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16. Abstract

Increased emphasis on energy efficiency and air quality has resulted in a number of state and federal initiatives examining the use of alternative fuels for motor vehicles. Texas instituted an alternative fuels program for public fleet operations beginning in the 1991-92 fiscal year. Life-cycle cost/benefit models for evaluating the economic implications of this action have been developed at The University of Texas at Austin Center for Transportation Research for both compressed natural gas (CNG) and propane. This report documents the various input data, calculations, and assumptions of the Propane Net Present Value (NPV) model. A similar report (number 983-1) documents the same for the CNG model.

Input data with constant values across different fleets and locations are discussed first and include basic parameters for on-board storage capacity, vehicle conversion costs, equipment salvage values, etc. Variable input data, reflecting a given fleet size, composition, and location, include the number and types of vehicles, fuel consumption. etc. The next section presents the formulas for the internal model calculations. The final section discusses the basic assumptions underlying the model.

DOCUMENTATION FOR PROPANE FLEET CONVERSION COST-EFFECTIVENESS MODEL

by

Dean Taylor **Mark Euritt** Hani Mahmassani

Research Report Number 983-3

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Conversion of the SDHPT Automotive Fleet to Alternative Fuels

conducted for

Texas Department of Transportation

by the

CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

Bureau of Engineering Research THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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Summary

The purpose of this report is to document the input data, calculations, and assumptions of the Propane Net Present Value (NPV) model. The model, developed at The University of Texas Center for Transportation Research for the Texas Department of Transponation (TxDOT), analyzes the cost-effectiveness of propane as an alternative fuel for fleet operations by examining the benefits and costs of a propane-fueled operation over the life cycle of a propane fueling station.

Abstract

Increased emphasis on energy efficiency and air quality has resulted in a number of state and federal initiatives examining the use of alternative fuels for motor vehicles. Texas instituted an alternative fuels program for public fleet operations beginning in the 1991-92 fiscal year. Lifecycle cost/benefit models for evaluating the economic implications of this action have been developed at The University of Texas at Austin Center for Transportation Research for both compressed natural gas (CNG) and propane. This report documents the various input data, calculations, and assumptions of the Propane Net Present Value (NPV) model. A similar report (number 983-1) documents the same for the CNG model.

Input data with constant values across different fleets and locations are discussed first and include basic parameters for on-board storage capacity, vehicle conversion costs, equipment salvage values, etc. Variable input data, reflecting a given fleet size, composition, and location, include the number and types of vehicles, fuel consumption, etc. The next section presents the formulas for the internal model calculations. The final section discusses the basic assumptions underlying the model.

Implementation Statement

The purpose of this project is to evaluate the economic feasibility of alternative fuels for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The life-cycle cost/benefit analysis model is the basic framework for this evaluation. The model will assist TxDOT in fulfilling the legal requirements of Senate Bill 740. whether through implementation of an alternative fuels program or through the processing of waivers where appropriate. This report provides the support documentation for use of the model.

Disclaimer

The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors, who are responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented within. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Texas Department of Transportation. This repon does not constitute a standard, a specification. or regulation.

NOT INTENDED FOR CONSTRUCTION, BIDDING, OR PERMIT PURPOSES

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Research Supervisors

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INTRODUCTION

Texas adopted alternative fuels legislation influencing the whole state as well as non-attainment areas. Texas Senate Bill 740, which took effect September 1, 1991, requires all school districts with more than 50 buses, state agencies with more than 15 vehicles excluding law enforcement and other emergency vehicles, and metropolitan transit authorities to purchase new vehicles that are capable of operating on natural gas or a fuel with similar emissions characteristics.¹ Affected agencies can receive a waiver of this act if they can demonstrate either that (1) the effort for operating an alternatively-fueled fleet is more expensive than that for a gasoline or diesel fleet over its useful life or that (2) alternate fuels are not available in sufficient supply. The model documented herein analyzes the first area for propane. Another similar model addresses compressed natural gas (CNG).

The model, developed at The University of Texas Center for Transportation Research for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), analyzes the cost-effectiveness of propane as an alternative fuel for fleet operations. Basically, the model examines the benefits and costs of a propane-fueled operation over the life cycle of a propane fueling station.

The purpose of this report is to document the input data, calculations, and assumptions of the Propane Net Present Value (NPV) model. Presented first are the input data that are not expected to change for different TxDOT fleet locations, followed by the input data that do change across fleets. Next, formulas for the calculations are presented and explained where necessary. Finally, the major embedded model assumptions are laid out and explained. Because the report is intended as technical documentation for a model user, variable names are used directly from the spreadsheet model. A mapping of these names to spreadsheet locations and a sample spreadsheet are provided in the Appendix.

Unless otherwise specified, all costs and prices are in 1991 dollars.

¹ The Texas Air Control Board subsequently ruled that LPG and electricity also qualify as alternative fuels.

CONSTANT INPUT DATA

This section presents input data that will be kept constant for all TxDOT locations analyzed. It is recognized that some data may be slightly different for some locations, but it is believed that these small differences will not significantly alter the final result. However, these values can be modified in order to perform site-specific analyses.

General Factors

This section contains a listing and description of miscellaneous input data, as follows:

Work.days.year - number of days the fleet is operational per year. It is assumed that TxDOT fleets are operational 5 days per week for 52 weeks a year.

Tank.fill.percentage - for safety reasons, propane storage tanks (both on the vehicle and in the fueling station) are only filled to 80 percent of their volumetric capacity.

Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal - it is assumed that 2 gallons of liquid fuel (gasoline, diesel, or propane) remain in the tank when the vehicle is filled.

