

From: Andy Finlay
To: "mlivingston@utah.gov" <mlivingston@utah.gov>
Date: 1/15/2009 10:48 AM
Subject: CNG

CC: Andy Finlay

I understand that the PSC is looking to increase the rates paid by CNG vehicles in Utah. I would just like to express my concern on this matter. I recently purchases a CNG vehicle for a couple of reasons. One of the main reasons was to support the effort to wean our nation from foreign oil while at the same time decreasing my emissions which hopefully would improve the air quality in our beautiful state. I paid an EXTRA \$6000 for a CNG vehicle with an understanding that at some point I would make back the difference since CNG rates were substantially lower than gasoline. Even at \$4 a gallon fuel and \$1 CNG it would take 2000 gallons of fuel to offset the \$6000. 2000 gallons at 30mpg is 60,000 miles of driving or 5 years before making back the price difference of a CNG vehicle to gasoline vehicle.

At some point the offset of cost and idealistic intentions will lose their balance and, quite honestly, had I known that CNG prices would be so close to regular gasoline prices I would have just bought a regular gasoline vehicle. The headaches of finding a fueling station, limited range and now a significant cost increase will most likely be the death of investment in CNG vehicles in Utah.

I feel that it's irresponsible on the part of the PSC to hobble our currently CNG friendly economy when a true public service would be to encourage clean fuel and be a standout example for the rest of the nation. Why kill the effort to get off foreign oil? Not only would this be a disservice to Utah's clean air but to our country as a whole. You would think an effort would be made to get people to invest in natural gas not make people abandon it. Not a great marketing plan for future sales...

Honestly, I am fine with paying a static \$1.43 for CNG fuel if that is the true cost of proving CNG and allow for additional infrastructure build out. I am not fine to have my CNG pegged to a national rate when the true cost is significantly less. How would you feel having your cost of tomatoes tied to prices in NY even though you knew they were grown just down the road? Doesn't make much sense other than pointing to a greedy grocery store.

I hope I have contacted the right person, if so then please pass this on to the PSC if you feel so inclined. If I should be contacting someone else, please inform me of who I can contact.

Thank you for your time.

Andy Finlay

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