

NOMINATION FOR 2014 CLEAN AIR AWARDS

Nominee:

Atlas ReFuel

Key Contact (if agency/organization):

List the person we would contact within the nominee's organization (or the nominee himself/herself)

Nominee's Address:

List address

Nominee's Phone:

List phone number(s)

Nominee's Email Address:

List email address for nominee

Award Category:

Sustainability

How has the nominee's efforts shown exceptional dedication to improving outdoor air quality in the

Sacramento region? Atlas Disposal has been a pioneer in the use of clean fuel vehicles since early 2008. They operate the largest fleet of clean fuel vehicles for any privately held solid waste and recycling hauler in the greater Sacramento area. In Spring 2013, Atlas began fueling their trucks in California's first Anaerobic Digester-based Renewable Natural Gas Fueling Station developed as a partnership at the South Area Transfer Station with Clean World Partners. Atlas Disposal hauls food and organic waste from local restaurants, supermarkets, food processing companies and households to the renewable natural gas produced by CleanWorld's anaerobic digestion system. The system is being used to fuel Atlas clean-fuel trucks and other clean-fuel vehicles from area jurisdiction and municipalities. The Anaerobic digester, the first commercial scale closed-loop organic waste system in the country, converts food waste, agricultural residue and other organic waste with up to 50 percent solid content into renewable energy, fertilizer, and soil enhancements without adding water. This reduces the systems' size and cost, and enables their use in a wide range of settings. Currently, the anaerobic digester is accepting 25 tons per day of food waste, generating 175,000 GGE of renewable natural gas. Construction is underway to scale up the anaerobic digester to accept 100 tons of food waste per day, generating more than 700,000 GGE of renewable natural gas. This fuel will be commercially available to compressed natural gas vehicles that can run on either pipeline gas or waste-derived fuel.

How has the nominee's actions/achievements improved outdoor air quality or laid the foundation for future air quality improvement?

This project has laid the foundation for the Farm 2 Fork 2 Fuel 2 Farm program, which diverts food waste from from local landfills. The food waste is moved to the anaerobic digestion system for the production of renewable natural gas. The natural gas is used to as a commercial drop-in fuel to fuel compressed natural gas trucks. And finally, residuals from the process result in organic fertilizers and soil amendments--used for distribution to local farms for food production. The amount of carbon reduction that was associated with the conversion of Atlas' collection fleet to CNG. For each vehicle converted from diesel to CNG, Atlas' footprint was reduced by 1 ton of carbon. These findings confirmed their commitment to the conversion of the Atlas fleet and have fueled their efforts to convert the entire fleet. For businesses who participate in the organics collection program, they are able to divert approximately one third of the tons associated with disposal. This accounts for a carbon savings of between 1 and 3 metric tons per year for each school and or business who generates between 4 and 8 cubic yards of collection service. With the added use of the Anaerobic Digester, 1 million gallons of diesel will be replaced with renewable natural gas and 2 million kilowatt hours electricity will be generated, while eliminating 5,800 tons of greenhouse gasses per year equivalent to the emission from 1,000 vehicles or 500

Sustainability

homes. When the Anaerobic Digester is fully constructed, it will divert nearly 40,000 tons of waste annually from landfills, and will produce organic fertilizers and soil amendment products.

How has the nominee invested time and/or resources as a leader above and beyond job requirements?

California's first Anaerobic Digester-based Renewable Natural Gas Fueling Station was constructed and opened at the facility by Clean Energy in 2013. Natural gas produced by CleanWorld's digestion system is being used to fuel Atlas clean-fuel trucks and other municipal fleets. Electricity to run the station is also the first system in the nation to have generated power from the digester system. Atlas has been a vital resource to the success of the Sacramento Region's Farm 2 Fork 2 Fuel 2 Farm program. Atlas has established its leadership in the Sacramento region by being essential to the implementation of "Zero waste programs" by collecting food waste at various venues this past year, including Sacramento's inaugural Farm to Fork event, Sacramento's 2013 Clean Air Awards Luncheon, Sacramento Clean Cities 4th Annual Advanced Vehicle Technologies Workshop. Atlas Disposal has launched a compostable collection system that takes materials such as fruits, vegetables, soiled paper and other materials that are considered organic. Successful participants include local schools, grocery stores, large chain restaurants and small businesses that generate waste. Through Atlas, students at Alice Birney and Hubert Bancroft schools are now source-separating their food waste. Atlas is taking all this food waste to the anaerobic digester for conversion into waste-based renewable natural gas vehicle fuel.

What other considerations should be given to support this nominee's Clean Air Awards nomination? Atlas was founded on the principles of sustainability. People, planet and prosperity are the three principles that define the way Atlas does business. Guided by these core values, Atlas' achievements in technology, innovation and customer service are helping residents and businesses in the greater Sacramento area community to do more than just think about the environment.... Atlas is helping them preserve it. With a sustainability focused team that works hard to educate local businesses and residents on their recycling potential, Atlas has quickly emerged as the fastest growing waste and recycling hauling company in the area. Through these innovative programs, Atlas has been recognized as a four time California Waste Reduction Awards Program (WRAP) winner; a 2012 Cool California Award Winner for Business of the Year, and has been featured in the Sacramento Business Journal for their commercial collection organics program. As a certified Sacramento Sustainable Business, Atlas strives to be responsive to urgent environmental challenges such as water conservation, waste reduction and clean air.