Propane.Gasoline.Factor - the amount of propane (gallons) with an equivalent amount of energy as a gallon of gasoline. This is calculated by dividing the net (or lower) heating value of a gallon of gasoline by the net (or lower) heating value of a gallon of propane. This factor is taken to be $114,132/84,400 = 1.35$ gallons propane/gallon gasoline.^{2,3}

Propane.Diesel.Factor - the amount of propane (gallons) with an equivalent amount of energy as a gallon of diesel. This is calculated by dividing the net (or lower) heating value of a gallon of diesel by the net (or lower) heating value of a gallon of propane. This factor is taken to be 129,400 / 84,400 = 1.53 gallons propane/gallon diesel.^{4,5}

² Environmental Protection Agency, Analysis of the Economic and Environmental Effects of Compressed Natural Gas as a Vehicle Fuel, Vol. I, Passenger Cars and Light Trucks, April 1990.

³ Personal communication with Larry Osgoode, Phillips 66, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

⁴ Environmental Protection Agency, Analysis of the Economic and Environmental Effects of Compressed Natural Gas as a vehicle Fuel, Vol. I, Passenger Cars and Light Trucks, April 1990.

⁵ Personal communication with Larry Osgoode, Phillips 66, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Discount.Rate - a discount rate of 10 percent is assumed to be applicable to $TxDOT⁶$.

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Vehicle Data

These sections contain input data for each vehicle type. The sections for automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles are conceptually identical; the variable names differ only in the vehicle type identifier prefix of Auto, LT, or HOG. These three sections are discussed in general with the generic variable name prefix of VehType used instead. Since the diesel section accommodates both dual-fuel and dedicated conversions, it is slightly different conceptually and is discussed separately. The input data for the automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles are as follows:

YehType,Propane,MPG.Adj.Factor - it is assumed that converted propane vehicles will achieve fuel efficiencies of the same magnitude as (or 100 percent of) those of the original gasoline vehicles when operating on propane. This assumes that the conversion does not optimize the engine for propane usage. This is more optimistic than for CNG, since propane tanks weigh significantly less than those for CNG. Note that this factor changes to 110 percent somewhere after year 10. It is assumed that OEM vehicles are available in year 11. They are assumed to be optimized and dedicated and will therefore achieve greater fuel efficiencies than gasoline vehicles.^{$7,8$}

VehType.Dual.fuel.MPG.Adjust.Factor - it is assumed that converted propane vehicles will achieve fuel efficiencies of the same magnitude as (or 100 percent of) the original gasoline vehicles when running on gasoline. This assumes that the conversion does not optimize the engine for propane usage.

YehIype.Cony.Kit.Cost - is the cost of the under-hood equipment (e.g., mixer, regulator, piping, etc.). For automobiles this cost is assumed to be \$700. For light trucks and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles this cost is assumed to be $$570.^{9,10}$

⁶ Recommended by the Texas Slate Purchasing and General Services Commission, Workbook on the Cost Effectiveness of Alternative Fuels Using Life Cycle Cost Benefit Analysis, June 1, 1991.

⁷ Personal communication with Larry Osgoode, Phillips 66, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

⁸ James S. Wallace, "Assessment of 'First Generation' Propane Conversion Equipment," SAE paper number 892144, September 1989.

⁹ Phillips 66, "The Cleaner Air Alternative," Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

¹⁰ California Energy Commission, Cost and Availability of Low-Emission Motor Vehicles and Fuels, AB 234 Report, August 1989.

VehType.Conv.lab.cost - is the cost of labor to perform the conversion. For automobiles this cost is assumed to be \$570, and for light trucks and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles, it is \$340. ¹¹

YehType.Tank.cost - is the cost of one tank. For automobiles this cost is assumed to be \$330, for light trucks it is assumed to be \$280, and for heavy-duty gasoline, \$290.^{12,13} These costs are directly related to the VehType.Fuel.Capacity.gal input. It is assumed that TxDOT will implement volume buying in order to achieve price reductions.

VehType.Cony.Kit.Salyage.Value - is the price difference in selling a used converted propane vehicle versus the same vehicle if it were not converted. It is assumed that this value is \$150. As defined, this value includes both tank, kit, and labor salvage value.

YehType.Tank.Salyage.Value - this value is currently not used (it is set to \$0). The salvage value of tanks is included in VehType.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value.

YehType.OEM.Cost.Diff - this is the cost difference between an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) dedicated optimized propane vehicle and a comparable gasoline vehicle. It is assumed that this difference is \$400 for automobiles and light trucks, and $$450$ for heavy-duty gasoline vehicles,¹⁴ These costs assume mature and fairly substantial OEM propane vehicle markets.

VehType, OEM. Salvage, Value - is the price difference in selling a used OEM propane vehicle versus a comparable gasoline vehicle. It is assumed that this value is \$100 for automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles.

VehType.Fuel.Capacity.gal - the water volume of the propane tank. For automobiles this is assumed to be 27 gallons, for light trucks it is assumed to be 31 gallons, and for heavyduty gasoline vehicles, 43 gallons. Tanks of these volumes yield on-board propane quantities similar in volume (not energy) to that of the on-board gasoline tank.

⁻⁻⁻⁻⁻⁻⁻⁻............. _- 11 Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Manchester Tank, Motorfuel Tanks Brochure 1990-1991, Lubbock, Texas.

¹⁴ Phillips 66, "Propane (LP Gas) Alternative Fuel Information," slide presentation, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

YehIype.tanks.per.yeh - it is assumed that all vehicle types have 1 tank per vehicle.

VehType.Prcnt.Propane.miles - percentage of miles driven per vehicle on propane. Assumed to be 100 percent for dual-fuel vehicles. Must be 100 percent for dedicated OEM vehicles.

YehIype.Maint.Cost.Diff - difference in costs for one vehicle's maintenance in one year. A positive amount indicates a maintenance savings for propane.

