

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil - Stepping stone or costly squid?



COUNCIL PROFILE

16th of the 32 unitary Local Authorities in Scotland, covering an area of approximately 112 square miles

Mix of urban and rural communities

640 Council Vehicles – 120 pool cars

Service areas covered include Building Maintenance, Grounds Maintenance, Roads, Street Cleansing, Waste



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- **Decision to use HVO**
- **Benefits of the HVO fuel**
- **Safety considerations**
- **Initial Infrastructure and progress**
- **Vehicles involved and cost overview**
- **Current position – anticipated issues**
- **What the future holds**



Decision to use HVO

- **Networking**
- **Casual conversation – friends at Certas**
- **Sparked interest**
- **When I can I start using it?**



Benefits of HVO fuel

- **Sustainable – made from sustainable and raw materials**
- **HVO reduces carbon emissions by as much as 90%**
- **Green fuel provided by Certas**
- **Longer shelf life meaning you can store it for longer – this reduces the need for frequent fuel testing**
- **Suitable for fleet, plant and machinery, generators and industrial power systems**
- **Suitable for use up to temperatures <-40 degrees – freezes at -100 degrees**

Safety considerations

- Safety data sheet provided by Certas
- Potential issues include - could be fatal if swallowed, repeated exposure may cause dryness or cracking of skin
- Extinguishing fuel – spray water, foam, dry powder or carbon dioxide. DO NOT use water jet
- Usual risk of soil or water contamination if leaks occur
- Like any fuel, be careful

Initial Infrastructure and progress

- Spare tank capacity identified – 22500 litres
- Emptied and cleaned fully
- Restricted access using FMS
- Initial 10000 litres ordered
- Business continuity issues – increased stock
- Absolutely no issues to date



Vehicles involved and Cost overview

- Gritter fleet and RCV's
- Initial discussions in Sep 2021 – 107.61 ppl -
Deemed to be c10 ppl more expensive than diesel
HVO / Diesel
- Jan 2022 – 1.2691 / 1.175 (Difference = 0.09p)
- Feb 2022 – 1.3886 / 1.2254 (Difference = 0.16p)
- Mar 2022 – 1.6746 / 1.4522 (Difference = 0.22p)
- Apr 2022 – 1.5954 / 136.78 (Difference = 0.22p)
- May 2022 – 165.57 / 139.34 (Difference = 0.26p)
- RCV fleet – 255k litres of fuel used @ 20 ppl more =
£51000 more to run the fleet



Current position – anticipated issues

- Vehicles still using HVO - No fueling or supply issues
- RCV – 31t Co₂ p.a. using diesel – compared with c3.1t running on HVO
- 10 x RCV's – saves 279t Co₂ per annum using green HVO
- Change over 22 RCV's – Co₂ saved p.a. 613.8t
- Cost implications involved – be realistic to manage these expectations
- Decision required on future use by Council

What the future holds?

- **Electrification of the Council fleet – again huge cost implications to do this**
- **Interim measures – use HVO fuel in all HGV fleet from now on**
- **Council climate change commitment plus SG deadlines to embrace – 2025, 2030**
- **Further funding required**
- **Hydrogen still an option – separate discussion required on that one!**

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

