NGVAMERICA
Natural Gas Vehicles for America

Fact Sheet: Need for Federally Funded NGV RD&D

Congressional Request

- Appropriate $30 million for U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) funded NGV research, development and demonstration (RD&D)

Rationale for Federal Support for NGV RD&D

There is no single silver-bullet solution to our transportation energy dilemma. All available alternatives to petroleum must be used. In 2008, NGVs displaced 250 million gallons of petroleum in the US. With adequate support, by 2020, that could grow to 10 billion gallons. Importantly, a growing natural gas vehicle (NGV) market in the U.S. would *simultaneously*:

(1) Reduce America's dependence on foreign oil;
(2) Reduce urban air pollution;
(3) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
(4) Facilitate the growth of hydrogen vehicle transportation tomorrow

To achieve its growth potential, however, much more NGV research, development and demonstration (RD&D) is needed. The NGV industry, made up mostly of smaller companies, cannot do it alone in the timeframe America needs. The private sector is looking to the federal government as an R&D partner. In the Energy Policy Act of 1992, Congress authorized within DOE an NGV RD&D program. Congress appropriated vital funding for that program through FY2005. Unfortunately, beginning in FY2006 through FY2009, DOE requested no funding for NGV RD&D.

NGV RD&D Needs

For NGVs to achieve their market potential, federally funded R&D is needed to expand product offerings of engines to meet a wider range of applications. The process of integrating those natural gas engines into additional medium- and heavy-duty vehicle platforms must be accelerated. Those platforms include school buses, transit buses, trash trucks, delivery trucks and over-the-road trucks, as well as marine and off-road applications. Natural gas hybrid-electric platforms must be expedited, too. In addition, the cost and weight of compressed and liquefied natural gas storage systems must be reduced. Finally, work must continue on improving NGV and NGV fueling safety codes and standards.

400 North Capitol St. NW, · Washington, D.C. 20001 · phone (202) 824-7360 · fax (202) 824-7087 · www.ngvamerica.org