



# TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

## JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Patterson: Texas-fueled Natural Gas Vehicles can clear the air**

*Texas General Land Office leads public-private partnership to build NGV fueling stations*

AUSTIN — Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office, today marked Earth Day by announcing a new public-private partnership with T. Boone Pickens' Clean Energy Inc. to build a network of Natural Gas Vehicle fueling stations across Texas and increase the size of NGV fleets.

"This partnership will not only help clear the air, it will earn money for Texas," Patterson said. "That's a green initiative that makes both dollars and sense."

Under the agreement announced today, the Texas General Land Office will seek \$15 million in federal money to be matched by a \$15 million investment of private capital — spearheaded by Pickens' Clean Energy Inc. — to build the NGV fueling stations and increase the size of NGV fleets.

Private partners in the effort include UPS, The Parking Spot and Dillon Transport. Public partners in the effort include Central Texas Clean Cities, Alamo Area Clean Cities, East Texas Clean Cities in the Tyler-Longview area, Victoria Clean Cities, Southeast Texas Clean Cities in the Beaumont-Port Arthur area, DFW Clean Cities and the city of El Paso.

The market for NGVs has been limited because of the lack of fueling stations. Increasing the number of NGV fueling stations will help the number of NGVs grow, Patterson said.

"More NGV fueling stations will mean more NGV vehicles on the road and that will mean cleaner air for everyone," Patterson said. "Texas is rich in clean-burning natural gas. By selling more of it locally for transportation we can help our private partners operate their fleets more efficiently and earn millions of dollars from natural gas produced from Permanent School Fund lands."

NGVs emit about 25 percent less greenhouse gases than vehicles powered by gasoline.

Natural gas vehicles are a proven way to reduce emissions. Because natural gas is chemically simpler than gasoline or diesel, it burns cleaner. Natural gas vehicles also have a closed fuel system, which eliminates evaporative emissions that account for up to one-half of ozone-causing pollution from motor vehicles. Natural gas vehicles are also substantially quieter than diesel engines, which could dramatically reduce the noise level of neighborhood trash pick up.

"When corporations and market forces see the economic value of a healthy environment, then things get done," Patterson said. "In America, money is green."

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