

Department of Veterans Affairs

Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicles Program Report for Fiscal Year 2001

This Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFVs) Program Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 presents the Department's data on the number of alternative fuel vehicles acquired in FY 2001, and its planned acquisitions and projections for FY 2002 and FY 2003. The report has been developed in accordance with the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAAct) (42 U.S.C. 13211-13219) as amended by the Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998 (ECRA) (Public Law 105-388), and Executive Order (E.O.) 13149 (signed by the President in April 2000). Detailed vehicle acquisition tables are shown in the appendices to this report.

Legislative Requirements

The EPAAct requires that 75 percent of all covered light-duty vehicles acquired for Federal fleets in FY 1999 and beyond must be AFVs (where the fleets have 20 or more vehicles, are capable of being centrally fueled, and are operated in a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with a population of more than 250,000 based on the 1980 census). Certain emergency, law enforcement, and national defense vehicles are exempt from these requirements. The EPAAct also sets a goal of using replacement fuels to displace at least 30 percent of the projected consumption of motor fuel in the United States annually by the year 2010. The ECRA of 1998 amended the EPAAct to allow one alternative fuel vehicle acquisition credit for every 450 gallons of pure biodiesel fuel consumed in vehicles over 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating. "Biodiesel credits" may fulfill up to 50 percent of an agency's EPAAct requirements. The head of each Federal agency must also prepare and submit a report to Congress outlining the agency's AFV acquisitions and future plans by November 13th each year. Executive Order 13149 directs Federal agencies operating a fleet of 20 or more vehicles within the United States to reduce their annual petroleum consumption by at least 20 percent by the end of FY 2005 (compared to FY 1999 levels) by using alternative fuels in AFVs more than 50 percent of the time, improving the average fuel economy of new light-duty petroleum-fueled vehicle (LDV) acquisitions by 1 mile per gallon (mpg) by FY 2002 and 3 mpg by FY 2005, and using other fleet efficiency measures.

The Department of Energy and the General Service Administration (GSA) designed the new electronic database used in this data collection.

VA's Approach to Compliance with EPAct and E.O. 13149

To achieve compliance with the legislative mandates of EPAct and E.O. 13149, VA will endeavor to replace light-duty vehicles with AFVs and use alternative fuel in these vehicles a majority of the time. In addition, VA will consider taking advantage of a new surcharge program that will add approximately \$5 monthly to the cost of every vehicle leased through the GSA to help cover the higher incremental cost of many AFV models (compared to conventional vehicles). It will also acquire light-duty vehicles with a higher fuel economy of 1 mpg in FY 2002 and 3 mpg in FY 2005, and further reduce petroleum consumption by using biodiesel fuel in all diesel vehicles.

VA's Fleet Compliance for FY 2001

Figure 1 is a graphical depiction of AFV acquisitions by VA's fleet in FY 2001 and projections for FY 2002 and FY 2003. Because 25 percent of VA field entities did not report vehicle data, all information will not be revealed in the charts below. Reports were not submitted because of personnel changes, caused by downsizing, retirements, etc., which required that additional training be done in the use of the new electronic data base features). Charts depict VA's efforts to comply with the directives of EPAct, ECRA and E.O. 13149. VA acquired 1,284 covered light-duty vehicles in FY 2001, of which 347 were AFVs, and received AFV acquisition credits for a total 355. Appendix A provides detailed information on the number and types of light-duty vehicles leased or purchased by VA's fleets in FY 2001.

