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Partnering

Planning

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For immediate release

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PAG's Clean Cities program helps Tucson region displace more than 12 million gallons of petroleum

In 2008, coalition members of Pima Association of Governments' Clean Cities program reported displacing more than 12 million gallons of petroleum with alternative fuels, such as biodiesel, ethanol, compressed natural gas, hybrid electric vehicles, propane and idle reduction technologies. This represents more than a 100 percent increase from 2007 when 5 million gallons were displaced.

"The use of alternative fuels decreases our nation's dependency on foreign oil which helps lead us down the road to clean air and energy security," said Colleen Crowninshield, PAG's Clean Cities manager. "The 2008 increase is a testament to the commitment of our Coalition members both to the mission of Clean Cities and to the Tucson community."

The Coalition consists of 79 public and private entities, such as the City of Tucson, Pima County, the University of Arizona, Tucson Electric Power Co., Reay's Ranch Investors, Pinal Energy LLC, Southwest Gas Corp., Reynolds Logistics and many school districts. The school districts are using alternative fuels and participating in a statewide school bus idle reduction program, which not only helps to save petroleum, but also helps clean the air to improve the quality of life for our children.

The goal of the U.S. Department of Energy for Clean Cities Coalitions was set for each Coalition to increase their alternative fuel use by 17 percent. The Tucson Coalition members exceeded that goal for the fourth year in a row. "Our increase in alternative fuel infrastructure has made it possible for Coalition members to increase their use of alternative fuels," Crowninshield said. "In 2008, the Coalition assisted with five additional E85 sites in Arizona, a second compressed natural gas (CNG) station and three additional biodiesel stations."

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, air quality and water quality.

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