

U.S. Department of Agriculture AFV Program Report for Fiscal Year 2007

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Program Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 presents the Department's data on the number of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) acquired in fiscal year FY 2007, and planned and projected acquisitions for FY 2008 and FY 2009. The report has been developed in accordance with the Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) of 1992 (amended in 2005) (42 U.S.C. 13211-13219), as amended by the Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-388) (ECRA), and Executive Order (E.O.)13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management, dated January 2007.

Legislative Requirements

EPAAct requires that 75% of all Federal fleet light duty vehicle acquisitions for FY 1999 and beyond which are capable of being centrally fueled and primarily operated in a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) be alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs). Certain emergency, law enforcement, and national defense vehicles are exempt from these requirements. The Energy Conservation and Reauthorization Act of 1998 amended EPAAct to allow one alternative fuel vehicle acquisition credit for every 450 gallons of pure biodiesel fuel consumed in vehicles over 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating. "Biodiesel credits" may fulfill up to 50 percent of an agency's EPAAct requirements. Executive Order (E.O.) 13423 requires agencies to reduce their fleet's covered petroleum consumption by 2% annually through 2015, while *increasing* their consumption of alternative fuel 10% per year compared to an FY 2005 baseline. Agencies are also required to purchase plug-in hybrid vehicles when life-cycle cost analysis demonstrates their cost to be reasonably similar to other vehicles.

USDA Fleet Mission Requirements

USDA has a foreign and domestic vehicle fleet of 41,846 vehicles comprised of owned vehicles, commercial leases, and vehicles leased from the General Services Administration (GSA). The fleet is used to perform mission requirements in support of USDA programs, including the following:

- ◆ Management of the National Forest System, including fire prevention and firefighting
- ◆ Community Natural Resource Conservation Programs
- ◆ Animal, Plant, and Food Safety programs
- ◆ Border Surveillance
- ◆ Agriculture Science Research Programs

USDA Vehicle Acquisition Requirements

The USDA heavy duty, medium duty, and light duty vehicle acquisition (owned, commercially leased, GSA leased) numbers vary from year to year, in a range of about 4000 to 6000 acquisitions, due primarily to the varying replacement cycles used by USDA agencies. GSA leased vehicle replacement cycles are generally every three to four years, while USDA owned vehicles are replaced anywhere from six to ten years. Also, vehicle acquisitions are contingent upon critical mission requirements such as responding to catastrophic events and increases in food and plant inspection services which can necessitate unplanned vehicle acquisitions and increased petroleum use.

USDA Approach to Compliance with EAct and E.O. 13423 in FY 2007

This chart details USDA's FY 2007 compliance with EAct and E.O. 13423:

AUTHORITY/ MANDATE	PERFROMANCE MEASURE	GOAL/ REQUIREMENT	USDA PERFORMANCE IN FY 2007	ASSOCIATED TABLE
EPACT	AFV Acquisitions	75% of the 1,211 covered light-duty vehicles acquired in FY 2007 (i.e., 908 vehicles) must be AFVs	Acquired 2,140 AFVs and 33 biodiesel credits. AFV total acquisitions credits were 2,173. USDA achieved a 179% EAct acquisition rate, surpassing the established goal	Information pertaining to USDA LDV acquisitions can be found in Tables 1, 2, and 3
E.O. 13423	Alternative Fuel Increase	Increase alternative fuel use in AFVs by 10% compared to FY 2005.	USDA increased alternative fuel use in FY 2007 by 19% as compared with FY 2005.	Information pertaining to alternative fuels can be found in Table 5
	Petroleum Consumption Reduction	Reduce petroleum by 2% compared to FY 2005 baseline	USDA decreased petroleum use in FY 2007 by 3% as compared with FY 2005.	Information pertaining to petroleum can be found in Table 4

Table 1. AFV FY 2007 Total Acquisitions and FYs 2008 and 2009 Estimated Acquisitions

Acquisitions and Credits	FY 2007 Total AFV Acquisitions	FY 2008 Planned Estimate	FY 2009 Projected Estimate
Light Duty Vehicle EPO Act Covered Acquisitions	1,211	1,108	1,047
AFV 75% EPO Act Required Acquisitions	908	831	785
AFV Actual Acquisitions	2,140	1,377	1,352
Dedicated Credit	0	0	0
Biodiesel Credit	33	37	38
AFV Total Acquisitions	2,173	1,414	1,390
EPO Act Percentage	179%	128%	133%