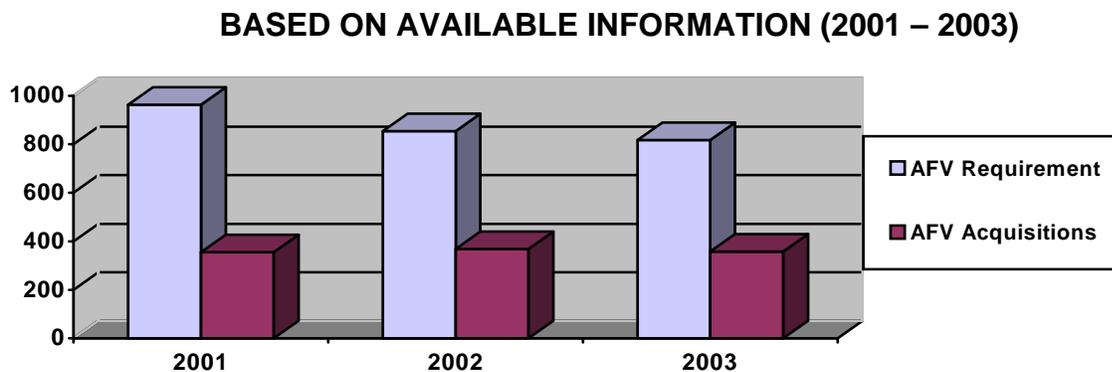


Figure 1. Summary of VA FY 2001 AFV Acquisitions

VA leased and purchased additional vehicles that were not “covered” vehicles. Of the total of 1,422 light-duty vehicles acquired in FY 2001, 138 of these vehicles were not counted for compliance:

- 41 were exempt as law enforcement vehicles
- 97 were used in non-MSA operations

Alternative Fuel Use by VA's Fleets in FY 2001

Table 1 presents alternative fuel use data for VA's fleets in FY 2001. The majority of vehicles acquired by VA and other Federal fleets are leased from GSA, and the leasing contract includes the maintenance and fuel costs for the vehicles. This is accomplished by the use of a GSA credit card that the fleets use to purchase alternative fuel. However, since product code standards are not uniform among suppliers of alternative fuels (e.g., ethanol or E-85), it is not possible for credit vendors to accurately track the purchase of alternative fuels with this credit card, at the present time. The exception may be natural gas, which is usually purchased at a local utility refueling site, allowing the fleets to contact the utility for an accurate accounting of purchased fuel.

Table 1. VA Fuel Use in FY 2001

Fuel Type	Quantity	Unit
Biodiesel – B100		Gallons
CNG (compress natural gas)	20,561	Gallons @ 2,400 psi, 70°F
CNG		Hundred cu. ft.
Diesel	1,010,548	Gallons
E-85	80,452	Gallons*
Gasoline	4,527,902	Gallons
Methanol		Gallons
Propane		Gallons

(Estimate based on 15 percent of 536,348, which is the estimated total fuel use in AFVs.)

VA's Fleet AFV Acquisitions for FY 2002 and FY 2003

Appendices B and C provide detailed information on projected vehicle acquisitions and inventory for VA's fleets for FY 2002 and FY 2003. In FY 2002, VA's fleets acquired a cumulative total of 1,138 (minus exemptions) light-duty vehicles, of which 368 (including 2 AFV credits) are AFVs. Projected light-duty acquisitions in FY 2003 total 1,089 (minus exemptions). Of this amount, 358 (including credits) will be AFVs.

According to the above "planned" FY 2002 and "projected" FY 2003 AFV numbers, 368 and 358, respectively, VA does not meet the requirements of E.O. 13149 (75 percent of new acquisitions must be AFVs). The reason for the low number of AFVs is insufficient funding to purchase the required vehicles and infrastructure to support refueling and maintenance.

Petroleum Savings (Appendix D)

Since it is difficult, if not impossible, to project petroleum savings for FY 2002 and FY 2003 based upon the estimated AFV acquisitions, improvements in fuel economy, and fleet efficiency, petroleum savings are reported for only FY 2001 based on actual data on hand for FY 1999 and FY 2001.

In FY 1999, VA's baseline petroleum consumption was 6,277,134-gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) and FY 2001 petroleum consumption was 5,538,450. A positive difference (reduction) of 738,684 is reflected this year as compared to FY 1999 baseline numbers.

Changes to be Made Under FY 2000 Petroleum Data (see revisions in Appendix D)

After receipt of additional information, the chart "Alternative Fuel Consumption (in GGE)" reflects changes that were made outside of the FAST database. Under data listed for FY 2000, E-85 use was changed to include 80,452 GGE instead of zero GGE, resulting in a total of 83,316 GGE (replacing the 2,864 total that is shown in the FAST database). The "Estimated Total Fuel Used in AFVs" also changed from 5,215 GGE to 536,348 GGE consumed, further changing the "% of Alt Fuel Use in AFVs" from 54.918 percent to .534 percent.

Summary

The lack of infrastructure to support AFVs continues to be a constant concern throughout the Department, especially when patients are being transported. This, along with the lack of funds to acquire the number of vehicles required in meeting the mandates of EPAct and the E.O., has caused slow progress in this area.

