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Research Shows More Than 700,000 Students in 47 States Ride a Propane Autogas Bus to School

Propane autogas buses registrations increased about 10 percent in 2016

WASHINGTON (February 28, 2017) – At the start of 2017, more than 12,000 propane autogas school buses were in operation at public and private school districts across the United States, an annual increase of approximately 10 percent, according to figures from the Propane Education & Research Council. Propane autogas buses now make up more than 45 percent of all non-diesel school buses used for pupil transportation.

“First-time adopters of propane autogas school buses are converting entire fleets after they see for themselves the advantages propane can offer everyone involved, from the transportation directors to the bus drivers to the students riding the propane buses,” said Michael Taylor, PERC director of autogas business development. “We expect more districts to turn to propane throughout 2017 and beyond as transportation directors learn of the lower total cost of ownership, cleaner and quieter operation, and better maintenance experience that a propane autogas bus fleet can offer a district.”

According to the data, compiled by PERC from IHS Polk New Vehicle Registration figures, propane autogas school buses are being implemented on a national scale. The buses transport more than 700,000 students in 600 districts across 47 states.

The new data shows that six states — California, Florida, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin — each have more than 500 propane autogas buses in operation within their borders. Texas, with 2,600 buses in operation throughout the state, operates more than 20 percent of all propane autogas buses in the country. New York boasts the highest number of districts operating propane, with more than 50 districts. Five other states — Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Texas — have more than 30 districts apiece using propane autogas buses in fleets.

For more information on propane autogas school buses, visit propaneschoolbuses.com.

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About PERC: The Propane Education & Research Council is a nonprofit that provides leading propane safety and training programs and invests in research and development of new propane-powered technologies. PERC is operated and funded by the propane industry. For more information, visit propane.com.