USDA surpassed all prior year AFV acquisition efforts by achieving a 179% EPO Act acquisition rate as compared with the acquisition target goal of 75%. This increase was primarily due to an FY 2007 acquisition policy which directed USDA agencies to substantially increase their E85 acquisitions. Also, the Department's fleet policy office representatives reviewed GSA light duty vehicle (LDV) lease orders to ensure compliance with USDA policy relative to the acquisition of E85 vehicles.

Tables 2 (related to GSA LDV leases) and 3 (related to owned LDVs) represent the total number of LDV acquisitions and the number of E85 vehicles acquired in FYs 2005, 2006, and 2007 (USDA commercially leased vehicles are not included in the tables). These tables are provided to display the significant E85 acquisition increases in FY 2007 as compared to FYs 2006 and 2005.

Table 2. GSA LDV Acquisitions versus Actual E85 AFV Acquisitions

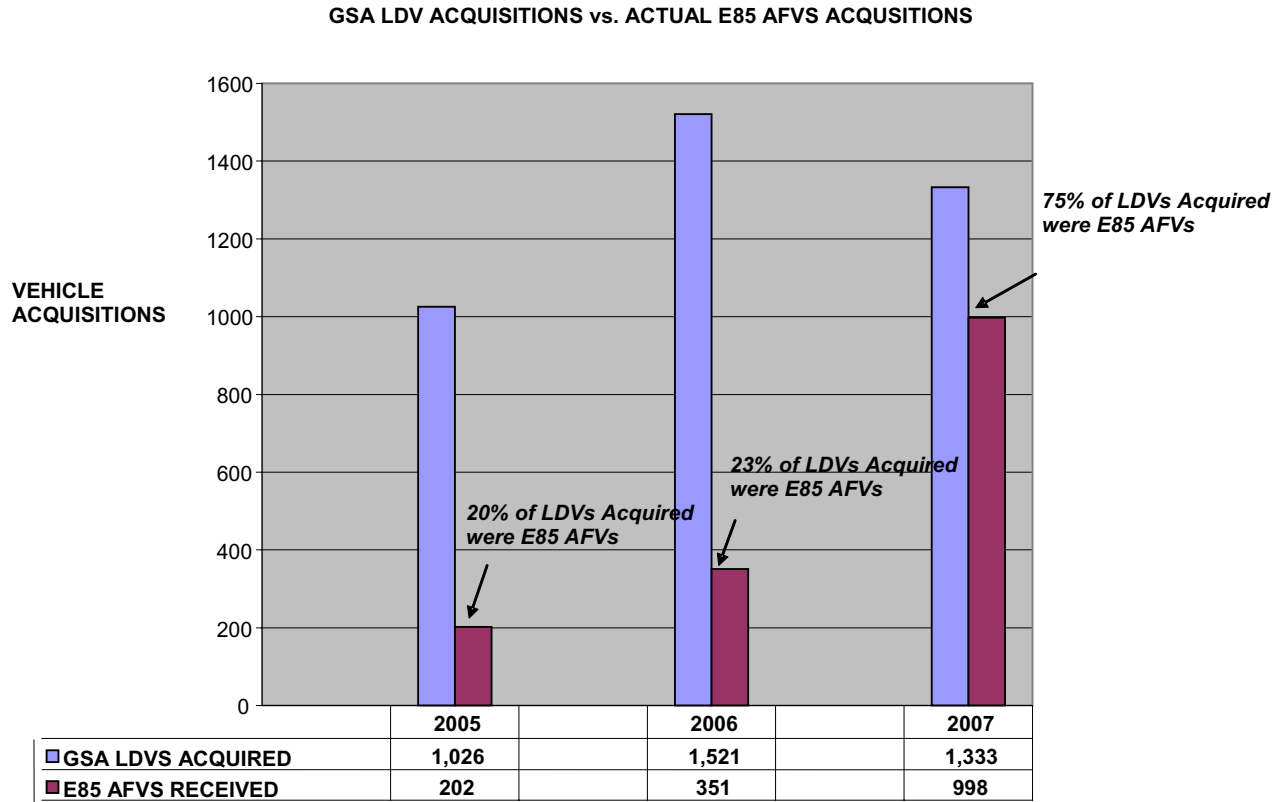
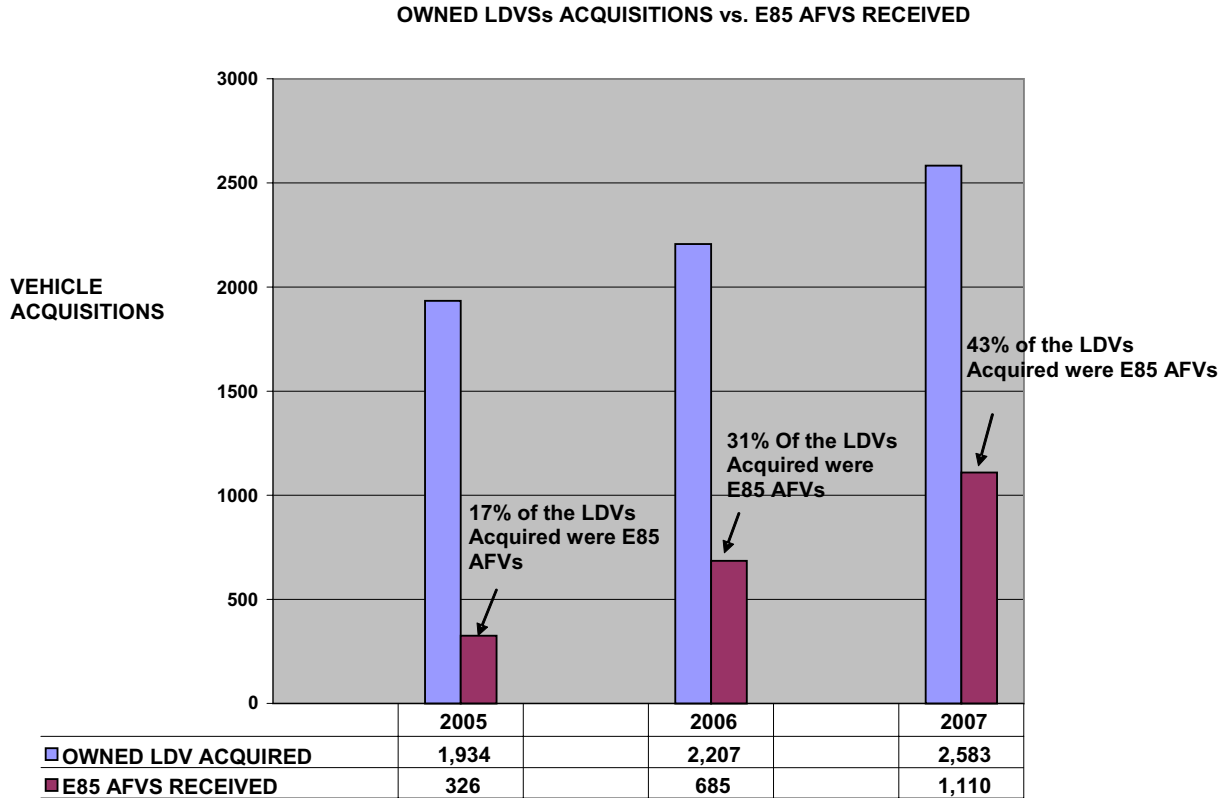
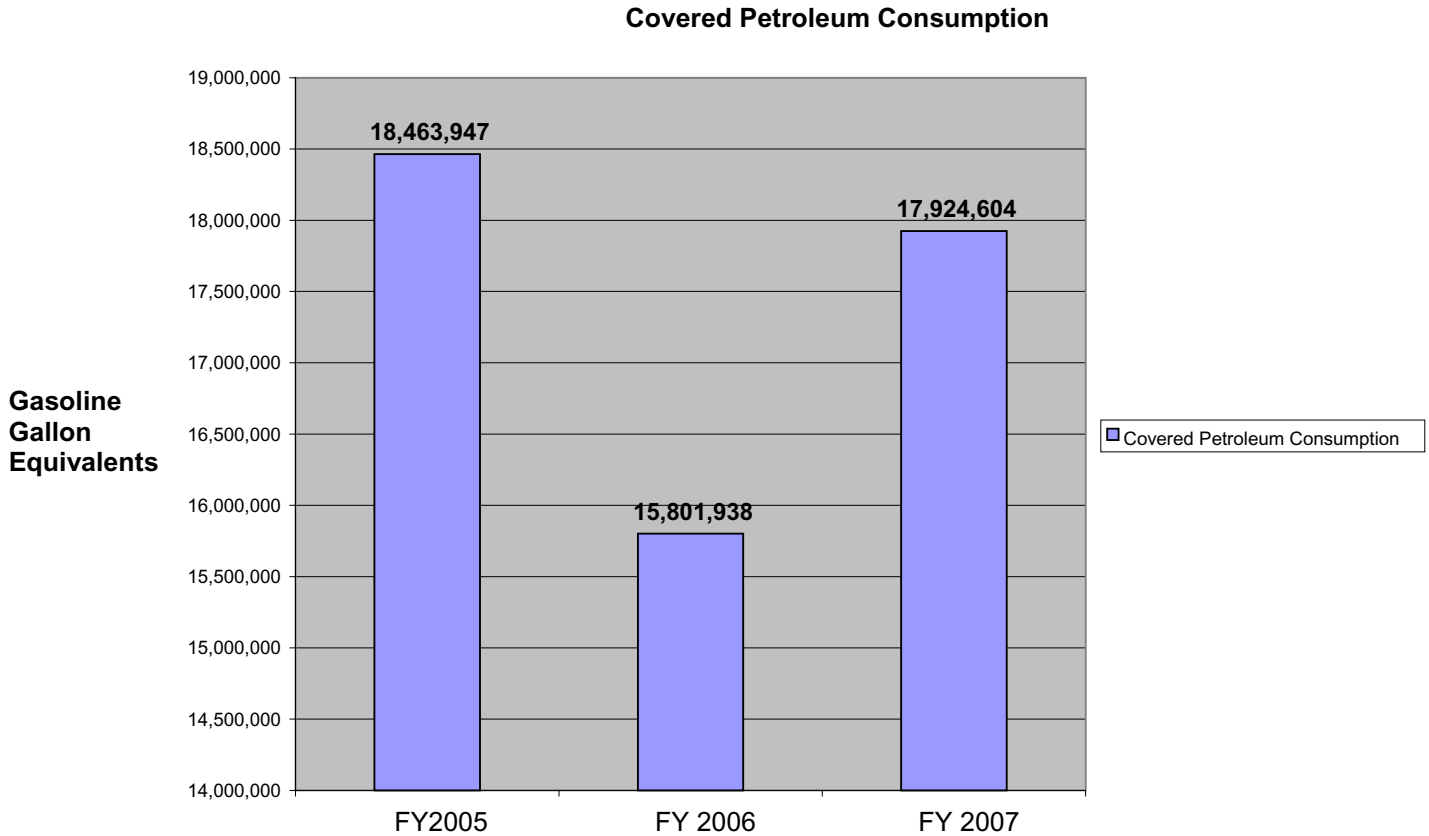


