



## ENERGY INDEPENDENCE SUMMIT 2023 TALKING POINTS FOR CONGRESSIONAL MEETINGS

### I. INTRODUCE YOUR TEAM AND OUR MESSAGE

- We are part of a national clean transportation network that is holding 300 meetings with Congressional offices today as part of our annual Energy Independence Summit.
- **THANK YOU** for taking the time to meet with us today. And **THANK YOU** for your ongoing support to encourage the use of cleaner fuels and vehicles.
- **We are especially appreciative of your work to approve the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, which provide the largest investment in history in Clean Transportation.**
- [Go around the room and introduce the members of your team.]
- Our focus is to continue to advance markets for cleaner fuels and vehicles, including electric, propane, biofuels, natural gas, and hydrogen fuel cells.
- We are part of a national network of 75 local and regional Clean Cities coalitions around the country and 20,000 stakeholders in the clean transportation industry.
- Our network: (1) Helps private companies and state and local governments convert their fleets to clean fuels. (2) We help develop alternative fuel infrastructure. (3) Additionally, we educate the public about the benefits of alternative fuels.
- Today, we would like to: (1) provide some local examples of our work; and (2) discuss some critical federal policies the industry needs to keep moving forward.

### II. PROVIDE 2-3 BRIEF EXAMPLES OF LOCAL ALTERNATIVE FUELS PROJECTS IN ACTION

- Examples can include alternative fuels infrastructure, conversion of fleets to alternative fuels, local manufacturing facilities, or businesses in the supply chain for clean transportation.
- In presenting examples, you should emphasize how your local projects are:
  - Retaining and creating jobs and otherwise boosting the local and regional economy
  - Reducing transportation energy costs and saving money for private sector and government fleets
  - Cutting the use of petroleum
  - Decreasing air pollution

### III. REQUESTS FOR ACTION

1. We are asking you to request the *Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee to include report language that would direct the Department of Energy (DOE) to provide \$75 million to the Clean Cities program, including \$25 million for the coalitions and \$40 million in competitive deployment grants.*

- This represents a modest increase of \$10 million above the \$65 million enacted this year.
- The DOE Clean Cities Program is the agency's only initiative focused solely on the deployment of alternative fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure. Thanks in large part to the Clean Cities program, there are now over 3 million alternative fuel vehicles in the U.S. and 64,000 alternative fueling stations.
- Since 1993, the nation's Clean Cities coalitions and our stakeholders have implemented local projects that have reduced petroleum consumption by more than 14.5 billion gallons.
- From 2006 through 2021, the Clean Cities program leveraged \$434 million in program funding into another \$3.08 billion in public and private investment in alternative fuels deployment projects – **Over \$7.00 for every federal dollar invested.**
- This increase will enable us to help the federal government, local communities, and the private sector effectively utilize the major investment provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act.

**2. We are asking you to request the *Interior & Environment subcommittee to include \$150 million for the EPA Diesel Emission Reduction grants in its FY2024 appropriations bill.***

- 74,000 pieces of clean diesel technology have been funded by DERA grants since the program's inception, strengthening America's manufacturing economy and improving public health.  
[Provide coalition project examples]
- Every federal dollar invested in clean diesel projects has leveraged more than \$2 from other public and private entities and resulted in a total of \$8 billion in public health benefits.
- There remain at least 10 million older diesel engines currently in use that have yet to be retrofitted, repowered, or replaced. So now is the time to increase our investment in this critical program.

**NOTE: BE SURE TO ASK EACH OFFICE ABOUT THEIR PROCESS AND DEADLINE FOR FY 2024 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS.**

**3. Preserve the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)**

- Congress should encourage the EPA to continue growing RFS volumes to ensure that we are diversifying the fuels market with clean alternatives that are creating jobs and cutting pollution here at home.
- The RFS works:
  - Renewable fuels have helped reduce oil imports by 25% since 2000 and now provide 10% of America's on-road transportation needs.
  - The RFS has eliminated more than 1 billion tons of greenhouse gas emissions.
  - The RFS supports more than 400,000 jobs nationwide across the economy.
  - In addition to ethanol, the RFS is stimulating impressive growth in Advanced Biofuels such as renewable natural gas and biodiesel.

**IV. QUESTIONS AND FOLLOW-UP**

- See if they have questions, want additional information, or would like to be added to your mailing list.
- Thank you for your time. We look forward to staying in touch.