



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA BOARD APPROVES FIRST PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT FOR COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS FUELING FACILITIES

The MTA Board of Directors has approved a contract to Trillium, USA, Inc. of Salt Lake City, Utah, for the design, construction and maintenance of two compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling facilities.

The contract award marks the first public/private partnership for the construction and operation of CNG fueling facilities and will save between 6 to 12 months in design and construction time.

Additional benefits include a guarantee that there will be no cost overruns on the construction of the CNG fueling facilities, penalties for non-performance, and a cost savings of \$1 million.

Cost of the design, construction and maintenance for ten years of two CNG bus fueling facilities is \$22.8 million, with an option for a third facility.

MTA operates the largest fleet of CNG powered buses in the nation. Currently, MTA has more than 600 CNG buses. By the end of this year, that number will grow to more than 900 CNG buses and by December 2000 the number will increase to 1,355.

Construction of the CNG fueling facilities is set to begin by the end of July. Final completion of both fueling facilities, to be constructed at MTA's bus divisions in South Central Los Angeles and West Los Angeles, is expected in January 2000.

Trillium, USA, Inc. is a subsidiary of Westcoast Energy of Vancouver, British Columbia, mainly involved in natural gas pipelines, storage and local distribution.

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