Table 3. OWNED LDVs Acquisitions versus Actual E85 AFVs Received



FY 2007 was an extraordinary year with respect to GSA leased and owned E85 acquisitions. The Department, however, realizes that the primary objective of E.O.13423 is to decrease petroleum and *increase the use of alternative fuel*. In accordance with these objectives USDA is strategically planning initiatives to acquire AFVs or position existing AFVs in locations in close proximity to alternative fueling sites. The section of this report entitled “USDA Initiatives for Increasing Alternative Fuel Use and Decreasing Petroleum Use” will detail USDA’s planned initiatives to begin significant increases in alternative fuel use.

Table 4. USDA FY 2007 Petroleum Consumption



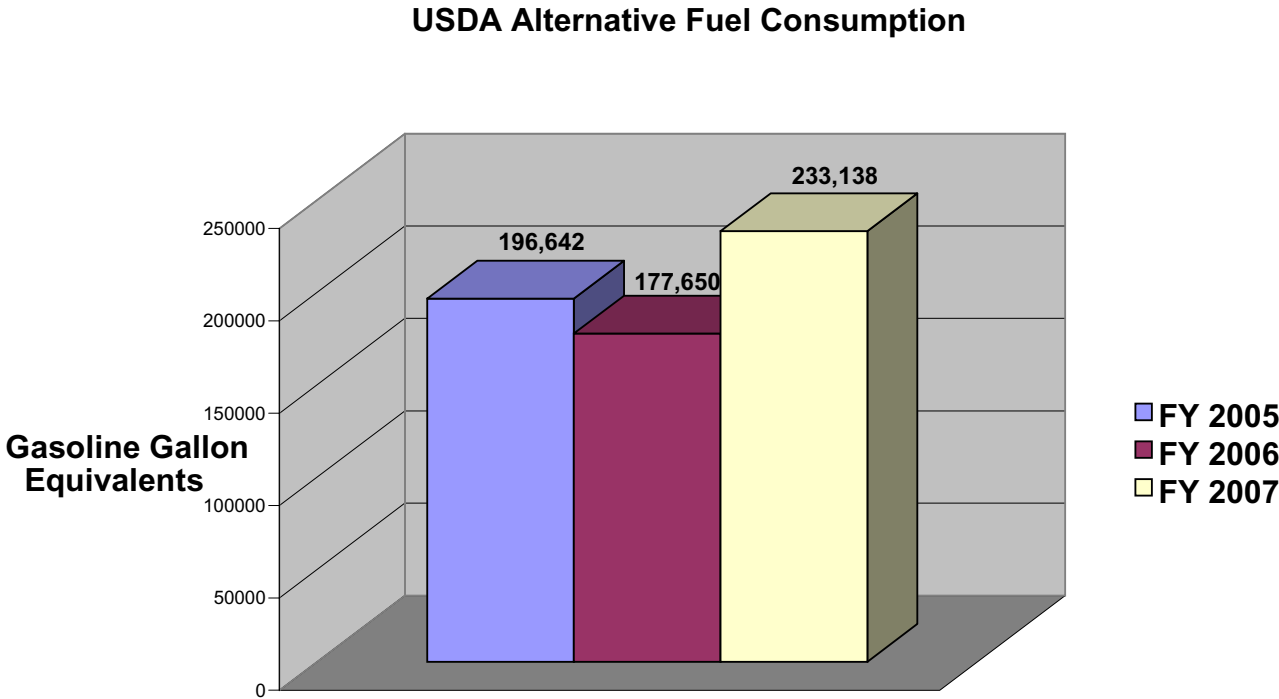
The Department has decreased covered petroleum consumption in FY 2007 as compared with the FY 2005 baseline by approximately 3%. Future fiscal year petroleum consumption decreases are anticipated due to viable initiatives that USDA is developing in accordance with the fuel requirements of E.O. 13423.

Validation of FY 2005 Petroleum and Alternative Fuel Baselines

As part of the USDA Transportation Management Scorecard's July through December 2007 planned actions USDA conducted an internal review of the FY 2005 and FY 2006 petroleum, alternative fuel, and exempt fuel data. USDA agencies were assigned to validate the accuracy of the data and to make the necessary corrections if needed to the FY 2005 baselines. This action was necessary to achieve the fuel consumption requirements of E.O. 13423. All but one of USDA's agencies concurred with their FY 2005 and 2006 fuel consumption data reported in FAST. The Forest Service (FS) concurred with all of the FY 2005 fuel data reported and only the FY 2006 alternative fuel consumption data reported. FS did not concur with the covered petroleum and exempt fuel data reported in FY 2006. The FS National Fleet Manager and regional fleet managers performed a thorough review of the agency exempted fuel vehicle and equipment inventory.

As a result of this data review, the FS determined that the exempted fuel use for FY 2006 was miscalculated and measures had to be taken to ensure the FY 2007 FAST report was correct. The FS used the results of their review to provide better petroleum and exempt fuel consumption data for the FY 2007 FAST report.

Table 5. USDA FY 2007 Alternative Fuel Consumption



The Department has increased alternative fuel consumption in FY 2007 as compared with the FY 2005 baseline by approximately 19%. USDA has developed new initiatives to further increase alternative fuel use in the coming years. These are detailed in the following sections of this report.

