



Metro

JANUARY 23, 2007

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *of*

FROM: CAROLYN FLOWERS *Carolyn Flowers*
INTERIM CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE FUELED HEAVY DUTY TRUCKS

ISSUE

In December 2005, the Board approved the purchase of 2 three-axle heavy duty tractors for use in transporting parts and supplies to various Metro operating divisions and rail yards. Director Lowenthal requested staff to report on the availability of alternative fuel technology for three-axle heavy-duty tractors.

DISCUSSION

A review of the current heavy-duty truck Original Equipment Manufacturers indicates that there is a very limited supply of commercially available manufactured alternatively fueled heavy-duty three axle trucks.

- Peterbuilt and Kenworth both offer a dual fuel diesel/natural gas package and have indicated that they may be introducing hybrid drive systems in 2008.
- International promotes "green diesel" technology which is currently not considered an alternative fuel.
- Mack Trucks offers to convert a standard truck to either a Compressed Natural Gas or Liquid Natural Gas package.

All trucks offered above are "special orders" and requires the trucks to be sent to a second party for the installation of the special fuel system and or engine. These special fueled vehicles are offered at significant cost increases when compared to the standard diesel powered vehicles.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to monitor the commercial availability of alternative fuel technology applications in the heavy-duty truck market and where appropriate, will consider alternative fueled vehicles in its future truck procurements.

Prepared by: Richard Hunt, SFV Service Sector General Manager