YehType.On.board.gasoline.capacity - assumed to be: automobiles - 16 gallons; light trucks - 18 gallons; and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles - 25 gallons. 15

Since the heavy-duty diesel vehicle data section accommodates both dual-fuel and dedicated conversions, it is slightly different conceptually from automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles. In year 11 when OEM propane vehicles become available, it is assumed that only dedicated OEM vehicles will be produced (not dual-fuel), because of emissions regulations.¹⁶ The input data for heavy-duty diesel vehicles are as follows:

HDD.Ded.Propane.MPG.Adj.Factor - dedicated propane vehicles will have reduced fuel efficiencies mainly because compression ratios used must be less than those for diesel. It is assumed that these reductions will be 26 percent for converted diesels and 20 percent for OEMs replacing diesels.¹⁷ These reductions are those assumed for natural gas and are used as a proxy for propane, because no estimates for propane were found.

HDD.Dual.MPG,Adjust.Factor - it is assumed that converted dual-fuel propane vehicles will achieve fuel efficiencies that are the same as those of the original diesel vehicles on an energy-equivalent basis. This is more optimistic than for CNG,

HDD.Ded.Conv.Kit.Cost - this cost is assumed to be \$1,630. Because heavy-duty dedicated propane conversion cost estimates were not found in the literature, this cost was estimated from the cost of a heavy-duty diesel dedicated CNG conversion (proportional to

¹⁵ Personal communication with Terry Eulenfeld. TxDOT. Austin. Texas.

¹⁶ Environmental Protection Agency. Analysis of the Economic and Environmental Effects of Compressed Natural Gas as a Vehicle Fuel. Vol. II. Heavy Duty Vehicles, April 1990.

¹⁷ Ibid.

heavy-duty gasoline vehicle costs).¹⁸

HDD.Ded.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value - this value is assumed to be \$300. As defined, this value includes both tank, kit, and labor salvage value.

HDD.Ded.Cony.lab.cost - this cost is assumed to be \$1,330. As for the conversion kit cost, this cost is estimated from the cost of a CNG conversion.

HDD.Dual.Conv.Kit.Cost - this cost is assumed to be \$2,040. As for the conversion kit cost, this cost is estimated from the cost of a CNG conversion.

 $HDD.Dual. Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value - this value is assumed to be $300. As defined, this$ value includes both tank, kit, and labor salvage value.

HDD.Dual.Conv.1ab.cost - this cost is assumed to be \$1,130. As for the conversion kit cost, this cost is estimated from the cost of a CNG conversion.

HDD.Tank.cost - this cost is assumed to be \$365.¹⁹ This cost is directly related to the HDD.Fue1.Capacity.gal input. It is assumed that TxDOT will implement volume buying in order to achieve price reductions.

HDD.Tank.Salvage.Value - this value is currently not used (it is set to $$0$). The salvage value of tanks is included in the conversion kit salvage value.

HDD.OEM.Cost.Diff - it is assumed that this difference is \$1,400. As for the conversion kit cost, this cost is estimated from the cost of a CNG OEM vehicle.

HDD.OEM.Salvage.Value - this value is assumed to be \$300.

HDD. Fuel. Capacity. gal - the water volume of the propane tank. It is assumed to be 76 gallons. A tank of this volume yields an on-board propane quantity similar in volume (not energy) to that of the on-board gasoline tank.

¹⁸ Dean Taylor, Mark Euritt, and Rani Mahmassani, "Documentation for CNG Fleet Conversion Cost-Effectiveness Model," Center for Transportation Research Report 983-1, The University of Texas at Austin, for the Texas Department of Transportation, 1991.

¹⁹ Manchester Tank, Motorfuel Tanks Brochure 1990-1991, Lubbock, Texas.

HDD.tanks.per.Ded.yeh - assumed to be 1 tank.

HDD.tanks.per.Dual.yeh - assumed to be 1 tank.

HDD.Prcnt.Propane.consumed.dual - this factor applies to dual-fuel conversions only. It is the percentage of energy used by the vehicle over its nonnal driving schedule which is obtained from propane. The rest of the energy is obtained from the diesel fuel. This factor is assumed to be 15 percent.20

HDD.Maint.Cost.Diff.Ded - difference in costs for one dedicated propane vehicle's maintenance in one year.

HDD.Maint.Cost.Diff.Dual- difference in costs for one dual-fuel vehicle's maintenance in one year.

HDD.On, board, diesel, capacity - assumed to be 45 gallons.²¹

Fuel Prices

Propane.cost.at.refinery.gallon - a refinery price of 36 cents per gallon is assumed, given that the yearly average refinery propane price at Mount Belvieu, Texas was 35.9 cents in 1991 and 37.7 cents in 1990.22

Transportation.cost.gallon - this is the cost to transport the propane from the refinery to the local supplier. This cost is assumed to be 3 cents per gallon for all locations in Texas, though it will vary by a few cents depending on the distance from the refinery. $23,24,25$

Supplier.markup.small.fleet.gallon - this is the local supplier's profit per gallon for smallvolume propane deliveries (via bobtail trucks in quantities of about 2,000 gallons). This

²⁰ Jim McCray, "'Fumigation' Process Hailed as Answer to Pollution from 4-Stroke Diesels," in Butane-Propane News, September 1991.

²¹ Personal communication with Terry Eulenfeld, TxOOT, Austin, Texas.

²² Butane-Propane News, weekly average principal propane postings at Mount Belvieu, Texas, 1990-1991.

²³ Personal communication with J.R. Anderson, Texas LP-Gas Association, Austin, Texas, 1992.

²⁴ Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.

