



Photo shows seven of the eight new CNG buses ready for service.

## **MTA Sets Minor Record by Releasing 8 CNG Buses to Service in One Day**

(Dec. 9) With 61 Metro Buses added into peak hour service just last Sunday, the MTA set a record of sorts on Wednesday by releasing eight new CNG coaches for service in one day.

And by Friday, Dec. 10, the Regional Rebuild Center expects that as many as eight more may be released for service in the divisions, according to Fleet Supervisor Lorraine Melendez.

### **Almost no defects**

"Many of these buses are coming in from New Flyer with almost no defects to be corrected," said John Drayton, manager, Vehicle Acquisition. "Where once we would fill several pages listing defects, now we list less than a page and they're minor ones."

The eight buses released Wednesday were given to Division 3, while the eight to be released Friday are earmarked for Division 5, said Melendez.

Division 5, which just opened a new CNG fueling facility, will receive the next 20 new buses to come out of the RRC. After that, the rest of the vehicles in the 223-bus New Flyer order will be split between Divisions 3 and 5, she said.

Thus far in FY 2000, the MTA has placed 166 new and converted buses into service. The added buses are intended to help reduce the number of standees on Metro Bus lines from the current court-imposed limit of 15 to 11 by June 30, 2000.

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