

*How are some of our  
Southeastern  
NGOs doing?*



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SEDC – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Partners Meeting



Jonathan Overly, Executive Director  
East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition



## NGOs/NPs – Gauging “Health”

We started general and then went specific with several fundamental questions in talking with several regional nonprofits about their overall state of affairs, or their “health.”



NP leaders spoken to:

- Jonathan Overly – East Tennessee Clean Fuels
- Melissa Howell – Kentucky Clean Fuels
- Bill Young – Space Coast Clean Cities
- Don Francis – Clean Cities Atlanta
- Stephen Smith – Southern Alliance for Clean Energy



## Clean Cities #1 - East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition



*Jonathan - me*

Q: In general, how are you doing?

A: *“Lots of projects and opportunities... not enough time to cover it all.”*

### Rank 1-10

- Fiscal health: 3 – Pretty good regional membership contributions; TN SEO has fallen of the table as a partner and that’s not due to a lack of asking for opportunities to do work with/for them.
- Board involvement: 4 – Couple of good board members, some not so good. Buck stops at Jonny so up to me to select better members – that is taking place right now.
- Collaboration capacity: 6 – We have tentacles stretched all over the place, just not enough time to follow up or through with many of them (+ not enough money to hire more to do that follow up)



## Clean Cities #2 - Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition



*Melissa Howell*

Q: In general, how are you doing?

A: *“2009 market bleak in KY; retailers not willing to commit to pumps with fuel that costs more than gas/diesel. Have a brand new 50 MGY biodiesel plant that sat idle for months due to lack of demand – all due to pricing. That reluctance to invest in market has spilled over to our coalition.”*

### Rank 1-10

- Fiscal health: 7 – until end of calendar year; no idea past that
- Board involvement: 8 – support is great, especially when needed
- Collaboration capacity: 6 – hard to talk the talk, when very few walk the walk



## Clean Cities #3 - Space Coast Clean Cities Coalition



*Bill Young*

Q: In general, how are you doing?

A: *“So-so. Not fantastic, not dying, just coasting along. I’m a part time coordinator – I do some other things to eat – the coalition doesn’t bring in enough for full time people. We could do more but it’s just how we are right now with funding.”*

### Rank 1-10

- Fiscal health: 5 – With more \$\$\$ could do more, be “healthier”
- Board involvement: 5 – Have nine board members, and roughly half really do stuff/help us out
- Collaboration capacity: 5 – Gets back to money; with more \$\$\$ I could reach more people in our region



## Clean Cities #4 - Clean Cities Atlanta



*Don Francis*

Q: In general, how are you doing?

A: *“Better. Key issue – we’ve not had a full-time director since 2002. Funding a tremendous issue. Little or no support out of DC. More calls about joining in last 6 weeks than in last 6 years.”*

### Rank 1-10

- Fiscal health: 1 – Owe old debts (from previous admin.); have chipped away a lot at that
- Board involvement: 6 – Caretaker role; had to make decision to reinvigorate coalition, CTE back to support
- Collaboration capacity: 3 – Now reaching out to all the potentials, playing catch-up; many don’t know we exist (stimulus shake-up)



## SACE



*Stephen Smith*

Q: In general, how are you doing?

A: *“Quite well. Rapid growth in past few years. Moving now toward steady state or contraction due to economy. Heavily dependent on philanthropic foundations, and they are pulling back some. Lag is always there in how the economic impacts hit... have to know how to ‘surf the coming wave.’ Concerned, but making changes.”*

### Rank 1-10

- Fiscal health: 7 towards 6 – Preparing for this economic contraction mode; budgets will be shrinking
- Board involvement: 7 – Staff driven org.; thoughtful, helpful board
- Collaboration capacity: 8 – Staff of 30. We have major collaborative initiatives, and are doing as best as we can creating change thru these.



*Jonathan Overly*

***ETCleanFuels.org***

*(865) 974-3625*

# *Questions?*

*“Do not follow where the path may lead.  
Go, instead, where there is no path  
and leave a trail.”*

*- Ralph Waldo Emerson*