

PETER LEONARD, PRODUCTION MANAGER, STEEL WORK INC.

I am wondering if the State DOT natural gas pumps could be made available to the public. The Honda GX CNG vehicle is available in Rochester, however, the only public fuel station is in Rush south of the city. Other automakers discontinued production of CNG vehicles because of lack of demand. If we truly want to reduce our reliance on foreign imports this is a golden opportunity. Our natural gas comes largely from North America. Natural gas is non polluting. Perhaps your pumping stations could be made to accept a credit card or other card as the Clean Energy pumps use. The home fueling stations available to the public are too expensive to be practical and they have a limited life. You have seen the commercials by T. Boone Pickens. He says the first step in reducing our dependence on foreign oil is to switch our cars to natural gas. He is correct. The infrastructure is established. We need to make our pumping stations available to the public. There are many DOT CNG stations throughout the state and the NYS DOT is going to increase the number of natural gas vehicles in its fleet. We are investing millions in research to run our cars on hydrogen. The problem with this is that hydrogen is difficult to transport and store. There is no infrastructure and hydrogen is made from natural gas! I for one am anxious to switch.