²⁵ Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane, Denton, Texas, 1992.

mark-up is assumed to be 21 cents per gallon.26,27,28,29

Supplier.markup.large.fleet.gallon - this is the local supplier's profit per gallon for largevolume propane deliveries (via transport trucks in quantities of about 10,000 gallons). This mark-up is assumed to be 4 cents per gallon.30,31,32,33

Federal, tax, gallon, propane - there are no federal taxes on propane for $TxDOT$ vehicles.

Gasoline, Price, gallon - assumed to be \$0.89.³⁴

Diesel.Price.gallon - assumed to be $$0.85³⁵$

Annual.Fuel.Price.Adjustment - allows all fuel prices to be increased by a certain percentage per year. It is assumed that fuel prices remain constant over time (except for inflation), so this adjustment is set to 0.0 percent.

Station Design

Switch. Time.min - time to pull vehicle up to station, get out of vehicle, connect fuel probe, disconnect fill probe, get back into vehicle, and drive away. Includes all time except time that propane is actually being transferred to the vehicle. This time is assumed to be 3 minutes,

Propane.fill.rate.gal.min - the average flow rate per hose is assumed to be the same as that for gasoline and diesel (7 gallons/minute).

Number.of.Hoses - 2 propane hoses are assumed. A small station design will probably only have 1 hose, but assuming 2 hoses does not change the outcome, since 2 gasoline

²⁶ Personal communication with J.R. Anderson, Texas LP-Gas Association, Austin, Texas, 1992.
27 Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.

²⁷ Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.
28 Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane. De

²⁸ Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane, Denton, Texas, 1992.

²⁹ Ferrellgas. "Dispensing and Storage Systems," Libeny, Missouri, 1988.

³⁰ Personal communication with J.R. Anderson, Texas LP-Gas Association, Austin, Texas, 1992.

³¹ Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.

³² Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane, Denton, Texas, 1992.

³³ Ferrellgas, "Dispensing and Storage Systems," Liberty, Missouri, 1988.

³⁴ Based on prices paid by TxDOT in 1991.

³⁵ Based on prices paid by TxDOT in 1991.

hoses are also assumed. These values are only used to compute fueling session times and labor-fuel time losses.

Station. Setup. Cost. Factor - the cost of miscellaneous items such as installation labor and construction overhead is approximated by assuming that it is equal to 15 percent of the total cost of the storage and dispenser. This value is less than that assumed for CNG, because CNG fast-fill stations require some miscellaneous hardware, such as sequencer and priority panels, which propane stations do not, and the installation of a CNG station is more complicated and demanding.36

Labor Time Loss **Calculation**

Gasoline.fill.rate.gal.min - the average flow rate per hose is assumed to be 7 gallons/minute (without topping off tank).37

Diesel.fill.rate.gal.min - the average flow rate per hose is assumed to be 7 gallons/minute (without topping off tank).³⁸

Gasoline.diesel.switch.time - same definition as for propane switch time. This time is assumed to be 3 minutes.

Labor.Cost.hour - cost per man-hour for fueling vehicles (includes salary, benefits, etc). Assumed to be \$15.00.

Number.Gasoline,hoses - assumed to be 2.

Number.Diesel.hoses - assumed to be 1.

³⁶ Dean Taylor, Mark Euritt, and Hani Mahmassani, "Documentation for CNG Fleet Conversion Cost-Effectiveness Model," Center for Transportation Research Report 983-1, The University of Texas at Austin, for the Texas Department of Transportation, 1991.

³⁷ Based on only one gasoline data point.

³⁸ Based on gasoline data only (not diesel).

Costs

Storage.Dispenser.costs.small(or large).fleet - storage/dispenser purchase cost is assumed to be \$10,000 for a small station design with a storage capacity (water) of 2,000 gallons and \$57,000 for a large station design with a storage capacity (water) of 14,400 gallons,39,40,41,42,43 It is assumed that new pump/meter/dispenser units are purchased after 15 years at a cost of \$3,000 for a small station (l unit) and \$6,000 for a large station (2 units).44,45 The salvage value of the storage/dispenser is assumed to be 50 percent of the purchase cost (after 30 years).

Fueling station maintenance is assumed to be \$500 annually for a small station and \$1,500 annually for a large station.46,47,48,49

VARIABLE INPUT DATA

The input data discussed in this section are intended to reflect the characteristics of a particular fleet operating at a given TxDOT location. As such, these data differ across locations and are fleet specific.

Vehicle Data

These sections contain input data for each vehicle type. It is usually assumed that the number of vehicles in each TxDOT location will remain constant over time (though the model can accommodate changes over time). The sections for automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles are conceptually identical; the variable names differ only in the vehicle type identifier prefix of Auto, LT, or HDG. These three sections are discussed in general with the

³⁹ Ferrellgas, "Dispensing and Storage Systems," Liberty, Missouri, 1988.

⁴⁰ Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.

⁴¹ Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane, Denton, Texas, 1991.

⁴² California Energy Commission, Cost and Availability of Low-Emission Motor Vehicles and Fuels, AB 234 Report, August 1989.

⁴³ Phillips 66, "Propane (LP Gas) Alternative Fuel Information," slide presentation, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

⁴⁴ Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane, Denton, Texas, 1991.

⁴⁵ Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.

⁴⁶ Ferrellgas, "Dispensing and Storage Systems," Liberty, Missouri, 1988.

⁴⁷ Personal communication with Jerry Hill, Amerigas Company, 1992.

⁴⁸ Personal communication with Lon Holloway, Suburban Propane, Denton, Texas, 1991.

⁴⁹ California Energy Commission, *Cost* and Availability of Low-Emission Motor Vehicles and Fuels, AB 234 Report, August 1989.

generic variable name prefix of VehType used instead. Since the diesel section accommodates both dual-fuel and dedicated conversions, it is slightly different conceptually and is discussed separately. The input data for the automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles are as follows:

YehType.Num.Propane.Conyerted - this is the number of vehicles converted to dual-fuel propane operation in a certain year. It is assumed that conversions must be performed for the first 10 years, since OEM vehicles are not available.

