

# Mid-America Collaborative for Alternative Fuels Implementation

## Project Summary

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The Mid-America Collaborative for Alternative Fuels Implementation endorses a multi-pronged approach where appropriate fuel diversity creates an energy secure future. We aim to eliminate obstacles to adoption of vehicles and infrastructure using natural gas, B20 biodiesel, E85 ethanol, propane autogas, electricity, and hybrid electric technologies. The States of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska share similar population centers, geographic features, values and statewide approaches to alternative fuels. Collaborative work among the project partners, resulting in a comprehensive regional approach to reducing our dependence on foreign oil, will significantly improve the likelihood of statewide adoption of alternative-fuels-friendly strategies.

Our objectives are to develop policies for achieving long-term air quality benefits through alternative fuels; build and strengthen the Collaborative's peer exchanges amongst stakeholders; improve stakeholder understanding of the marketplace and plan for implementation; formalize the Clean Cities coalitions' Green Fleet Technical Assistance services; and build capacity for vehicle technology and safety training. The Collaborative addresses the four initiatives described below for the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska:

### 1. Market Development / Outreach:

- a. Fuel Retailer Education—Interstate Corridors study
- b. Best Practices Exchange Webinar Series

### 2. Policy:

- a. Design Alternative Fuels Air Quality Emissions Model to inform state AQ implementation plans.
- b. Host Codes Conference and Exchange to train inspectors, fire and other codes officials.

### 3. Barrier Reduction:

- a. Mid-America Green Fleets technical assistance and consultation program design.
- b. Stakeholder and Fleet Surveys and analysis to identify perceived barriers and opportunities

### 4. Safety and Training:

- a. Disseminate First Responder Safety Trainings to emergency response professionals.
- b. Increase regional capacity for technical training by hosting train-the-trainer courses at area technical centers.

This project will cultivate already strong, mutually beneficial partnerships among public and private stakeholders in alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure development, including

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manufacturers, dealers, public and private fleets, Clean Cities, industry trade groups, metropolitan planning agencies, state and local government, and local and industry training institutions.

It will build a lasting Collaborative among the Clean Cities coalitions operating in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska and to provide a framework for common activities being undertaken by individual stakeholders in each of the coalitions. We anticipate using its work products to influence fleet decision-making and policy decisions for 3 to 10 years beyond the term of the project.

### **Partners**

Metropolitan Energy Center, a 501(c)3 based in Kansas City, serves as the lead in this U.S. Department of Energy funded project. MEC provides staffing and administration for the Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition.

The Mid-America Collaborative is the Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition, Nebraska Clean Cities Coalition, St. Louis Regional Clean Cities and the Iowa Clean Cities Coalition. The project is funded by U.S. DOE Award #DE-EE0006009.

Visit [www.metroenergy.org](http://www.metroenergy.org) to learn more about Mid-America Collaborative for Alternative Fuels.

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