



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Date: 09/15/14

Contact: Jennifer Finch, 970-336-7203

Re: Ribbon Cutting for RE-1 CNG Bus Barn and Buses

### WELD COUNTY CELEBRATES COMPLETION OF CNG STATION AND SCHOOL BUS BARN FOR RE-1

WELD COUNTY, CO – Weld County Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer joined Noble Energy and Weld County School District RE-1 in celebrating the completion of the school district's new bus barn and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) station located in Gilcrest.



"This is an exciting day," said Commissioner Kirkmeyer. "A lot of work on the part Noble, Weld County and the district went into making this project a reality."

Weld County assisted the school district in applying for the grant funding used to help pay for both the station and the buses. The county also assisted the district by writing the bid documents for the bus barn so that it met the appropriate standards for CNG vehicles. Noble Energy provided the matching funds for the fueling station and the new CNG buses as well as paid to build the bus barn.

The Noble Energy invitation to Monday's ribbon-cutting event stated, "We are now pleased to be able to provide our school children with transportation that will give them cleaner air to breathe, that will provide economic benefit to the school district through reduced fuel costs, and will use an abundant domestic fuel that we produce throughout Colorado and the United States."

"This is great project for Weld County," said Kirkmeyer. "Weld County is leading the way with CNG. We're proud to work with the energy industry to continue to bring benefits to residents of our county."

In 2009, Weld County initiated the Weld County Natural Gas Coalition and wrote the county's Smart Energy Plan which included public/private partnerships to build CNG stations as well as promote fleet conversion to CNG. To date, Weld County's fleet includes 43 CNG and LNG vehicles. The county also celebrated the opening of four public CNG stations throughout Weld County in 2012. In August of this year, after hearing about Noble's partnership with Weld County to provide CNG school buses to local districts, Noble Energy's Government Relations Advisor in Israel came to Weld County to learn how she could implement a similar project in her country.

To learn more about Weld County's Smart Energy Program, please visit <http://www.weldsmartenergy.org>

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