



California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition

May 7, 2010

The Honorable Ted W. Lieu
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Rm 3173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1500 (Lieu) – STRONG SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Lieu:

The California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition (CNGVC) strongly supports Assembly Bill 1500 which will extend until 2014 the sunset that allows qualifying low emission alternative fuel vehicles with a single occupant to use California's HOV lanes. The CNGVC represents the state's natural gas vehicle industry and includes major automobile manufacturers, utilities, heavy-duty engine manufacturers, fueling station manufacturers, equipment manufacturers, and fleet users of natural gas vehicles.

Today the CA Department of Motor Vehicles issues "white clean air stickers" to vehicles that meet California's super ultra-low emission vehicle (SULEV) emission standard *and* the federal inherently-low emission vehicle (ILEV) evaporative emission standard. Natural gas vehicles meet both of these standards and thus qualify for white stickers. Full electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles also qualify for white stickers.

Natural gas vehicles offer a very clean alternative to public and private fleets including taxi cabs and local government fleets. Increasing the number of natural gas and other alternative fuel vehicles in California is critical to achieving our state's clean air and global warming goals, and reducing our petroleum dependence. The CNGVC strongly believes that access to HOV lanes has been and continues to be a very important non-monetary incentive for vehicle manufacturers to produce and for fleet owners and individual drivers to purchase clean natural gas vehicles. Continuing non-monetary incentives such as this HOV lane incentive for buyers of alternative fuel vehicles is especially important in this time of very tight budgets for the State.

The California NGV Coalition thanks you for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to continuing to work with you to pass AB 1500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Carmichael". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Carmichael

President