

The Need to Clearly Identify the Objectives of SB 275

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This document is submitted by Blu in response to the Utah Public Service Commission's call for public participation and input into an investigative docket concerning the implementation of Utah Senate Bill 275 (SB275).

While we applaud the Utah legislature's efforts to promote the adoption of natural gas as a vehicle fuel, it seems that there is no clear set of objectives or strategy for the initiative. Without clear objectives, it is impossible to determine which measures will be effective.

It is our opinion that the legislature and Public Service Commission should work with industry experts to identify specific goals and objectives. Policy decisions should focus on which strategies can accomplish those objectives in the most cost-effective way possible.

The benefits of natural gas as a vehicle fuel are many, and the future of natural gas as a fuel for America and the world is promising. It is the responsibility of government and the private sector to work closely together to formulate and adopt calculated, well thought out measures that will both hasten the adoption of this technology and the benefits it has to offer. We feel strongly that all Utah government programs and initiatives should have the objective of enabling and facilitating private-enterprise and free market solutions to our energy and air quality issues.

Summary of Recommendations:

- Utah legislators should work together with the public service commission and other stakeholders to clearly define the objectives of S.B. 275
- Government agencies and government regulated entities (utilities) should not be given unfair advantages over the private sector, which stifle competition and create disincentive for businesses to engage in free enterprise