

January 5, 2009

Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

UTAH PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

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Dear Commission Members:

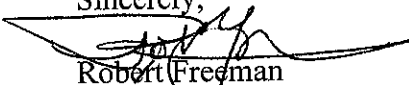
I was just deeply saddened to learn in the last week of the approval of substantial rate hikes for those who use natural gas in their vehicles here in Utah. This is wrong for several reasons. This letter is to plead with you to change this course. I hope you will.

I bought my NGV dedicated vehicle, a Honda Civic, in August of 2008. I did it for the traditional reasons. I make no apology that my first motivation was to save on fuel. However, I have a strong sense of environmental concern and I also bought the vehicle for its pollution free capacity. I also deplored our growing reliance on natural gas. I want to raise my children in this beautiful state with a view towards a future of clean air.

The Government of the State of Utah has again and again challenged us to reduce emissions (and we also want to reduce dependency on foreign oil.) They have provided incentives to have this kind of fuel. Now, just six months after I have taken the advice to do so, I am told that I will likely soon pay more for my NG fuel than those who use regular gas. This is AMAZING!!! When I think of the trouble I went to over getting this vehicle from California. When I think of the sacrifice—the vehicle is much more expensive than the regular Civic. When I think of the loan I took to purchase this car. When I think that I am a teacher, father of seven in a single earner home. I just can't believe my state government would provide such encouragements to get into this car and then pull the rug from under me! This just isn't right.

Please reconsider this issue. I can't believe that a compromise can't be reached some how. I am an attorney. I would be happy to be a part of a citizens group to try and reason with Questar and other stake holders. Please, for the sake of our children, let's not be like other states who have given up on the vision of improving air quality. Salt Lake City leads the nation in pollution counts on many days of the year—don't let this be the legacy left to our children. Please, Please, Please – here the citizens.

Sincerely,


Robert Freeman
Professor/Attorney