Nomination submitted by: *(fill out YOUR information)*

Name:

Email:

Address:

Phone Number:

Employer:

Is this a business address?

NOMINATION FOR 2014 CLEAN AIR AWARDS

Nominee:

Cool Davis

Key Contact (if agency/organization):

Nominee's Address:

Nominee's Phone:

Nominee's Email Address:

Award Category:

Leadership

How has the nominee's efforts shown exceptional dedication to improving outdoor air quality in the Sacramento region? Cool Davis, founded in 2010, is an active network of residents, community organizations, businesses and institutions committed to implementing the City of Davis's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Its mission is to inspire the Davis community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to a changing climate, and improve the quality of life for all. Its Goals include working to help the city: * Achieve measurable greenhouse gas emissions reduction * Reduce carbon emissions to 15% below 1990 levels by 2015 * Reach Carbon Neutrality in the Davis community by 2050. Towards these goals, Cool Davis volunteers have educated the public through topical workshops, lectures, movies, forums, an informative website, and four annual "Green Living" Festivals. Briefly put, the festivals, all of which have been free and open to the public, have attracted a total of about 10,000 people. Each festival included more than 60 exhibits focused on ways individuals and households can pursue low carbon lifestyles. Those who attended learned directly from experts about how to make their homes more energy efficient, reduce consumption, install solar panels, use public transportation, and bike safely. They viewed demonstrations on cooking with the sun and composting and talked directly to owners of and dealers in electric and hybrid cars that were on display. Also, each year, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District has participated with an exhibit.

How has the nominee's actions/achievements improved outdoor air quality or laid the foundation for future air quality improvement?

1. From its founding, Cool Davis has sought ways to encourage lasting, meaningful changes in the lives of Davis households. In order to engage all segments of the community, its events often include food, music, art, poetry, dance, drama, visual arts, and/or film. For example, at the Festivals in addition to its educational exhibits, visitors enjoyed a variety of musical groups from the Davis Schools, UC Davis, and the community ranging from taiko drums to choral groups to a mariachi band. At three of the festivals, Nature's Theater entertained children and adults with comedies that playfully included serious messages about how we are all responsible for taking care of our environment.
2. Over the past three years, Cool Davis has sponsored a number of projects including as examples, Low Carbon Diet Teams and Veggie Bags (hand sewn cloth bags given out free as replacements for the plastic bags used in the produce sections of grocery stores). The organization has modeled zero waste events,

Leadership

promoted the pilot Food Scrap Compost project offered by Davis Waste Removal for local businesses (now ongoing), enrolled households to reduce their carbon footprints in the "Cool Homes" project and identified "Lite Houses" local homes that already demonstrate very low energy use. All projects lay the foundation for ongoing and future air quality improvement.

3. With regard to future plans, Cool Davis will build on its past three years of work by:

A. Focusing on three major areas of green-house gas emissions including: * Built- energy efficiency, conservation and energy production for our homes and commercial buildings * Transportation- helping the community shift to non-fossil fuel vehicles and modes, and * Consumption- reducing our consumption and waste of food, water, and goods and services -all contribute to improving air quality as well as reducing the carbon footprint of the city.

B. And launching its 2014-2015 "One Cool City Campaign" to: * Grow our 500+ group of Cool Homes to several thousand households. * Host workshops and forums to help households plan action for significant reductions. * Organize special programs & discounts for households, to adopt new technologies & upgrades. * Promote challenges to engage households in trying out new actions, in fun and creative ways.

How has the nominee invested time and/or resources as a leader above and beyond job requirements?

Cool Davis has reached out to partner with organizations, such as businesses, non-profits, faith groups, school committees, city committees, and others operating within the Davis sphere of influence and serving the Davis community. The basic requirement of Partners is that they support and agree with the mission of Cool Davis. Advantages to Cool Davis Partners include the opportunity to connect with customers, residents and other organizations, mentor & problem solve around issues, barriers or organizational challenges to reducing green-house gas emissions and other sustainability challenges, host and co-sponsor collaborative events and community education forums, and help shape Cool Davis goals and activities through participation in the Cool Davis Coalition and up-coming Campaign. Currently, the Cool Davis Coalition consists of about 55 organizations, and more are added each month.

What other considerations should be given to support this nominee's Clean Air Awards nomination?

In 2012-2013, Cool Davis led the city's participation in the Cool California Challenge, a competition between nine California cities to motivate residents to reduce their carbon footprints. In June, the California Air Resources Board, who sponsored the competition, declared Davis the winner as the "2013 Coolest City in California." Davis won against larger cities with large budgets and paid staff running the competition. For example, Chula Vista, second place winner with a population 3.7 times that of Davis, had 750 households enrolled, a competition budget of tens of thousands of dollars, and city-paid staff to run the program. By comparison, Davis' effort involved 450 households, had a budget of about \$10,000 and was run entirely by volunteers. While the Davis had a smaller number of participating households, they did the best job of reducing GHG emissions and documenting their achievements. According to a Davis Enterprise (June 28, 2013) in an article about the competition, "the 1,000 most engaged households [of the total of 3,000 involved in the nine-city competition] used 50% less energy than similar households and cut their energy usage another 7% during the completion, the equivalent to more than 220 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions." Cool Davis is clearly a leader in the state's efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality for the benefit of all people and the planet, too.

Leadership

Nomination submitted by

Name:

Email:

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Phone Number:

Employer:

Is this a business address?