VehType.Num.Propane.Trans - when converted vehicles reach the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a specific year, their kits and tanks are assumed to be transferred to the new replacement vehicles, unless OEM vehicles are available. In that case, the kit is salvaged.

VehType.Num.Propane.Retired - number of converted vehicles reaching the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a given year,

VehType, Num, OEM - number of OEM propane vehicles purchased at the beginning of a given year,

VehType, Num, OEM. Retired - number of OEM propane vehicles reaching the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a given year.

YehType,Gasoline.MPG - average gasoline fuel efficiency for a particular vehicle type at a given location.

YehType.miles - average annual miles traveled by a particular vehicle type at a given location.

As before, because the diesel vehicle data section accommodates both dual-fuel and dedicated conversions, it is slightly different conceptually from the other three types of vehicles. As for CNG, it is assumed that only dedicated OEM vehicles will be produced (i.e., no dual-fuel OEM vehicles).50 The input data for heavy-duty diesel vehicles are as follows:

⁵⁰ Environmental Protection Agency. Analysis of the Economic and Environmental Effects of Compressed Natural Gas as a Vehicle Fuel, Vol. II. Heavy Duty Vehicles. April 1990.

HDD, Num, New, Ded, Converted - this is the number of vehicles converted to dedicated propane operation in a certain year, It is assumed that conversions must be performed in years 6 through 10, since OEM vehicles are not available, It is also assumed that dedicated propane conversions are not available until year 6.

HDP,Num,Ped,Kits,Trans - when dedicated converted vehicles reach the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a specific year, their kits and tanks are assumed to be transferred to the new replacement vehicles, unless OEM vehicles are available, In that case, the kit is salvaged.

HDD, Num, Ded, Conv, Retired - number of dedicated converted vehicles reaching the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a given year.

HDP,Num,New,Pual.Conyerted - this is the number of vehicles converted to dual-fuel operation in a certain year. It is assumed that conversions must be performed in years 6 through 10, since OEM vehicles are not available. It is also assumed that dual-fuel conversions are not available until year 6.

HDD, Num, Dual, Kits, Trans - when dual-fuel converted vehicles reach the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a specific year, their kits and tanks are assumed to be transferred to the new replacement vehicles, unless OEM vehicles are available. In that case, the kit is salvaged.

HDD, Num, Dual.Conv. Retired - number of dual-fuel converted vehicles reaching the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a given year.

HDD.Num.Ded.OEM - number of dedicated OEM propane vehicles purchased at the beginning of a given year,

HDP,Num.Ded.OEM.Retired - number of dedicated OEM propane vehicles reaching the end of their TxDOT life at the beginning of a given year.

HDD, Diesel.MPG - average diesel fuel efficiency for a particular vehicle type at a given location.

HDD.miles - average annual miles traveled by a particular vehicle type at a given location.

Note that the yearly data entered for the number of new conversions, conversions retired, kits transferred, OEMs purchased, and OEMs retired are based on the TxDOT life of that vehicle type.

CALCULATIONS

A list of all the variable names (and their spreadsheet cell references) used in these calculations is included in the Appendix. This section gives the equations used in all calculations, with an explanation of the underlying assumptions where applicable.

Vehicle Data

Conceptually, the formulas are the same for automobile, light truck, and heavy-duty gasoline vehicle types. As before, the actual reference to Auto, LT, or HDG in each fonnula is replaced by VehType, and the diesel formulas are presented separately.

```
VehType.Num.Vehicles = 
(VehType.Num.Propane.Converted + VehType.Num.OEM + 
VehType.Num.Propane.Trans) -
(VehType.Num.Propane.Retired + VehType.Num.OEM.Retired)
```

```
VehType.Propane.mpg =VehType.Gasoline.MPG * VehType.Propane.MPG .Adj .Factor
```

```
VehType.Dual.Fue1.Gasoline.MPG = 
VehType.Gasoline.MPG * VehType.Dua1.fuel.MPG.Adjust.Factor
```
 $VehType.Annual.Propane.comsump.gal =$ $((\text{VehType}.\text{Num}.\text{Vehicles}*\text{VehType}.\text{miles}*\text{VehType}.\text{Propane}.\text{miles})/$ VehType.Propane.mpg) * Propane.Gasoline.Factor

 $VehType.Annual.gasoline.comsumption.gal =$ VehType.Num.Vehic1es * VehType.miles * (1 - VehType.Prcnt.Propane.miles) / VehType.Dual.Fue1.Gasoline.MPG

An annual fuel tax is required by Texas law. The amount charged is based on weight and annual mileage of the vehicle. Vehicle weights are assumed to be: automobiles - less than 4,000 lbs; light trucks - less than 4,000 lbs; and heavy-duty gasoline vehicles - between 10,001 and 15,000 lbs.⁵¹

Auto (or LT).Annual.Propane.Fuel.Tax $=$ IF(O<VehType.miles<5000,\$30) IF(5001<VehType.miles<I0000,\$60) IF(I000 1 <VehType.miles<15000,\$90) ELSE(\$120)

 $HDG.Annual.Propane.Fuel.Tax =$ IF(0 < HDG miles < 5000, \$48) IF(5001 < HDG.miles 10000, \$96) IF(I0001 < HDG.miles < 15000, \$144) ELSE(\$192)

The diesel equations are as follows:

 $HDD.Num.$ Ded. Vehicles $=$ (HDD.Num.New.Ded.Converted + HDD.Num.Ded.OEM + HDD.Num.Ded.Kits.Trans) - (HDD.Num.Ded.Conv.Retired + HDD.Num.Ded.OEM.Retired)

