



# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### GET is an Active Steward towards Environmental Excellence

**Bakersfield, CA** — Bakersfield, CA-Golden Empire Transit District (GET) has been certified under the ISO 14001:2015 standard. GET is committed to environmental wellness. An Environmental Management System (EMS) is a management system that focuses on incorporating environmental considerations in business practices. In simple terms an EMS is a way of incorporating environmental thinking into an organization's daily activities.

GET is proud to announce that fuel costs have dropped in 2018 because GET is transitioning to electric vehicles for our support cars. GET has reduced water consumption by over 335,000 for 2018 and has incorporated motion sensor lights in our office to reduce electricity usage. We also replaced 27% of our current fleet with low NOx, CNG buses. The new buses have near zero emission compressed natural gas engines, which are 90% cleaner than current EPA emission standards. Natural gas is a low carbon, domestic fuel that lowers overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. GET now uses Renewable Natural Gas (RNG), which is natural gas produced from landfills or organic waste. Combining Cummins Westport near zero emission engines with RNG provides additional GHG reductions.

GET considers itself an active steward of the environment and is committed to environmental excellence. In order to fulfill its responsibilities as a steward of the environment, the GET core team decided to develop and implement an EMS. The most significant environmental aspects currently are electricity reduction, storm water control, engine emission reduction and spill prevention. The development and implementation of GET's EMS promotes:

- Protecting the environment
- Preventing pollution
- Using resources efficiently
- Improving environmental performance
- Enhancing compliance
- Reducing risks
- Increasing efficiency
- Reducing costs
- Conducting operations in an environmentally sustainable manner
- Enhancing image with public, stakeholders, and other agencies
- Improving employee awareness of environmental issues and responsibilities
- Creating an Environmental Excellence Focused Culture at GET

“Sustainability is integral in our daily practices and long-term objectives to meet the transportation needs of the community we serve.” Karen King, CEO of GET said.

It is one of the world’s most widely used standards and a key business tool for many organizations. With more than 300,000 certificates issued globally every year, it ranks high on the agenda of many organizations worldwide who place importance on their environmental impact.

*GET was formed in July 1973 and is the primary public transportation provider for the Bakersfield Urbanized Area. It is the largest public transit system within a 110-mile radius. The District’s legal boundary includes Bakersfield city limits as well as adjacent unincorporated areas. GET has a fleet of 90 compressed natural gas buses equipped with wheelchair lifts and bike racks. GET services 16 routes, which operate 7 days a week and transport more than 6 million passengers each year with its fixed route buses. In addition, GET operates 21 compressed natural gas GET-A-Lift buses. GET has an economic impact; every \$1.00 GET spends and invests creates \$5.80 in return. The International Standards Organization formally recognizes GET for its certified Environmental Management System. For more information, visit [www.getbus.org](http://www.getbus.org) or call 869.2GET (2438).*