

## I-10 Arizona Alternative Fuels Corridor Deployment Plan (AFCDP) Arizona Interstate / Infrastructure Collaborative (AIIC) Advisory Group Meeting #3 of 4 (Webinar)

Friday, August 14, 2020

## Meeting Summary

Attendees: David Bane, SSVEC Camila Martins-Bekat, TEP Don Covert, Valley of the Sun Will Fielder, Southwest Gas Ed Stillings, FHWA David Clement, CNG Services of Arizona Staff Dustin Fitzpatrick Josh Pope Paul Casertano Jeanette DeRenne Julie Jamarta Lee Comrie Tiki Lawson

The meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

Dustin Fitzpatrick of PAG introduced all those who were remotely attending the meeting. He asked about the attendees' In-Kind time contributions and then began by introducing the AFCDP project and updating the group on its current status. He spoke about the current goals and objectives of transitioning from pending to ready for I-10 focusing on the eastern section from Tucson to New Mexico. Mr. Fitpatrick added that they are currently on track for the Plan to be finalized by the end of November.

Mr. Fitzpatrick gave a brief presentation on the Corridor EV Charging Siting Analysis & Mapping updated information including a Survey 123 application for site suitability evaluation. There was a brief discussion of the Department of Energy's (EVI Pro) Lite, which is a tool to provide a simple way to estimate how much electric vehicle charging one might need at a state and city level. There was dialogue about the challenges involved for automakers bringing more vehicles into the market and supporting them.

Ed Stillings said that Round 5 is not until the end of the calendar year. He also spoke about hydrogen cars being part of the next submittals

The GIS web map element was presented by Josh Pope of PAG. He noted the maps are built by the PAG team off existing data with added layers and content. The maps show the EV sites on the paths and help in tracking and showing compliance. There are different maps with different looks and with potential EV sites taken off already existing maps. Mr. Pope also presented a slide with an ArcGIS Survey 123 form, which helps collect on site information such as key site and station standards, and with the goal of incorporating current forms.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also addressed the Senate Bill 287 Transportation Infrastructure Act from 2019 for highway infrastructure and alt. fuel infrastructure. More recently is House Bill 494 for highway investments and funding for direction developing of charging and alternative fuel options. There

will be challenges for installation such as getting the cost up front, but these Bills might be of help. He also spoke about Cycles 3 to 4 of Electrify America noting that the company's first cycle was completed with infrastructure along the Interstate and Cycle 2 focused on more metropolitan areas like Phoenix. Today was the deadline for Cycle 3 plan submissions with PAG submitting its 8 locations for DC fast sites and overall plan. Other news covered included the recent announcement from Nissan regarding its CCS fast charging SUV, which falls in line with the Electrify America approach.

Camila Martins-Bekat of TEP spoke about the meeting's goals and how to meet the needs of different vehicles and customers. She noted TEP's goals toward this effort. Ed Stillings talked about the FHWA's efforts in expanding sites. The group also spoke about the subject of air emission reductions, with TEP sharing some of the information they have on the subject.

Will Fielder addressed potential funding sources and the group conversed about interstate versus local areas. The difficulties for smaller areas such as Cochise County have been noted as well as towns on the highway such as Benson and Wilcox. These create a challenge as not being large enough to establish a fleet that would ultimately warrant costly infrastructure. There are many hurdles and challenges to establishing CNG stations. SWGas is dependable as they already have their base in Wilcox. Mr. Fielder noted the conversion efforts of SW Gas to run on CNG. He also added that it would be hard to build a station at their Wilcox office based solely on their fleet as one station could not be justified.

Dave Clement said there are larger fleets such as UPS utilizing one station. A company in New Mexico or Texas making trips out west to California would work best. A CNG tank on back of a rig would get 1,000 miles and make it back to Tucson for a refill.

Dustin Fitzpatrick said he will be checking the various options and will put the cost estimates into the final plan as well as questions on the flat fee G50 tariff as well as providing CNG as a service for the customer. He spoke about a minimum amount possible to make a feasible station that would appeal to a company like Loves who would actually own the station. The service fee to provide the actual service would be additional.

There was a brief discussion concerning the need of grants for more rural areas as well as dialogue regarding site and pilot hosts.

Dustin Fitzpatrick said there would be one more meeting for this topic and development of the final Plan. He thanked everyone for their participation and input for a successful Plan and for getting these sites on the map in the future.

The meeting ended at 11:00 a.m.