HDD.Num.Dual.Vehicles = (HDD.Num.New.Dual.Converted + HDD.Num.Dua1.Kits. Trans) - HDD.Num.Dual.Conv.Retired

HDD.Ded.Propane.mpg = HDD.Diese1.MPG * HDD.Ded.Propane.MPG.Adj.Factor

 $HDD.Dual.MPG =$ HDD.Diese1.MPG * HDD.Dua1.MPG.Adjust.Factor

 HDD .Annual.Propane.consump.gal = $(HDD.Num.Ded.Vehicles * HDD. miles) / (HDD.Ded.Propane.mpg) *$ Propane.Diese1.Factor) + (HDD.Num.Dual.Vehicles * HDD.miles / HDD.Dua1.MPG) * HDD.Prcnt.Propane.consumed.dual * Propane.Diese1.Factor

 HDD . Annual. diesel. consumption. gal $=$ (HDD.Num.Dual.Vehicles * HDD.miles / HDD.Dual.MPG) * (I - HDD.Prcnt.Propane.consumed.dual)

⁵¹ Personal communication with Terry Eulenfeld, TxDOT, Austin, Texas.

The annual fuel tax for diesel-converted propane vehicles is identical to gasoline-converted vehicles. Heavy-duty diesel vehicle weights are assumed to be between 10,001 and 15,000 lbs.⁵²

```
HDD.Annual.Propane.Fuel.Tax =IF(O<HDD.miles<5000,$48) 
IF(5001 <HDD.miles<I0000,$96) 
IF( 1 000 1 <HDD.miles< 15000,$ 144 ) 
ELSE($192)
```
Fuel Prices

Propane.Price. to. small.fleet. gallon = Propane.cost.at.refinery.gallon + Transportation.cost.gallon + Supplier .markup.small.fleet.gallon

Propane.Price.to.1arge.fleet.gallon = Propane.cost.at.refinery.gallon + Transportation.cost.gallon + Supplier.markup.large.fleet.gallon

 $Total. Probane. consumption. gal =$

Auto.Annual.Propane.consump.gal + LT.Annual.Propane.consump.gal + HOG .Annual.Propane.consump.gal + HDD.Annual.Propane.consump.gal

Station Design

Propane.Session. Time.min = \hat{A} (Autos.per.day / Number.of.Hoses) * (Switch.Time.min + $(Auto.Propane.per. fill. gal / Propane. fill. rate. gal. min)) +$ $((Light. Tricks. per. day / Number. of. Hoses) * (Switch. Time.min +$ $(LT.Propane. per. fill. gal / Propane. fill. rate. gal. min)) +$ ((Heavy.Gasoline.per.day / Number.of.Hoses) * (Switch.Time.min + $(HDG.Propane. per. fill. gal / Propane. fill. rate. gal. min)) +$ $((Heavy.D_ed.D_eisel.per.day / Number.of.Hoses) * (Switch.Time.min +$ (HDD.Ded.Propane.per.fill.gal / Propane.fill.rate.gal.min))) + $(Heavy.Dual.Diesel.per.day / Number. of Hoses) * (Switch. Time.min +$ (HDD.Dual.Propane.per.fill.gal / Propane.fill.rate.gal.min)))

Supply of propane on-site (weeks) $=$ (Storage.water.volume.gal * Tank.fill.percentage) / (TotaI.Propane.consump.gal /52)

⁵² Personal communication with Terry Eulenfeld, TxDOT, Austin, Texas.

Autos.(or Light.Trucks. or Heavy.Gasoline.)per.day = (VehType.Num.Vehicles'" VehType.miles '" VehType.Prcnt.Propane.miles/ V ehType.Propane.mpg * Propane.Gasoline.Factor) / ((VehType.Propane.per.fill.gal) * Work.days.year) $Heavy.Ded.Diesel.per.day =$ (HDD.Num.Ded.Vehicles * HDD.miles / HDD.Ded.Propane.mpg * Propane.Diesel.Factor) / ((HDD.Ded.Propane.per.fill.gal) * Work.days.year) Heavy.Dual.Diesel.per.day = (HDD.Num.Dual.Vehicles * HDD.miles * HDD.Prcnt.Propane.consumed.dual / HDD.Dual.MPG*Propane.Diesel.Factor) / ((HDD.Dual.Propane.per.fill.gal) * Work.days.year) Auto (LT or HDG). Propane.per.fill.gal $=$ (VehType.Fuel.Capacity.gal'" VehType.tanks.per.veh. '" Tank.fill.percentage) - Fuel.in.empty. tank. gal $HDD.Ded. Propane. per. fill. gal =$ $(HDD.Fue\hat{i}.Capacity, ga\hat{j} * HDD.tanks. per.Ded. veh. * Tank. fill. percentage) -$ Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal $HDD.Dual.Propane.per. fill. gal =$ $(HDD$.Fuel.Capacity.gal $*$ HDD.tanks.per.Dual.veh. $*$ Tank.fill.percentage) -Fuel.in.empty. tank. gal

