

## Utah changes CNG-gallon standard

The state of Utah now requires a CNG gasoline-gallon equivalent (GGE) to weigh 5.66 lbs. Changing the GGE at the pumps will occur by Jan. 1, 2014.

In the 1980s, Questar Gas was one of the first companies in the nation to fuel vehicles with compressed natural gas (CNG). As more motorists embraced natural gas vehicles (NGVs), Questar Gas moved its NGV-fueling stations to locations where others could refuel.

At the time, there was no standard for measuring natural gas in gallons because it's a gas, not a liquid. And as a regulated utility, the billing for natural gas has always been based on energy content (Btu or British Thermal Units). Seeing that the energy content in a typical gallon of gasoline is about 120,000 Btu, we measured 120,000 Btu of natural gas and called it a gasoline-gallon equivalent (GGE). Even though natural gas is lighter than air, when compressed, 120,000 Btu or a GGE of natural gas weighs about 5.24 pounds. The state of Utah accepted this measurement for many years. Now, however, it is asking us to meet the national standard for a GGE of natural gas, which weighs 5.66 lbs.

Now all Questar Gas CNG dispensers will be set to deliver a GGE of natural gas weighing 5.66 pounds. This means motorists will be receiving between 129,000-132,000 Btu per GGE instead of the traditional 120,000 Btu. With more energy content in the new GGE, the price will increase slightly. And since our pricing is still based on energy content, customers will see slight differences in prices at various stations – only a few cents – because energy content varies depending on locations and supply sources.

We're pleased to see NGVs growing throughout America, and we remain committed to supplying Utah motorists with a clean-burning, abundant and domestic fuel.

If you have any questions, please contact one of our NGV reps at 801-324-3113.