

Compressed Natural Gas

"It gets easier after the first billion miles"

Los Angeles Metro's Plans for Implementation of "Near Zero" Low NOx Engines and RCNG

John Drayton
Director of Vehicle Technology
Los Angeles Metro
November 2016



Alternative Fuel Basics – Hydrocarbon Fuels

More Carbon = More Energy + More Emissions

Hydrogen: H₂ High Fuel Cost, lowest emissions

Methane (CNG): CH₄ Lower Fuel Cost, lower emissions

Gasoline: C_6H_{14} Higher Fuel Cost, higher emissions

Diesel: C₁₅H_{32;} Higher Fuel Cost, higher emissions

Coal: C₂₄₀H₉₀O₄NS Lowest Fuel Cost, highest Emissions

Electricity: NA Note - Primarily sourced from hydrocarbons.

RCNG CH₄ Methane from renewable/bio source



History of Alternative Fuel and CNG Buses at Metro

Metro's Alternative Fuel Fleet

- First 10 CNG buses purchased in 1988
- Purchased fleet of 333 Methanol buses
 1989-1992
- AFI Policy Adopted Purchased only CNG buses since 1992
- First fleet purchase of 294 CNG buses in 1995
- CNG Fueling Public/Private
 Partnerships in 1998
- 100% CNG Operation since 2011
- ~ 2500 CNG buses; 85m+ miles/year.
- ~ 1.5 billion miles on CNG buses





1973 "Steam Bus"

- GMC New Look bus with custom built Leer Co. steam engine
- Unreliable, inefficient, very high emissions
- "Yes, there are bad ideas..."

Current Outlook for CNG at Metro

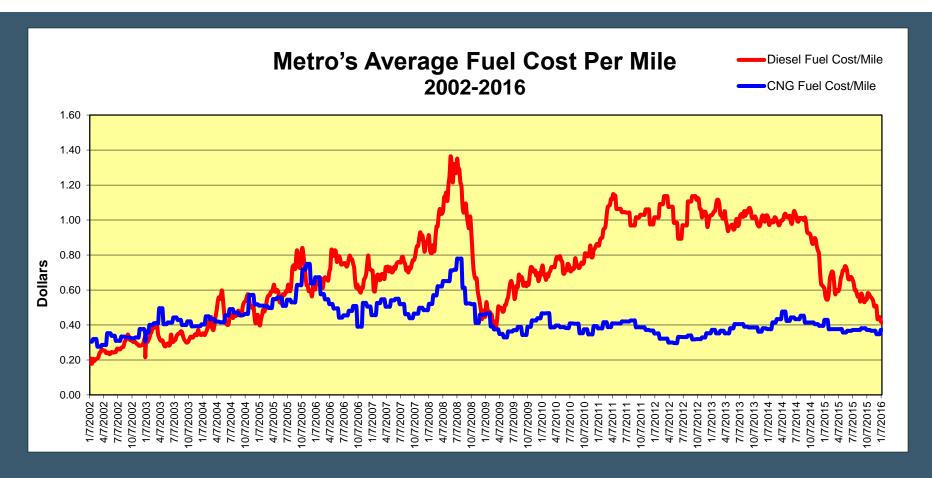




- We foresee continued refinement of CNG engines, exhaust systems. We also anticipate migrating to 100% RCNG within next 12 months, and Low NOx engines starting in 2018.
- CNG engines do require more maintenance than diesel (e.g. spark plugs, CNG tank inspections). Less of an issue with current engines.
- Recent Fuel Price History
 - Diesel currently \$2.05/gallon (~\$0.70/mile)
 - CNG cost \$0.599/therm (~\$0.40/mile)
 - Since 2002, average diesel fuel price for Metro is \$2.80/gallon (\$0.85 per mile)
 - Since 2002, average CNG fuel price for Metro is \$0.51/therm (\$0.38/mile).



Comparison of CNG and Diesel Fuel Prices (cost/mile)



Metro has run 1.5 billion miles on CNG Currently, CNG fuel is about \$0.20/mile less than diesel Over the last 15 years, Metro has saved an average of \$0.45/mile on CNG fuel costs



Next Generation CNG

Can "Near Zero" CNG engines reduce fleet emissions?

- Low NOx Engines with Renewable Natural Gas
 - New Low NOx engine were certified in 2016 at 0.02g/bhp
 - 90% NOx and PM reduction from 2010 EPA/CARB reg's
 - 80% reduction in CO and GHG with RCNG
 - 0.02g/bhp NOx; PM <0.01g/bhp (nearing parity with electric bus?)</p>
 - Low technology risk to RCNG/LoNOx engine
 - Nearly equivalent to battery electric ZE in Los Angeles
 - At LA Metro
 - One 2017 "Low NOx engine" now in daily operation
 - A second prototype 2018 engine also starting testing here

