



## **ALTERNATIVE FUELS COALITION OF CONNECTICUT**

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### **Public Comment – T. Michael Morrissey**

## **Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) Meeting**

**January 22, 2016**  
**1:30 PM - 3:30 PM**  
**Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**  
**Russell Room, 3rd Floor 79**  
**Elm Street Hartford, Connecticut**

Good Afternoon Councilers: My name is Mike Morrissey and I serve as State Director to the National Propane Gas Association. I have served in this elected capacity since 1993. Today I represent the Alternative Fuels Coalition of Connecticut (AFCC) a small adhoc group of businesses who are committed to the future development of propane markets in our state. Our Chairman, David Gable, owner of Hocon Gas, CT's largest independent marketer of propane, has authorized me to comment before you today.

The propane industry stands ready to assist the State of Connecticut in achieving its Climate Change Goals and we can assist you in this endeavor in fourteen different applications. These applications are broken down into the following different sectors;

**RESIDENTIAL SECTOR:**

- Space heating
- Water heating

**COMMERCIAL SECTOR:**

- Space heating
- Water Heating

**OFF-ROAD:**

- Combined heat and power
- Generators
- Mowers
- Termional tractors
- Forklifts

**AGRICULTURAL:**

- Irrigation engines

**ON-ROAD:**

- Type A/C buses
- Bobtail trucks
- Light –duty Trucks
- Utility cargo vans

The above sectors and their applications are supported in the attached **Executive Summary** titled; “**A comparative Analysis of Green House Gas Emmissions From Propane and Competing Energy Options**”.

One of the areas the propane industry excels in today, is with the growing adoption of propane powered school buses. Locally, the Cities of Shelton and Torrington combined operate 105 buses and have been doing so for almost the last three years. The City of Waterbury is now considering the purchase of over 135 propane powered buses with a final decision due imminantly and we have also learned the Town of Simsbury may be considering propane powered school buses as well.

Nationally, I am extremely proud to acknowledge that Jenna Bush Hagger has been retained as our national spokesperson for our industry’s newly released national campaign titled; “[Better Our Buses](#)”. Released earlier this year. Jenna was on hand when the [City of Boston](#) and the Propane Education Reseach Council Unveiled 86 new school buses operating on propane.

We are extremely proud of the work Jenna is doing for our Industry and we are even prouder to acknowledge that over 7000 propane powered school buses are now operating daily in America transporting over 500,000 students. Aproximately 10% of all new school buses produced this year will be powered by propane and that number is forcasted to grow rapidly in the near future.

The successful development of propane powered school buses can be directly attributed to the [Propane Research Propane Council](#) (PERC). Twenty years ago this year, Congress authorized the creation of PERC, an industry check-off program established, operated and funded by the propane industry. The only energy council of its kind, PERC leads safety and training efforts among propane retailers and consumers and drives technology development to expand adoption of propane as a clean,

domestic, and affordable energy source. PERC programs benefit a variety of industries including fleet vehicle management, landscaping, residential and commercial building, agriculture, and material handling. PERC has an approximate annual budget of 40 Million dollars and has been directly responsible for Ford Motors development of propane alternate fueled vehicles with Rouché Clean Tech, Blue Bird Bus, Thomas Bus and Freightliner. PERC investment with Freightliner has allowed for the development of the S2G platform which now allows propane marketers to replace their diesel powered bobtails to operate on clean burning propane. Most importantly, PERC allows our industry to “**offer a hand**” and not “**extend a hand**” when it comes to local government. We have put our money in the right places and because of this and the inherent cleanliness of our fuel; we are positioned now to assist governments in more quickly achieving their greenhouse gas goals.

As to transportation which represents 40% of our greenhouse gas emission in Connecticut, the propane industry is keenly positioned to help now especially with light and medium sized vehicles. Although electrification of passenger vehicles is a way to reduce GHG emissions, real reductions in this area will only be realized when we are able to produce carbonless electricity. Until then, electric vehicles could counterproductively contribute to an overall increase in GHG emissions.

Aside from this, electrification technology on a broad application does not exist for Class 2 through Class 8 vehicles. However, Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) technology and its certified systems are now available for these classes of vehicles to operate immediately on propane and natural gas. Practical and viable technology exists now; too make our larger vehicles cleaner today while utilizing fuels produced in America and not abroad.

Lastly and not mentioned in my public comment is an update to the **ICF International** produced document titled; **2016 PROPANE MARKET OUTLOOK** which was released this past December and updates an earlier version I submitted to you this past November at your last meeting. This latest version updates the impact that declining petroleum prices are having and the favorable impact it will have on the propane industry through the 2025. In apart, development of propane autogas worldwide and in America is projected to be stronger and provides a window of opportunity for propane to increase its market share in traditional markets. Please note, this report has had an update to it reflecting PRESIDENT signing legislation advancing the Alternate Fuels Tax Credit and other tax incentives through the year 2016.

**\*\* PROPANE ~ THE CLEANEST FOSSIL FUEL KNOWN TO MANKIND \*\***

### **Additional Documents**

#### **ICF PROPANE MARKET OUTLOOK 20016**

[http://www.afdc.energy.gov/uploads/publication/2016\\_propane\\_market\\_outlook.pdf](http://www.afdc.energy.gov/uploads/publication/2016_propane_market_outlook.pdf)

#### **TODAY'S PROPANE**

<http://www.npga.org/files/Web%20Version%202015%20Today's%20Propane.pdf>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

[http://www.npga.org/files/GHG%20Study\\_ExecutiveSummary\\_060614\\_web%5B3%5D.pdf](http://www.npga.org/files/GHG%20Study_ExecutiveSummary_060614_web%5B3%5D.pdf)