



Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

April 8, 2022

Mr. David Keefe  
Clean Cities Coordinator  
Greater Rochester Clean Cities  
P.O. Box 10614  
Rochester, N.Y. 14610

Dear David,

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Vehicle Technologies Office would like to thank you for conducting a very informative and compelling briefing for our Clean Cities leadership team via webinar on November 8, 2021. We are pleased to inform you that Greater Rochester Clean Cities' request for re-designation has been approved (effective date November 8, 2021). This re-designation is valid for a period of four years, or until notified otherwise. Please remember that to remain in good standing, your coalition must remain actively engaged in stakeholder support activities and other important duties as outlined in the attached *Active and Effective Clean Cities Coalitions Requirements Checklist*.

As demonstrated in the webinar, the coalition has made great strides in attracting new stakeholders that are utilizing large amounts of alternative fuels. Congratulations especially on your work with Wegmans and their use of natural gas and the Hylion hybrid technology, as well as your work with Waste Management, Suburban Disposal, and HALCO and their natural gas and propane projects. We commend you for addressing the suggestions in our prior re-designation approval letter, particularly your work in improving the coalition's website, increasing communications and social media, and participating in the Clean Cities University Workforce Development Program. Your knowledgeable and diverse Board continues to be an asset to the coalition.

In assessing the coalition's effectiveness, we also conducted telephone interviews prior to the webinar with multiple stakeholders. They all found membership in the coalition to be beneficial, and praised you for your accessibility and resourcefulness, and for recognizing that all the alternative fuels have roles to play. Several stakeholders mentioned how they appreciated your help with obtaining state and local grant funding.

Based on the stakeholder responses, and the information presented in the webinar, we believe that Greater Rochester Clean Cities is well-positioned to continue to improve transportation energy efficiency and advance affordable domestic transportation fuels and technologies throughout the region.

To ensure the continuing success of the coalition, we present the following suggestions:

- Wegmans' transition of its fleet to alternative fuel vehicles would make a very interesting case study or MotorWeek video. Sandra Loi of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Stacy Davis of Oak Ridge National Laboratory can assist with these efforts. Sandra can be reached at

[Sandra.loi@nrel.gov](mailto:Sandra.loi@nrel.gov) or 303-275-4345, and Stacy can be reached at [DavisSC@ornl.gov](mailto:DavisSC@ornl.gov) or 865-341-1256.

- While there is a strong emphasis on electrification in New York State, continue to explore alternative fuels and technologies that can be implemented in rural areas where electrification is a longer-term project. Reach out to Marcy Rood of Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) for information on work they have done with idle reduction and telematics. These are both low-cost ways for fleets to save fuel and money, and to reduce air emissions. Marcy can be reached at [mrOOD@anl.gov](mailto:mrOOD@anl.gov) or 217-413-8446.
- The recently passed Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) contains provisions related to alternative fueling and charging infrastructure. It also established a Joint Office of Energy and Transportation to facilitate collaboration between the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and DOE in establishing a network of electric vehicle chargers and zero-emission fueling infrastructure. More information can be found at <https://driveelectric.gov/>. Mike Scarpino of DOT is the Joint Office liaison to Clean Cities, and can be reached at [Michael.scarpino@dot.gov](mailto:Michael.scarpino@dot.gov) or (617) 494-3373. We also encourage you to attend the monthly Clean Cities BIL check-in calls. For more information on these calls, contact Sam Spofforth, Senior Project Leader, at [sam.spofforth@nrel.gov](mailto:sam.spofforth@nrel.gov) or (614) 477-0053.
- Section 71101 of the BIL established a grant program for purchasing zero-emission school buses, and clean school buses that run on propane or natural gas. The Clean School Bus Program will be administered by the EPA, and information can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus>.
- We were interested to learn that Suburban Disposal had signed a contract for renewable natural gas (RNG). Across the country there has been an increasing interest in RNG and the greenhouse gas benefits its use can provide. Consider working with Marianne Mintz of Argonne National Laboratory on a case study of RNG use in upstate New York. Marianne can be reached at [mmintz@anl.gov](mailto:mmintz@anl.gov) or 630-252-5627.

Congratulations on the good work you continue to do with Greater Rochester Clean Cities. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to, and enthusiasm for, Clean Cities.

Sincerely,



Mark S. Smith  
Technology Integration Program Manager

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