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**Empire Clean Cities Joins Nationwide Call for Clean Fuels and Vehicles
at Energy Independence Summit 2020 in Washington, D.C.**

Coalition's Local Initiatives Show Promise in Transition to Sustainable Technologies

New York, New York, USA – Representatives from Empire Clean Cities will join clean transportation leaders from across the nation in Washington, D.C to educate federal policy makers about the need to expand America's use of alternative fuels, including biofuels, electricity, and natural gas. Local leaders will participate in the Energy Independence Summit (EIS) 2020, the nation's leading clean transportation policy event from February 10th to February 12th.

"This year, we are going to Washington, D.C. to remind our representatives of the need to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. Gasoline prices are volatile and we continue to send more than \$200 billion per year to OPEC and other nations for oil," stated Joy Gardner, Executive Director of Empire Clean Cities. "In D.C. we will inform United States representatives of the need to aggressively expand the nation's use of alternatives over petroleum-based fuel in order to have reliable and clean energy sources that improve air quality, mitigate climate change, and create domestic jobs in the energy industry."

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, there are approximately 1.8 million alternative fuel vehicles on the road in the United States and 87,000 alternative fueling stations. In New York State there are 4,565 alternative fueling stations, the second greatest network of alternative fueling stations in the nation. Empire Clean Cities works locally in New York City and the Lower Hudson Valley to provide citizens, stakeholders, and community partners with reliable information about clean alternative fuels, advance vehicle technologies, and green transportation practices.

Transportation Energy Partners (TEP), the EIS organizer, reports that EIS participants will have the opportunity to interact with top Administration officials including leaders from the U.S. Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, and Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, EIS participants will communicate their message for ongoing federal support for alternatives to petroleum-based fuels to more than 250 Congressional offices.

"American industry has demonstrated the ability to produce high performing technology to meet the demand for cleaner fuels and vehicles," stated Alleyn Harned, President of Transportation Energy Partners. "However, insufficient and inconsistent government incentives and support hinder companies' ability to make the long-term investments required to sustain these clean transportation solutions. We need stable and predictable federal investments to enable fleets and technology developers to make sound long-term planning and investment decisions."

About Empire Clean Cities: ECC is an environmental 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a mission to *ensure clean air for future generations* in New York City and the Lower Hudson Valley. We are committed to providing citizens and stakeholders with access to reliable information about alternative fuels, advanced vehicle technologies, and green transportation practices.

About Transportation Energy Partners: Transportation Energy Partners (TEP) is a national non-profit organization that brings Clean Cities coalition leaders together with the clean transportation industry to advance policies that will reduce American dependence on petroleum-based fuels.

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