USDA Initiatives for Increasing Alternative Fuel Use and Decreasing Petroleum Use

OMB Transportation Score Card Actions

OMB requested that USDA take specific actions to decrease petroleum use and increase alternative fuel use. Listed below are action items that USDA successfully completed towards establishing methods to decrease petroleum use and increase alternative fuel use:

Actions taken in FY 2007:

- Updated departmental regulations to address EO 13423 new requirements.
- Established working group for EO 13423 fleet issues reporting to USDA Sustainable Operations Council.
- Conducted review of USDA FY 2005/06 FAST data to verify accuracy and/or address discrepancies.
- Developed a database of USDA AFVs within 5-10 mile radius of E85 fueling.
- USDA sent NREL garaged location for all AFVs in July 2007 for use in determining proximity of E85 fueling.

New Initiatives for FY 2008

- Update AFV database with new information from FY 2007 FAST to identify new AFVS near E85 fueling and achieve reduction in number of AFV waivers requested for FY 2009.
- Develop internal transportation scorecard for USDA agencies to measure compliance with EPA Act, E.O. 13423, and the Agriculture Property Management Regulations.
- Initiate a targeted campaign to place an E85-flexfuel identifier in each USDA E85 vehicle nationwide to promote driver awareness.
- Develop initial strategy to reduce waiver requests by 10% for FY 2009 from FY 2008 number

The Secretary of Agriculture appointed the Assistant Secretary of Administration to provide executive leadership in implementing Executive Order 13423, "Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management." This is another concrete example of the strides USDA is making to comply with all legislative requirements. The Sustainable Operations Council which is chaired by the Assistant Secretary of Administration is assisted by three existing USDA management councils and four working groups that will develop guidance, draft policies, and other tools to assist the councils in implementing the executive order. One of the working groups is the Transportation Work Group which is responsible for developing policy proposals in the areas of: fleet management, including the increased use and purchase of alternative fuel, hybrid, and plug-in hybrid vehicles; petroleum reduction; and alternative fuel use in accordance with E.O. 13423.

Summary

The FY 2007 AFV report documents that the Department has exceeded its AFV acquisition requirements under EPCA and has expectations to continue this progress in FYs 2008 and 2009. The report also documents decreases in petroleum consumption and increases in alternative fuel consumption. The reduction in petroleum use and increases in alternative fuel use in future years will be achieved by implementing the doable initiatives that are currently underway, i.e., AFV database used for AFV positioning, Transportation Work Group initiatives, etc. USDA will continually reevaluate petroleum reduction strategy initiatives to seek new opportunities.

The following barriers continue to impede progress towards petroleum reduction efforts:

- Correct coding of fuel transactions which hinder the ability to capture accurately and consistently alternative fuel purchases.
- Procedures or formulas for government-wide conversion of annual acquisition of fuel economy vehicles into displaced GGEs or convert miles traveled to displace GGEs.
- Unresolved issues of E85 commercial fuel infrastructure

These barriers are of major concern to USDA but not within our power to resolve independently. USDA will continue best efforts to provide the most reliable and accurate petroleum reduction and increased alternative fuel use data possible.

Through the efforts of the USDA Sustainable Operations Council's Transportation Work Group the Department will work diligently to achieve the goals of E.O. 13423. The Department has been able to more effectively train its fleet managers to gather and analyze critical fleet related information for the purpose of providing more accurate data. Also, an ambitious marketing campaign is being developed by the Transportation Work Group to apprise USDA employees of the identification of AFVs, the benefits of using alternative fuel and decreasing petroleum consumption, and other valuable advantages associated with "USDA Greening" and other energy and environment programs.

