

SunLine Transit Agency Receives EPA's "Clean Air Excellence" Award for 2009 "Clean Air Technology" - The Road to Hydrogen

(Thousand Palms, CA) SunLine Transit Agency General Manager, C. Mikel Oglesby, received an award on behalf of the Agency from the United State Environmental Protection Agency who annually recognizes and honors outstanding visionary efforts by individuals and organizations that have undertaken risks in innovation, resulting in improving the environment by making progress in achieving cleaner air. SunLine was one of fourteen organization recipients out of 124 applicants to receive this prestigious award, winning in the category of "Clean Air Technology."



Oglesby states "The Agency's mission to provide safe and environmentally conscious public transportation services and alternative fuel solutions to meet the mobility needs of the Coachella Valley continues to be realized with the presentation of this prestigious award. This award is a testament to the dedication of the Board of Directors and hard work of SunLine staff."

The Agency's "Road to Hydrogen" tells the story of SunLine's commitment as a leader in alternative fuel technologies, focusing on zero emission hydrogen-fueled buses and infrastructure. The Agency recently received its sixth generation hydrogen fuel bus which is one of three hydrogen fueled vehicles currently providing service in the Valley. In addition, SunLine was the first transit agency to own and operate a public hydrogen generation and dispensing station, SunFuels. The station is a part of Governor Schwarzenegger's California Hydrogen Highway.

SunLine's Chairman of the Board, Bud England, states "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I commend the Agency under Oglesby's leadership for the hard work and dedication to the community as they provide public transit using clean air technology."

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SunLine Transit Agency is a joint powers authority formed in 1977 to operate the Coachella Valley's public transportation system. SunLine offers fixed route bus service and curb-to-curb paratransit for the mobility impaired. Its fixed route and paratransit vehicles travel more than 4 million miles per year, covering over 619 bus stops located throughout a 1,120 mile-service area, carrying approximately 4.82 million riders. SunLine Services Group regulates three taxi franchises who provide taxi services throughout the Valley. SunFuels alternative fueling station offers compressed natural gas and hydrogen for SunLine and the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To learn more, please visit sunline.org.