As detailed in this report, its appendices, and information currently available, VA shows an increase in AFV acquisitions for FYs 2002 and 2003. Participation in the GSA Surcharge Lease Program will reflect a marked increase in AFV acquisitions in future fiscal years. VA will continue to implement its strategy for complying with the requirements of E.O. 13149, which will result in at least a 20 percent reduction in the fleet's annual petroleum consumption in FY 2005.

Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Health
for Operations and Management (10N)
December 2002

Appendix A

Department of Veterans Affairs
Complex-Wide AFV Report FY 2001 - Actuals

Actuals Department of Veterans Affairs FY 2001 Vehicle Acquisitions					
Actuals FY 2001 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions				Total Vehicle Inventory	
		Leased	Purchased	Total	
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR ¹) - Vehicle Acquisitions		1,256	166	1,422	6,457
Exemptions	Fleet Size	0	0	0	0
	Geographic	0	0	0	0
	Law Enforcement	30	11	41	277
	Non-MSA Operation	38	59	97	929
EPACT Covered Acquisitions		1,188	96	1,284	5,251
Actuals FY 2001 AFV Acquisitions				Total Vehicle Inventory	
Vehicle		Leased	Purchased	Total	
Sedan	CNG ² Bi-Fuel Subcompact	19	0	19	19
Sedan	CNG Bi-Fuel Compact	0	0	0	78
Sedan	Electric Dedicated Compact	0	0	0	3
Sedan	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	68	0	68	249
Sedan	Electric Dedicated Midsize	0	0	0	2
St. Wagon	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	14	0	14	15
Pickup 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	70	0	70	10
Pickup 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact Ext Cab	0	0	0	4
Pickup 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact Reg Cab	0	0	0	31
Pickup 4x2	Electric Dedicated Compact Reg Cab	0	0	0	2
Pickup 4x2	CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Ext Cab	3	0	3	3
Pickup 4x2	CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Reg Cab	1	0	1	22
Pickup 4x2	CNG Dedicated Full-size Reg Cab	1	0	1	0
Pickup 4x2	LPG ³ Bi-Fuel Full-size Reg Cab	0	0	0	3

¹ Gross Vehicle Weight Rating

² Compressed Natural Gas

³ Liquid Propane Gas

Pickup 4x4	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact Ext Cab	0	0	0	1
Pickup 4x4	CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Ext Cab	1	0	1	0
Pickup 4x4	CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Reg Cab	0	0	0	3
Pickup 4x4	LPG Bi-Fuel Full-size Reg Cab	0	0	0	1
SUV 4x2 4dr	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	1	0	1	2
SUV 4x2 4dr	E-85 Flex-Fuel Large	0	0	0	1
SUV 4x4 4dr	E-85 Flex-Fuel Large	1	0	1	0
SUV 4x4 4dr	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	1	0	1	2
Van 4x2	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	159	0	159	472
Van 4x2	CNG Dedicated Large	7	0	7	35
Bus	Electric Dedicated	0	0	0	2
Bus	LPG Dedicated	0	0	0	1
Emergency & Special Purpose MD 8,501-16,000 GVWR	CNG Dedicated	0	0	0	2
MD AFV Other 8,501-16,000 GVWR	CNG Dedicated	0	0	0	1
Van 4x2	CNG Bi-Fuel Large	1	0	1	5
Van 4x2	CNG Dedicated Large	0	0	0	10
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions		347	0	347	979
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits		0	0	0	
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits		8	0	8	
Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0	
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0	
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Actuals				0	
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits		355	0	355	
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition				28 %	

