

For Immediate Release For Immediate Release For Immediate Release

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COAST Switches Public Transportation Fleet to Biodiesel Fuel

Dover, NH- The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) announced today that it has switched its fleet of public transit buses over to running on biodiesel fuel in place of regular diesel fuel. Steve Wells, Executive Director, announced: “we have been operating our buses on biodiesel for over a month and the switch has been very successful. We have been pleased with vehicle performance and our ability to incorporate this alternative fuel so seamlessly.”

COAST purchased a blend known as B20, consisting of 20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent diesel fuel, and plans to use this for all diesel buses in its fleet. Biodiesel is derived from soybean or canola oils, it is biodegradable, non-toxic and emits less pollution. In fact, the use of biodiesel has actually been found to prolong engine life. Because existing diesel engines need no modification to operate on biodiesel blends such as B20 and see no reduction in performance with the fuel, it has the lowest capital cost requirement for adoption relative to other alternative fuels.

Phil Smith, Manager of Fleet Maintenance states: “Currently, many of the alternate fuel choices require extensive fleet modifications, specialized fueling stations, technical expertise and increase maintenance expenses. COAST is always analyzing ways to cut pollution while at the same time keeping costs to a minimum. Biodiesel allows us to do just that. In addition, by using it we are supporting American farming.”

Rad Nichols, Manager of Operations and Planning, adds: “There are some really exciting fuel alternatives on the horizon that will make a big impact on the amount of emissions and toxins that cars and buses produce. Using biodiesel now is just a logical step in the right direction. We are very proud to be one of the leaders in the state of New Hampshire and convert to an alternative fuels based operation.”

For more information about COAST call 603-743-5777 x 100 or visit coastbus.org.
For more information about biodiesel, visit www.biodiesel.org