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### MISSION STATEMENT

The Oil Heat Council's Mission is to represent and be a resource to our members by monitoring and communicating pertinent information, regulatory actions and legislation at Federal, State and Municipal levels. To continue to identify and implement new programs, services and training that benefit the membership and the association. To communicate via public appearances and the media, informed responses to various oil industry situations and challenges affecting the consumer public. To keep the public informed regarding energy conservation, safety and environmental protection and the benefits of heating with oil; and to diligently uphold our commitment to the citizens of New Hampshire, practicing business of the highest standard, both professionally and ethically.

## On The Horizon....

September has arrived and , with it, many seasonal changes. Summer is over, the kids go back to school, the leaves begin to change, and oil dealers like us hope for cold weather and low prices during the winter ahead. Another event September brings is our 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire's convention to be held this year at the beautiful Omni Mount Washington Resort in Bretton Woods. We look forward to seeing everyone there. One of the topics at this year's annual convention will be a report from our By-Laws Review committee with a few suggested changes in the OHCNH by-laws.



September will also bring some important strategic decisions regarding the New England Fuel Institute (NEFI), of which we are all members. Along with our five sister New England states, representatives of the Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire have been involved in serious discussions about the finances and the future structure of NEFI. It is certainly clear that NEFI's past presence as "the oil-burner training facility in Watertown" will change and that NEFI will evolve into more of a regional oil heat education and lobbying organization , but just how that plays out will be determined in the next few months. I believe NEFI can play a vital role in lobbying on behalf of our industry, and our customers. For example, staff members from the New England Fuel Institute are relentless in their push to ensure the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) will address laws to crack down on the rampant speculation in the oil market. We are all aware, by now, that the spikes in gasoline and heating oil prices are caused far more by speculation on Wall Street than by any forces of supply and demand economics. NEFI can help us with these efforts as well as the effort to reauthorize the National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA). No matter what happens, I can assure our members that New Hampshire will make some sort of decision about our future relationship with NEFI by year's end in December.

Locally, at the Concord State House, there are two possible bills bear watching regarding the licensing for oil burner technicians. Bob Sculley is roaming the halls daily monitoring issues affecting our oil industry.

Finally, on a regional perspective, all of us wish our neighbors in Vermont our best in their recovery from Tropical Storm Irene. Of course there was also significant damage in all six New England states, including New Hampshire. As a North Conway resident, I can report to anyone coming to our convention in Bretton Woods that Route 302 from North Conway to Bretton Woods is closed and the Kancamagus Highway from Conway to Lincoln is still closed due to severe washouts and bridge damage. But you can certainly get to Bretton Woods via Rt 93 to 3, or Route 2 from Maine, so that's no reason not to attend. There's still time to sign up for this important gathering.

I'll see you there,



Dana Jones

## ***NEFI Hurricane Relief Efforts Focus on Regulatory Waivers***

Last week, NEFI, PMAA and association executives in states in the projected path of Hurricane Irene held a conference call to plan response strategy in anticipation of fuel supply shortages due to storm related refineries, pipelines, terminals and transportation routes closure. NEFI and the group decided to act proactively and obtain the necessary state and federal regulatory waivers needed to prevent anticipated supply bottlenecks before the storm hit. The group immediately sought a federal waiver of the EPA's 15ppm diesel fuel requirement for stationary generators. NEFI members were being inundated with calls from first responders and vital service providers for supply to run emergency generators.

NEFI and the other groups asked the EPA for a waiver of the ULSD requirements so that heating oil could be used instead of 15ppm in emergency generator equipment. The waiver was necessary because there was insufficient time to pull 15ppm from the rack but plenty of heating oil at bulk plants that could be moved to meet demand. The group wrote a joint letter to the White House and EPA administrator on the Friday before the storm requesting a proactive waiver. Throughout the weekend, NEFI was in contact with federal officials at the EPA, FEMA, the U.S. DOT and the White House providing vital information on supply shortages of 15ppm diesel fuel, summertime RVP fuel, and RFG due to terminal closures and runs on the few terminals that remained open. State associations were also working to ensure waivers of CDL driver hours of service requirements in anticipation of high demand, longer drives to the rack and employee shortages. Ultimately, the supply situation stabilized quickly in most areas and many waivers became unnecessary. NEFI plans to develop real time emergency information capabilities to relay important developments to members such as the status of regulatory waivers, terminal closures and supply shortages during future emergency situations.

Retrieved from: NEON: NEFI Energy Online News  
September 1, 2011 edition

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## Trucker Use Tax: IRS Announces New Filing Date

The Internal Revenue Service has advised truckers and other owners of heavy highway vehicles that their next federal highway use tax return, usually due August 31, will now be due on November 30, 2011.



Because the highway use tax is currently scheduled to expire on September 30, 2011, this extension is designed to alleviate any confusion and possible multiple filings that could result if Congress reinstates or modifies the tax after that date. Under temporary and proposed regulations filed in the Federal Register, the November 30 filing deadline for Form 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return, for the tax period that begins on July 1, 2011, applies to vehicles used during July, as well as those first used during August or September. Returns should not be filed and payments should not be made prior to November 1.