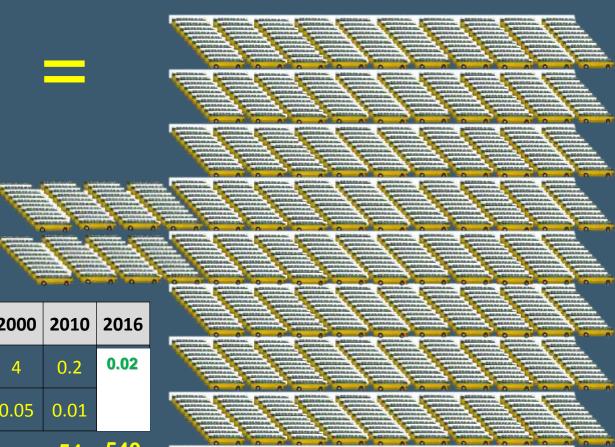


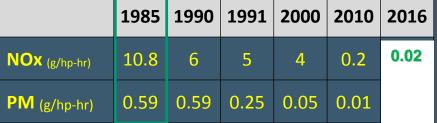
Emission Reductions Compared to 1990's Diesel Buses

One 1980 RTS-II



500+ Low NOx CNG Engines





54 540



Analysis of Low Emission Options for Metro Bus

- Ramboll/Environ (Technical Consultant)
- Commissioned to review technologies and recommended options in June 2015
- Study conducted in 2015-2016
- Preliminary Draft in Feb 2016
- Follow-up Interviews with key stake-holders in spring/summer 2016
- Next update being prepared for release in October 2016



Projected Fleet Emissions 2015 - 2055



Of relevance to ARB:

 LNOx & RNG scenario has lower overall total GHG emissions than either EV or FC scenarios

Of relevance to SCAQMD:

- LNOx & RNG scenario has similar total in-basin NOx emissions to EV scenario
- LNOx & RNG has lower total in-basin NOx emissions to FC scenario

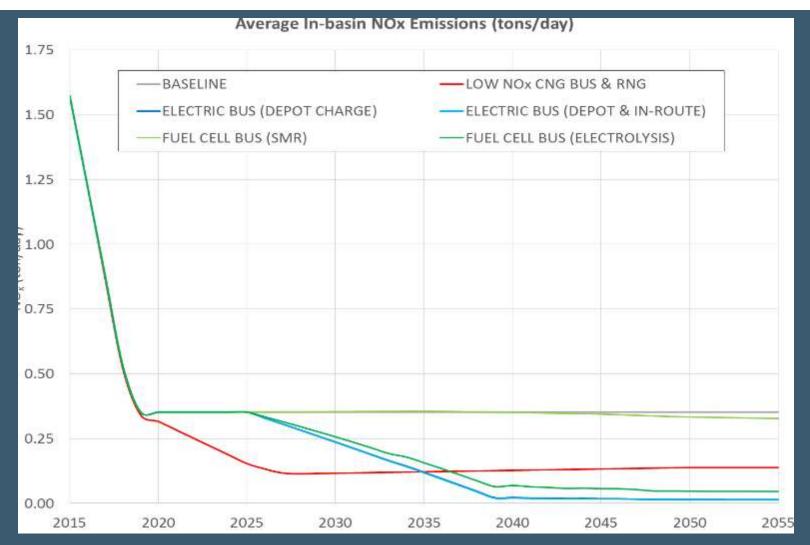
Notes:

* RNG assumed to be 100% landfill gas. If RNG included gas from wastewater treatment plants and/or food waste total NOx, CO₂, GHG, emissions from LNOx+RNG would b lower.





Potential NOX Reductions







Potential GHG Reductions







Emission Reduction Cost Effectiveness (\$/ton)

		LNOx + RNG	ELECTRIC BUS		FUEL CELL BUS		
			Depot Charge	Depot & In- route	SMR	ELECTR	
Compared to Baseline	Cost Increase (NPV \$ million)		\$173	\$768	\$376	\$1,379	\$1,680
	GHG Reduction (million tons)		11.4	8.2	8.2	3.3	6.7
	In-basin NO _x Reduction (tons x 1000)		2.72	2.83	2.84	0.07	2.50
Cost Effectiveness (\$/ton) ¹		GHG	\$15	\$94	\$46	\$419	\$250
		NO _x	\$64,000	\$272,000	\$133,000	\$20,200,000	\$671,000

¹ Assumes that 100% of cost increase attributed to each pollutant





Metro's Next Steps

- Immediate (FY18) adoption of RNG/LNOx buses for urgently needed AQMP NOx reductions and most expeditious GHG reductions for our region
- New Buses and Engine Repowers
 - Metro has a 1,000 bus RFP Underway Contract awards in 1Q2017, deliveries thru 2022
 - Includes purchase of up to 800 new CNG buses with Low NOx engines.
 - Options for up to 200 ZEB battery electric buses.
 - We will also repower existing bus fleet with Low NOx engines starting in FY18 at 200 buses/year (goal of 100% CNG fleet should be low NOx by 2025).
- Transition to ZEBs when/where economically feasible for additional out-year reductions
 - Developing plans to electrify Orange Line and Silver Line BRT Services (85 buses)
- Near term ZEB efforts will focus on electric buses rather than fuel cell buses
- Preserve flexibility to adjust plans as ZE & low emission technologies evolve
 - Project total costs of a potential ZE fleet transition plan
 - Retain outside engineering/architecture firm(s) to start developing fleet electrification plans and cost estimates



