

**From:** Julie Orchard  
**To:** Livingston, Merilee  
**Date:** 1/14/2009 5:54 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re:Inquiry from Paul Hurd

UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

2009 JAN 14 P 5:57

160261

>>> Constituent Services <constituentservices@utah.gov> 1/13/2009 8:12 AM >>>  
FYI

RECEIVED

Paul Edward Hurd

Email

**SUBJECT:**

Specifically here in Utah, the latest actions by the Public Service Commission (to significantly raise the price at the pump for compressed natural gas (CNG)) are very puzzling. Utah will be out of EPA compliance in the near future. People who drive natural gas vehicles (NGV's) help Utah meet EPA standards. Why are we discouraging investment in NGV's by raising the rate of CNG? The logic is truly lacking. You should be supporting legislation to make it easier for people to use alternative energy, even if it means subsidizing costs. Will the cost not be offset by the monetary gains of increased public health and reduced EPA fines and intrusion into Utah business permit issuance.

So, I am writing to ask that you consider the benefits of using compressed natural gas (CNG) as a transportation fuel when formulating our energy policy. As you may know, CNG currently sells on average \$1.57 less than a gallon of gasoline and has the ability to reduce vehicle emissions by up to 90% and greenhouse gases up to 30%.

Natural gas CAN serve as a bridge fuel for our transportation needs and, as one of your constituents, I am deeply concerned about our rising fuel costs and our dependence on foreign countries for our energy needs. Using natural gas for transportation would greatly reduce our national security risk as 98% of the natural gas we consume is produced in North America. Moreover, those natural gas supplies are only continuing to increase, particularly due in recent years to growth in unconventional gas plays.

The most critical piece of getting more CNG vehicles on the road is to ensure there are refueling stations conveniently located across our country. Please consider initiatives and legislation to help businesses expand existing fueling stations and build new stations that provide CNG. America already has hundreds of thousands of miles of natural gas pipelines that can be tapped for a fueling infrastructure.

By working with American automakers, we can also provide models of CNG vehicles to be used throughout our country. Many American automakers produce various CNG vehicles overseas and can easily manufacture them in America.

We have the opportunity to play a vital role in making America more energy independent and hope you will take time to consider a fuel source that is clean, abundant, affordable and American.