**Department of Veterans Affairs
Complex-Wide AFV Report FY 2002 - Planned**

Planned Department of Veterans Affairs FY 2002 Vehicle Acquisitions				
Planned FY 2002 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions				
		Leased	Purchased	Total
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR) - Vehicle Acquisitions		1,170	56	1,226
Exemptions	Fleet Size	0	0	0
	Geographic	0	0	0
	Law Enforcement	29	3	32
	Non-MSA Operation	39	17	56
EPACT Covered Acquisitions		1,102	36	1,138
Planned FY 2002 AFV Acquisitions				
Vehicle		Leased	Purchased	Total
Sedan (SIN ⁴ 8, 8C)	CNG Bi-Fuel Subcompact	21	0	21
Sedan (SIN 10, 10B)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	68	0	68
St. Wagon (SIN 14, 14C)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	14	0	14
Pickup 4x2 (SIN 60)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	71	0	71
Pickup 4x2 (SIN 61)	Electric Dedicated Compact Reg Cab	1	0	1
Pickup 4x2 (SIN 42C)	CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Ext Cab	4	0	4
SUV 4x4 4dr (SIN 106)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Large	1	0	1
Van 4x2 (SIN 20, 30)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	163	0	163
Van 4x2 (SIN 20, 30)	Electric Dedicated Compact	0	1	1
Van 4x2 (SIN 21, 31)	CNG Dedicated Large	8	0	8
Bus (SIN)	LPG Dedicated	1	0	1
MD ⁵ AFV Other 8,501-16,000 GVWR (SIN)	CNG Bi-Fuel	1	0	1
Van 4x2 (SIN 24, 32, 34)	CNG Bi-Fuel Large	2	0	2
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions		355	1	356
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits		1	1	2
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits		8	0	8
Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits		2	0	2
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits		0	0	0
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Planned				0
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits		366	2	368
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition				32 %

⁴ Federal Standards Identification Number

⁵ Medium Duty

Appendix C

Department of Veterans Affairs
Complex-Wide AFV Report FY 2003 - Projected

Projected Department of Veterans Affairs FY 2003 Vehicle Acquisitions				
Projected FY 2003 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions				
	Leased	Purchased	Total	
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR) - Vehicle Acquisitions	1,110	60	1,170	
Exemptions				
Fleet Size	0	0	0	
Geographic	0	0	0	
Law Enforcement	25	6	31	
Non-MSA Operation	30	20	50	
EPACT Covered Acquisitions	1,055	34	1,089	
Projected FY 2003 AFV Acquisitions				
Vehicle	Leased	Purchased	Total	
Sedan (SIN 8, 8C)	CNG Bi-Fuel Subcompact	19	0	19
Sedan (SIN 10, 10B)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	70	0	70
St. Wagon (SIN 14, 14C)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	14	0	14
Pickup 4x2 (SIN 60)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	70	0	70
Pickup 4x2 (SIN 61)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact Reg Cab	1	0	1
Pickup 4x2 (SIN 42C)	CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Ext Cab	3	0	3
Pickup 4x4 (SIN 47C)	LPG Bi-Fuel Full-size Ext Cab	0	1	1
SUV 4x4 4dr (SIN 106)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Large	2	0	2
Van 4x2 (SIN 20, 30)	E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	155	2	157
Van 4x2 (SIN 20, 30)	Electric Dedicated Compact	0	2	2
Van 4x2 (SIN 21, 31)	CNG Dedicated Large	6	0	6
Bus (SIN)	LPG Dedicated	1	0	1
Van 4x2 (SIN 24, 32, 34)	CNG Bi-Fuel Large	1	1	2
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions	342	6	348	
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits	0	2	2	
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits	6	0	6	
Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits	2	0	2	
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits	0	0	0	
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Projected			0	
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits	350	8	358	
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition			33 %	

Department of Veterans Affairs

Petroleum Consumption Report

EO 13149 Covered Petroleum Consumption in GGE							
	FY1999 Baseline	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Gasoline	5,023,247	4,392,778	4,527,902				
Diesel	1,253,887	2,238,811	1,010,548				
Diesel component from biodiesel		0	0				
TOTAL	6,277,134	6,631,589	5,538,450				
Reduction*	N/A	-5.6 %	11.8 %				

* Reduction is the % reduction compared to the FY 1999 Baseline Total

Alternative Fuel Consumption (in GGE)						
	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
CNG	2,864	20,561				
LNG	0	0				
LPG	0	423				
E-85	80,452	70,886				
Electric	0	0				
M-85	0	0				
Biodiesel (B100)*	0	0				
TOTAL	83,316	91,870				
Estimated Total Fuel Used in AFVs	536,348	459,858				
% of Alt Fuel Use in AFVs	.534	19.977				

*Biodiesel is calculated at 20% of the reported B20 and 100% of the reported B100 fuel used in the Section III Actual Fuel Cost/Consumption by Fuel Type data input screen. Biodiesel is **not** included in the calculation of total fuels used in AFVs because biodiesel itself is not burned in *Alternatively Fueled Vehicles*.

Average Fuel Economy of non-AFV Light Duty Vehicle Acquisitions (in mpg)							
	FY1999 Baseline	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Fuel Economy	18.0	21	22				
Change Compared to Baseline		3.0	4.0				