

Clean Fuel Standard

Preparing Washington for a Changing Climate



Clean fuels are a simple idea: They pollute less than conventional gas and diesel.

What a clean fuel standard does

A Clean Fuel Standard sets limits on the amount of carbon pollution in the fuels we use for transportation. Fuel producers and importers are required to gradually introduce less polluting fuel.



Clean fuels reduce greenhouse gas pollution

Washington must address pollution from transportation in order to meet its legislative requirement to reduce greenhouse gases. A clean fuel standard would reduce greenhouse gases and other air pollution.



Clean fuels are good for Washington

- Clean fuels often are produced locally which reduces dependence on foreign oil and puts dollars into the local economy.
- Washington would see growth in jobs, personal income, and gross state product as a result of a clean fuel standard.
- A clean fuel standard would spur innovation and competition in the fuel industry.
- Washington would reduce its dependence on foreign oil.
- Less air pollution is better for our health.



How a clean fuel standard works

Washington fuel producers and importers will need to reduce the amount of carbon pollution in their fuels. There are a variety of ways to accomplish this and meet the standard:

- Produce low-carbon fuels.
- Blend biodiesel or ethanol in gasoline or diesel.
- Purchase carbon credits generated by others.
- Any combination of the above.





Clean fuels are available now

An ample supply of alternative fuels already exists. In fact, for a 2011-2013 review period, a UC Davis study concluded that in California, there is an increase in the availability and use of low carbon alternative fuels. Specifically, there has been an increase in the amount of low carbon ethanol biodiesel and renewable diesel. Additionally, the amount of fossil and renewable natural gas, has also increased. Reported transportation electricity energy use steadily increased, as well.

In every quarter since the program was initiated in California, fuel suppliers in the program have complied with the low carbon fuel standard. This is only possible because low carbon fuels are available now.

Examples of clean fuels include:

- Ethanol
- Biodiesel
- Natural gas
- Biogas
- Hydrogen
- Electricity
- Propane

More information

See Ecology's Climate Change website:

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange

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