



Freedom CNG®
New power for the road ahead

NEWS RELEASE

February 12, 2015

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HOUSTON'S FREEDOM CNG GETS GREENLIGHT TO FUEL METRO FLEET

Compressed Natural Gas station to service up to 83 METRO buses at Fallbrook Bus Facility

(Houston, Texas) - FREEDOM CNG has received approval from the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County's board of directors to break ground on its third fast fill compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station in Houston today in cooperation with CenterPoint Energy Services (CES) and the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), further encouraging the local use of clean fuel vehicles in southeast Texas.

With plans to open in the third quarter of this year, the station will be located at 303 Fallbrook Drive adjacent to METRO's bus operations and support facility at 111 Fallbrook Drive in North Houston, in the new 971-acre Pinto Business Park. It will service METRO's newest additions to its fleet - up to 83 CNG powered transit buses.

"FREEDOM CNG's vision for the future is to provide enough accessible, fast-fill CNG fueling stations in the Houston area for fleets to have the confidence to adopt CNG as their preferred fuel of choice," said Bill Winters, Managing Member of Freedom CNG. "When fleet owners believe they can fuel their vehicles in any area of the county, CNG adoption will occur more rapidly and become widespread."

Winters said there are approximately 100,000 short haul diesel vehicles in the eight counties surrounding Houston and it has been estimated that replacing them with CNG power over time can reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by as much as 50,000 tons per year, resulting in an enormous improvement in air quality.

"METRO's use of CNG buses will provide another operational option that contributes to reducing dependence on foreign oil supplies while reducing emissions, being kind to the environment and the entire community," said Andrew Skabowski, chief operating officer for METRO.

The newest station for METRO, like FREEDOM CNG's stations located in South Houston at 6002 Debbielou Gardens Drive and in northwest Houston at 7155 High Life Drive, will serve third-party users from passenger vehicles to tractor trailers, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. FREEDOM CNG will spur CNG adoption by surrounding municipalities, school districts and governmental agencies by encouraging the use of inter-local agreements with METRO to purchase CNG fuel.

CNG is a fossil fuel substitute for diesel fuel, gasoline or propane and is the cleanest, least expensive alternative fuel available. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), CNG's combustion produces 20 percent less carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas), 70 percent less carbon monoxide, 89 percent less volatile organic compounds and 87 percent less nitrogen oxide than petroleum-fueled vehicles. According to the American Natural Gas Association (ANGA), diesel exhaust includes more than 40 substances that are listed by the EPA as hazardous air pollutants.

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“Natural gas is plentiful in Texas and can help reduce the country’s reliance on foreign oil. In fact, Houston has an abundance of natural gas pipelines running through the area, and delivery of the product in the form of CNG to fleets and the consumer is both safe and clean,” said Winters. “When you put CNG in your tank, you know it was produced in Texas. In addition, using CNG keeps the revenue in Texas working for Texans, and we should be proud of that.”

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ABOUT FREEDOM CNG

FREEDOM CNG was born out of an immediate need for a cleaner, affordable fuel for local wood recycler, NOVUS Wood Group LP, a leader in environmentally friendly products and solutions. Freedom CNG is dedicated to developing and operating fueling infrastructure in Texas for fleets, large and small, interested in lowering fuel costs, improving air quality and reducing dependence on foreign oil. For more information about Freedom CNG, visit www.freedom-cng.com or dial 281-484-3875.