

MEDIA RELEASE

Advocating the increasing use of NGVs where they benefit most.
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CONGRESS SHOULD DO MORE TO SUPPORT NATURAL GAS FOR TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC. – Faster growth in the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel would provide increased energy security, cleaner air, less greenhouse gas emissions, and more U.S. jobs, the president of NGV America told the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee today.

Richard Kolodziej, president of NGV America, said Congress should help make that happen. He urged the Senators to establish transportation policies that support natural gas as a transportation fuel.

Kolodziej, who testified before the Committee's hearing on "Opportunities to Improve Energy Security and the Environment through Transportation Policy," said that the most effective immediate action Congress could take was passing the "New Alternative to Give Americans Solutions" (NAT GAS) Act (S. 1408).

Passage of the NAT GAS Act would extend and expand the existing federal financial incentives for buying and using natural gas vehicles. This would be especially important for the high fuel-use vehicle fleets, such as trash trucks, transit buses, short-haul 18-wheelers, school buses, urban delivery vehicles, and shuttles of all kinds.

“While there are many options to displace gasoline in light-duty vehicles,” Kolodziej said, “there are very few options to displace diesel in heavier vehicles. Of those options, natural gas can make the biggest impact fastest.”

With appropriate federal policy support, NGVs could be displacing 10 billion gallons of diesel and gasoline within 15 years, says Kolodziej. And this would have significant environmental benefits.

“For example, the California Air Resources Board recently concluded that on a well-to-wheels basis, NGVs produce 22 percent less greenhouse gases than comparable diesel vehicles and 29 percent less than comparable gasoline vehicles,” he told the committee. “EPA’s announcement that it is considering further tightening of the national ozone standards means that more cities and counties than ever will be looking for economic alternatives for ozone reduction, and that will mean more NGVs.”

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NGVAmerica is a national organization dedicated to the development of a growing, sustainable and profitable market for vehicles powered by natural gas or biomethane. NGVAmerica represents more than 100 companies interested in the promotion and use of natural gas and biomethane as transportation fuels, including: engine, vehicle and equipment manufacturers; fleet operators and service providers; natural gas companies; and environmental groups and government organizations. For more information about NGVAmerica, visit our website at www.ngvamerica.org