Actual Department of Agriculture FY 2007 Vehicle Acquisitions					
Actual FY 2007 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions					Total Vehicle Inventory
	Leased	Purchased	Total		
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR) - Vehicle Acquisitions		1,337	2,583	3,920	32,147
Exemptions	Fleet Size	5	0	5	29
	Geographic	0	0	0	46
	Law Enforcement	30	0	30	177
	Non-MSA Operation (fleet)	495	1,626	2,121	14,682
	Non-MSA Operation (vehicles)	276	277	553	(n/a)
EPACT Covered Acquisitions		531	680	1,211	17,213
Actual FY 2007 AFV Acquisitions					Total Vehicle Inventory
Vehicle	Leased	Purchased	Total		
Sedan	CNG Bi-Fuel Subcompact	0	0	0	3
Sedan	CNG Bi-Fuel Compact	0	0	0	2
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	102	10	112	537
Sedan	CNG Bi-Fuel Midsize	0	0	0	5
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	724	95	819	1,650
Sedan	CNG Dedicated Large	0	0	0	1
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Large	17	1	18	18
Pickup 4x2	CNG Bi-Fuel	0	0	0	8
Pickup 4x2	CNG Dedicated	0	0	0	1
Pickup 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel	26	83	109	1,553
Pickup 4x2	LPG Bi-Fuel	0	0	0	16
Pickup 4x4	CNG Bi-Fuel	2	0	2	12
Pickup 4x4	CNG Dedicated	0	0	0	1
Pickup 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel	42	628	670	1,934
Pickup 4x4	LPG Bi-Fuel	2	0	2	16
SUV 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel	1	8	9	207
SUV 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel	33	219	252	525
Minivan 4x2 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	52	6	58	286
Minivan 4x2 (Cargo)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	1	0	1	2
Van 4x2 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	60	60	70
Van 4x4 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	1	0	1	4
Pickup MD	CNG Bi-Fuel	0	0	0	5
SUV MD	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	0	0	14
Van MD (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	27	27	0
Van MD (Passenger)	LPG Bi-Fuel	0	0	0	1
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions		1,003	1,137	2,140	6,871
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits		0	0	0	
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0	

Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits	0	0	0
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits	0	0	0
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Actual			33
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits	1,003	1,137	2,173
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition			179 %

Planned Department of Agriculture FY 2008 Vehicle Acquisitions				
Planned FY 2008 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions				
		Leased	Purchased	Total
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR) - Vehicle Acquisitions		1,287	2,300	3,587
Exemptions	Fleet Size	0	0	0
	Geographic	0	4	4
	Law Enforcement	52	0	52
	Non-MSA Operation (fleet)	545	1,298	1,843
	Non-MSA Operation (vehicles)	255	325	580
EPACT Covered Acquisitions		435	673	1,108
Planned FY 2008 AFV Acquisitions				
	Vehicle	Leased	Purchased	Total
Sedan	CNG Bi-Fuel Subcompact	1	0	1
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	299	20	319
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	33	112	145
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Large	0	1	1
Pickup 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel	5	177	182
Pickup 4x4	CNG Bi-Fuel	2	0	2
Pickup 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel	9	449	458
Pickup 4x4	LPG Bi-Fuel	2	0	2
SUV 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel	3	42	45
SUV 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel	25	89	114
Minivan 4x2 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	32	36	68
Van 4x2 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	38	38
Van MD (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	2	2
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions		411	966	1,377
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits		0	0	0
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Planned				37
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits		411	966	1,414
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition				128 %

Projected Department of Agriculture FY 2009 Vehicle Acquisitions				
Projected FY 2009 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions				
		Leased	Purchased	Total
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR) - Vehicle Acquisitions		1,198	2,069	3,267
Exemptions	Fleet Size	4	0	4
	Geographic	0	2	2
	Law Enforcement	35	0	35
	Non-MSA Operation (fleet)	394	1,285	1,679
	Non-MSA Operation (vehicles)	225	275	500
EPACT Covered Acquisitions		540	507	1,047
Projected FY 2009 AFV Acquisitions				
	Vehicle	Leased	Purchased	Total
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	403	43	446
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	47	90	137
Pickup 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel	7	161	168
Pickup 4x2	LPG Bi-Fuel	0	1	1
Pickup 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel	13	360	373
SUV 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	38	38
SUV 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel	28	81	109
Minivan 4x2 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	15	36	51
Van 4x2 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	25	25
Van 4x4 (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	2	2
Van MD (Passenger)	E-85 Flex-Fuel	0	2	2
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions		513	839	1,352
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits		0	0	0
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Projected				38
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits		513	839	1,390
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition				133 %