



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Jennifer Finch, 970-336-7203

Re: Natural Gas Tour with Noble

WELD COUNTY NATURAL GAS PROGRAM SETS THE STANDARD

Commissioners give tour to Noble Energy's Israeli Government Relations Advisor

WELD COUNTY, CO – Weld County Commissioners Barbara Kirkmeyer and Sean Conway had the opportunity to share the county's knowledge about compressed natural gas (CNG) last week, leading a tour for Noble Energy's Government Relations Advisor in Israel, Noa Binyamin, along with Sherrie Merrow, CNG Advisor/LNG and CNG Development for Noble.



Along with Weld County Public Works Director Jay McDonald and Engineering Supervisor/Transportation Planner Elizabeth Relford, the Commissioners gave Binyamin a tour of the county's CNG stations, demonstrating how they operate and safety precautions they take.

After hearing about Noble's partnership with Weld County to provide CNG school buses to Weld County School District RE-1, Binyamin said she wanted to come visit Weld County to learn how she could implement a similar project in Israel.

"I heard about this project all the way in Israel," said Binyamin. "That says something about Weld County and the work they're doing in the CNG energy sector. It's impressive."

"This was a great opportunity to share the things we're doing well concerning CNG in Weld County," said Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer. "It's an honor that Noa wants to learn about our program and implement something similar in Israel."



Top from left: Sherrie Merrow, CNG Advisor for Noble Energy, Weld County Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer, Noa Binyamin, Government Relations Advisor for Noble Energy, and Weld County Transportation Planner Elizabeth Relford pose in front of one of the CNG buses Noble Energy helped fund for the Weld RE-1 School District.

Bottom left: Weld County Commissioner Sean Conway talks about the CNG station in Firestone – the first of four public CNG stations to open in Weld County in 2012.

Bottom right: Noa Binyamin presents an update of Noble CNG projects to the Weld County Natural Gas Coalition.

Binyamin said CNG is still an emerging source of alternative energy in Israel, but has really taken off since the discovery of the Leviathan offshore gas field in 2010. Binyamin said the discovery has allowed Israel to gain some natural gas independency. In fact, she said Israel's government has issued a mandate for its transportation sector to reduce its dependence on crude oil by 30 percent by 2020.

"It's incredible that news about something we're doing in Weld County traveled all the way to Israel," said Commissioner Sean Conway.

"This tour has been amazing. Weld County is doing such great and advanced things for its citizens. I'm happy Noble is able to help," Binyamin said. "I want to do something similar in Israel. We have so much to learn."

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