO is the only national non-profit association for the governor-designated energy officials from each of the 56 states and territories. Formed by the states in 1986, NASEO facilitates peer learning among state energy officials, serves as a resource for and about state energy.