La bor Time Loss Calculations

Labor time losses are incurred when filling propane vehicles relative to the time required to fill the original vehicles with gasoline or diesel (for the same vehicle usage level). Calculation of these losses requires the evaluation of the time that would have been required to fuel the gasoline/diesel vehicles. It is first necessary to calculate the number of dedicated gasoline/diesel vehicles that require fueling daily in order to offset the propane usage of their replacement vehicles. These values can then be used to calculate dedicated gasoline and diesel fueling session times which are directly comparable to the propane fueling session time, in order to compute the desired labor losses due to fueling. The computation of labor losses assumes that the fueling of converted dualfuel vehicles with gasoline or diesel will take the same amount of time as fueling the original gasoline or diesel vehicle, for the miles a dual-fuel vehicle utilizes gasoline or diesel. This is not entirely accurate, because gasoline/diesel fuel efficiency is expected to drop slightly when the vehicle is converted. However, the possible resulting error is undoubtedly small and is therefore ignored for simplicity and tractability of the computations. Of course, there is no error in the calculated equivalent number of gasoline vehicles and corresponding fueling time if 100 percent of the mileage driven is on propane.

```
Number.(Autos or LT.Trucks or Heavy.Gas).day = 
((VehType.Num.Vehicles * (VehType.miles * VehType.Prent.Propane.miles /VehType.Gasoline.MPG)) / Work.days.year) /
(VehType.On.board.gasoline.capacity - Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal)
```
 $Number.Diesel.day =$ «(HDD.Num.Ded.Vehicles * (HOD.miles/ HDD.Diesel.MPG)) / Work.days.year) / (HDD.On.board.diesel.capacity - Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal) + «(HOD.Num.Dua1.Vehicles * (HOD.miles * HDD.Prcnt.Propane.consumed.dual / HDD.Diesel.MPG)) / Work.days.year) / (HDD. On. board.diesel.capacity - Fuel.in.empty .tank.gal)

The following two equations give the continuous fueling session times necessary if dedicated gasoline and diesel vehicles are retained.

Ded.Gasoline.Session.Time = $(Number.Autos.dav / Number.Gasoline.hoses)$ * $(Gasoline.diesel.swith.time + ((Auto.On.boad.gasoline.capacity -$ Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal) / Gasoline.fill.rate.gal.min $)) +$ $((Number.LT. Trucks.day / Number.Gasoline.hoses) *$ $(Gasoline.diesel.swithtime + ((LT.On.board.gasoline.capacity - Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal))$ $\overline{}/$ Gasoline.fill.rate.gal.min)) + $((Number. Heavy. Gas.day / Number. Gasoline.loses)$ * $(Gasoline.diesel.swith.time + (HDG.On.board.gasoline.capacity -$ Fuel.in.empty.tank.gal) / Gasoline.fill.rate.gal.min))

Ded.Diese1.Session.Time = $(Number.Diesel.day / Number.Diesel.hoses)$ * $(Gasoline.diesel.swithtime + (HDDOn.board.diesel.capacity - Full.in.empty.tank.gal)$ (Di) Diesel.fill.rate.gal.min $))$

Savings

Savings are computed for propane prices corresponding to two fuel-purchasing strategies: small-volume purchases (at a higher price), or large-volume purchases. The Cumulative NPV can then be computed for both propane volume purchase strategies, and the most cost-effective purchase strategy is then chosen for the fleet in question. (This strategy is indicated on the Summary Sheet.) The following first two formulas are used for both small- and large-volume purchases. The third fonnula is for the computation of maintenance savings given the maintenance cost differences input by the user.

Gasoline Savings (Auto or LT or HDG) = $(((\text{VehType.miles} * \text{VehType.Num.Vehicles})/$ VehType.Gasoline.MPG) * Gasoline.Price.gallon) - $(VehT\ddot{v}pe. Annual.Propane.comsump. gal * Propane.Price. to small (or large). fleet. gallon) -$ (VehType.Annual.gasoline.consump.gal * Gasoline.Price.gallon))

Diesel Savings =

 $(((HDD.mles * (HDD.Num.Ded.Vehicles + HDD.Num.Dual.Vehicles))$ HDD.Diesel.MPG) * Diesel.Price.gallon) - (HDD.Annual.Propane.consump.gal * Propane.Price.to.small(or large).fleet.gallon) - (HDD.Annual.diesel.consump.gal * Diesel.Price.gallon))

Maintenance savings = (Auto.Num.Vehicles * Auto.Maint.Cost.Diff) + (LT.Num.Vehicles * LT.Maint.Cost.Diff) + (HDG.Num.Vehicles * HDG.Maint.Cost.Diff) + (HDD.Num.Ded.Vehicles * HDD.Maint.Cost.Diff.Ded) + (HDD.Num.Dual.Vehicles * HDD.Maint.Cost.Diff.Dual)

Costs

Infrastructure

Land.costs are assumed to be negligible for TxDOT.

```
Station.setup.costs = 
 Station.Setup.Cost.Factor * Storage.Dispenser.costs.small(or large).fleet
```
vehicle

```
Conversion.Kit.costs =((Auto.Num.Propane.Converted * Auto.Conv.Kit.Cost) +(LT.Num.Propane.Converted * LT. Conv. Kit. Cost) + 
(HDG.Num.Propane.Converted * HDG.Conv.Kit.Cost) + 
(HDD.Num.New.Ded.Converted * HDD.Ded.Conv.Kit.Cost) + 
(HDD.Num.New.Dual.Converted * HDD.Dual.Conv.Kit.Cost)) -
«(Auto.Num.Propane.Retired - Auto.Num.Propane.Trans) * 
Auto.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value) + 
«LT.Num.Propane.Retired - LT.Num.Propane.Trans) * 
LT.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value) + 
«HDG.Num.Propane.Retired - HDG.Num.Propane.Trans) * 
HDG.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value) + 
«(HDD.Num.Ded.Conv.Retired - HDD.Num.Ded.Kits.Trans) * 
HDD.Ded.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value) + 
«(HDD.Num.Dual.Conv.Retired - HDD.Num.Dual.Kits.Trans) * 
HDD.Dual.Conv.Kit.Salvage.Value))
```
Tanks.costs =

