

Community-driven renewable natural gas (R-CNG) vehicle fuel project is first to harness landfill gas in Louisiana

Location:

St. Landry Parish Landfill
Beggs, Louisiana

Partners:

St. Landry Parish Solid
Waste Commission

BioCNG – Cornerstone
Environmental Group

GT Environmental Finance

RPH Engineering

Aucoin & Associates

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Feedstock:

Landfill biogas

Maximum Annual Fuel Production:

Vehicles Fueled:

15-50 municipal vehicles

Pay Back Period:

4-5 Years

Plant Cost:

~\$750k

Received Funding:

Yes

Technology Providers:

BioCNG, LLC



Summary:

In April 2012, at the St. Landry Parish landfill, the Town of Washington (Beggs), Louisiana, opened a fueling station to supply its municipal fleet with landfill gas-derived RNG fuel. This is the first RNG vehicle fuel project in Louisiana, and it was inspired and guided by the community's leaders. In 2009, the St. Landry Parish Solid Waste Commission (SLPSWC) began educating itself about the potential of an economically viable RNG vehicle project to reduce its carbon emissions by utilizing the landfill gases generated at their municipal solid waste facility. Since January of 2011, with the help of consultants and contractors including GT Environmental Finance, RPH Engineering, Aucoin & Associates, and BioCNG, LLC/Cornerstone Environmental Group, SLPSWC began planning for a biogas upgrading facility and fueling station. The facility initially began supplying fuel to 15 light-to-medium duty municipal vehicles that were recently retrofitted with CNG engines by Control Tech of New Iberia, LA. The landfill, which accepts waste from approximately 40,000 households, has the potential to generate fuel for more than 50 vehicles in the foreseeable future and the St. Landry Solid Waste District continues to grow its RNG fleet by including new additions in the form of utility trucks. The District is expected to increase its conditioning capacity three fold and include its local refuse collection service units as part of its long range plan. New vehicle technology development has been helpful in reducing the equipment cost.

Financing:

The project is entirely funded by public sources: a \$551,000 grant from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources; \$250,000 in State Tax Incentives given for renewable energy projects, and \$200,000 to be generated through municipal taxes.