



Los Angeles Contracts Applied LNG for Renewable Natural Gas

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The City of Los Angeles has taken another step toward meeting Southern California’s stringent air-quality goals by contracting Applied LNG to supply renewable liquefied natural gas (RLNG) to fuel their fleet of natural gas vehicles. The California-based energy solutions provider will deliver fuel to multiple Los Angeles LNG/LCNG stations where it will be dispensed as LNG or compressed natural gas (CNG).

Renewable Natural Gas (RNG or biomethane) is a naturally formed gas captured at landfills, wastewater treatment facilities and anaerobic digestion plants, that would otherwise have been released into the atmosphere. Derived from the natural breakdown of organic matter, the methane is captured, purified and upgraded to pipeline-quality natural gas for dispensing at fueling stations.

Applied LNG operates its own LNG production plant in the city of Midlothian, Texas which can produce up to 30 million gallons per year. It also has two LNG production plants in Topock, Arizona, which collectively have capacity to generate 170,000 gallons per day. That adds up to 90 million gallons overall for supply to the expanding demand in the U.S. southern and mid-west states.

The anticipated annual volume required for City of Los Angeles contract is over 5.6 million gallons.

California’s RNG potential

“RNG is one of the lowest carbon fuel sources available, and drastically cuts health-damaging pollutants like particulates and NOx,” said Joanna Underwood, chair of national nonprofit organization Energy Vision, during the build-up to a “Power of Waste” conference, a workshop on the role of renewable gas in the state’s clean energy future, held in October 2017.

“Over its lifecycle, it cuts GHG emissions 80 percent or more compared to diesel, and is actually net-carbon-negative, according to the California Air Resources Board, when made from food waste. So the more RNG gets made and used, the more it can reduce overall carbon emissions. California has the greatest biogas potential of any state,” Underwood continued. “We estimate California could produce enough RNG to replace 75 percent of its diesel road fuel consumption.”