(Auto.Num.Propane.Converted * Auto.Tank.cost * Auto.tanks.per.veh.) + (LT.Num.Propane.Converted * LT.Tank.cost * LT.tanks.per.veh.) + (HDG.Num.Propane.Converted * HDG.Tank.cost * HDG.tank:s.per.veh.) + (HDD.Num.New.Ded.Converted * HDD.Tank.cost * HDD.tank:s.per.Ded.veh.) + (HDD.Num.New.Dual.Converted * HDD.Tank.cost * HDD.tanks.per.Dual.veh.) - $((Auto.Num.Propane. Retrieved * Auto.Tank.Salvage.Value * Auto.tanks.per.veh.) +$ (LT.Num.Propane.Retired * LT.Tank.Salvage.Value * LT.tanks.per.veh.) + (HDG.Num.Propane.Retired * HDG.Tank.Salvage.Value * HDG.tanks.per.veh.) + (HDD.Num.Ded.Conv.Retired * HDD.Tank.Salvage.Value * HDD.tanks.per.Ded.veh.) + (HDD.Num.Dual.Conv.Retired * HDD.Tank.Salvage.Value * HDD.tanks.per.Dual.veh.))

$Labor.costs =$

 $((Auto.Num.Propane.Converted + Auto.Num.Propane.Trans) * Auto.Conv.lab.cost) +$ $((LT.Num.Propane.Converted + Lt.Num.Propane.Trans) * LT.Conv.lab.cost) +$ $((HDG.Num.Propane. Converted + HDG.Num.Propane.Trans) * HDG. Conv.lab.cost) +$ $(HDD_Num, New, Ded. Converted + HDD_Num, Ded.Kits, Trans)$ * HDD.Ded.Conv.lab.cost) + $(HDD.Num.New.Dual. Converted + HDD.Num.Dual.Kits.Trans) *$ HDD.Dual.Conv.lab.cost)

$OEM \cdot \text{costs} =$

 $((Auto.Num. OEM * Auto.OEM.Cost.Diff) +$ (LT.Num.OEM * LT.OEM.Cost.Diff) + (HDG.Num.OEM*HDG.OEM.Cost.Dift) + (HDD.Num.Ded.OEM*HDD.OEM.Cost.Dift)) - $((Auto.Num. OEM. Retrieved * Auto. OEM.Sal vague. Value) +$ (LT.Num.OEM.Retired * LT.OEM.Salvage.Value) + (HDG.Num.OEM.Retired * HDG.OEM.Salvage.Value) + (HDD.Num.Ded. OEM. Retired*HD D. OEM. S alvage.Value))

Operating

Labor Fueling Time Loss =

((Number.of.Hoses * Propane.Session.Time.min - Number.Gasoline.hoses * Ded.Gasoline.Session.Time - Number.Diesel.hoses * Ded.Diesel.Session.Time) / 60) * Work.days.year * Labor. Cost. hour

Propane Fuel Tax $=$

Auto.Num.Vehicles * Auto.Annual.Propane.Fuel.Tax + LT.Num.Vehicles * LT.Annua1.Propane.Fuel.Tax + HDG.Num.Vehicles * HDG.Annual.Propane.Fuel.Tax + HDD.Num.Ded. Vehicles * HDD .Annual.Propane.Fuel. Tax + HDD.Num.DuaLVehicles*HDD.Annual.Propane.Fuel.Tax

Additional training can include costs to train mechanics to work on propane vehicles, costs to train drivers to operate propane vehicles, costs to train maintenance workers to perform fueling station maintenance, etc. For TxDOT fleets there is no cost added for this item.

Cumulative Net Present Value (NPV)

Cumulative, NPV, small (or large), fleet - the cumulative NPV of all costs and benefits (of CNG vehicle operation relative to gasoline/diesel) over the 30-year analysis period is the major output of the spreadsheet model.

Cost (or Benefit) Per Vehicle Per Year and Cost (or Benefit) Per Mile

Cost.per, yeh, per, year, small (or large), yolume - the cost (or benefit) per vehicle per year is calculated by computing an annuity equivalent to the Cumulative NPY and then dividing this annuity by the number of vehicles in the fleet in Year 30. Note that this value is not as meaningful if the number of vehicles varies over the analysis time horizon as it would be for a constant number of vehicles. Also note that each vehicle type is given equal weight in the calculation,

The cost per mile (shown only on the Summary Sheet) is computed similarly, except that the annualized Cumulative NPY is divided by the annual miles driven by the fleet. Diesel vehicle miles are adjusted downward by one-sixth, to account for the fact that diesel vehicles are not introduced until year six (out of 30).

Both of these costs allow one to compare conversion of different size fleets or to compute items such as gasoline taxes required to make conversion cost-effective.

EMBEDDED MODEL ASSUMPTIONS

This section presents the embedded model assumptions that have not been discussed previously.

It is assumed that the cost of electric power to run the propane dispenser pumps is the same as that to power gasoline and diesel dispenser pumps. This is assumed even though (1) a larger volume of propane must be pumped to achieve equivalent energy with either gasoline or diesel and (2) the propane system is technologically different in that it is sealed.

No savings are accrued for maintenance savings because of reduced usage of gasoline/diesel fuel dispensers. Nor are any savings given for possible elimination of gasoline/diesel fueling stations, such as those required for underground gasoline/diesel tank inspection and maintenance.

Conversion costs are not automatically adjusted over time to attempt to account for factors such as kit technology improvements of increasingly complex gasoline engine controls.

It is assumed that the original conversion kits (and tanks) are used until OEM vehicles become available. regardless of the mileage on the kits (and tanks).

APPENDIX

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Cell Reference

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Cell Reference

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DISCOUNT RATE 10.0%

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 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

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 $\label{eq:2.1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\int_{\mathbb{R}^3}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

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 $\Delta_{\rm{eff}}$

 $\label{eq:2.1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^{2} \left(\$

 $\sim 10^{-1}$

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, where $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

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