To aid truckers applying for state vehicle registration on or before November 30, the new regulations require states to accept as proof of payment the stamped Schedule 1 of the Form 2290 issued by the IRS for the prior tax year, ending on June 30, 2011. Under federal law, state governments are required to receive proof of payment of the federal highway use tax as a condition of vehicle registration. Normally, after a taxpayer files the return and pays the tax, the Schedule 1 is stamped by the IRS and returned to filers for this purpose. A state normally may accept a prior year's stamped Schedule 1 as a substitute proof of payment only through September 30.

For those acquiring and registering a new or used vehicle during the July-to-November period, the new regulations require a state to register the vehicle, without proof that the highway use tax was paid, if the person registering the vehicle presents a copy of the bill of sale or similar document showing that the owner purchased the vehicle within the previous 150 days.

In general, the highway use tax applies to trucks, truck tractors, and buses with a gross taxable weight of 55,000 pounds or more. Ordinarily, vans, pick-up trucks, and panel trucks are not taxable because they fall below the 55,000-pound threshold.

For trucks and other taxable vehicles in use during July, the Form 2290 and payment are, under normal circumstances, due on August 31. The tax of up to \$550 per vehicle is based on weight, and a variety of special rules apply to vehicles with minimal road use, logging or agricultural vehicles, vehicles transferred during the year and those first used on the road after July.

Last year, the IRS received about 650,000 Forms 2290 and highway use tax payments totaling \$886 million.

Retrieved from: AccountingWEB.com(<http://www.accountingweb.com>)

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### NORA Silver Certification Seminar: A Big Success - Thanks Cheshire Oil!

On Wednesday, September 8, 2011, Cheshire Oil hosted the NORA Silver Certification Seminar at their office in Keene, NH. Bob Hedden (pictured in upper left) taught this class to 12 oil heat technicians from the Keene area. Employees of Davis Oil Co., Cheshire Oil Co., E-Z Energy, and Webber Energy Fuels were in attendance. Due to the popularity of this class, the OHCNH is planning to hold another seminar in the Concord, NH office. If you are interested in attending this next seminar, please contact Laura Everhart at 603-415-8330, or [laura@nhoilheat.com](mailto:laura@nhoilheat.com) for more information.

**Thank You Cheshire Oil !**



## CFTC to Move on New Commodity Rules

by Jackson Stone - HeatingOil.com

Heating oil dealers are praising a decision by federal regulators to move forward on new rules designed to tackle rampant speculation in oil markets.

Officials at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) have indicated that a final rule on the long-awaited speculative "position limits" is likely sometime in September, the New England Fuel Institute (NEFI) reports.

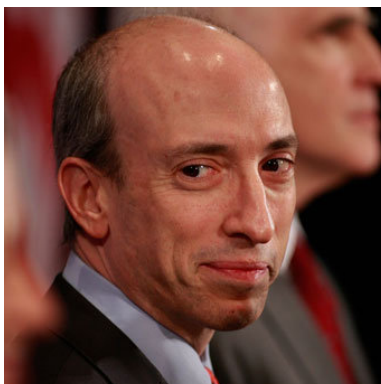
Commission chair Gary Gensler said the decision could be made as early as September 22, Bloomberg reported Monday.

Many commentators blame excessive speculation by Wall Street traders for spikes in world oil prices that saw the cost of crude, gasoline and heating oil hit 30-month highs earlier this year. Though oil prices have fallen in recent weeks, heating oil prices are tipped to spike again this winter.

The new rules were mandated in last year's Dodd-Frank financial reform act in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis. They aim to improve transparency in financial markets, clamp down on fraud and market manipulation, and help prevent volatile price movements of essential commodities.

But implementation of the new rules – originally set down for January this year – has been delayed amid fierce lobbying by the financial sector while CFTC officials sought more information.

Futures oil markets have traditionally been used by oil companies, airlines and other petroleum end-users as insurance against future price changes that affect their businesses. NEFI president Michael Trunzo said position limits would help curtail excessive



CFTC chair Gary Gensler has indicated a final decision on new "position limits" to reign in speculation in oil markets could be signed off in September. (image: russellmeansfreedom.com)

speculation by commodity traders who profit when oil contracts gain wildly in value.

News the commission was set to vote on the new rules was welcome news for heating oil dealers and their customers, Trunzo said. "This development should please consumers and businesses across the country. Position limits should renew certainty, stability and confidence in the commodity in a timely and comprehensive manner."

The NEFI and Petroleum Marketers Association of America are part of a coalition campaigning for the commission to strengthen its proposed rules to address rampant speculation.

The CFTC has received about 13,000 submissions, the overwhelming majority of which supported the implementation of position limits, Trunzo said. They included hundreds of

letters of support from NEFI heating oil dealers warning the commission to strengthen the rules and implement them without further delays.

The coalition has just released a revised list of more than 75 studies and reports demonstrating the harmful effects of excessive speculation.

And just last week, independent Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders released secret oil trading data collected by federal officials that shed light on speculative activity by financial traders in the weeks before the 2008 financial collapse, when oil bottomed out from an all-time high of \$140 a barrel to just \$30. It named big investment banks, pension funds and hedge fund operators.

This article was posted at HeatingOil.com on Tuesday, August 30, 2011.

### Reminder: Underground Storage Tank Operator Training Required

The Federal Energy Policy Act requires states to develop training guidelines for three distinct classes of operators who operate and maintain federally regulated underground storage tank systems. Effective August 8, 2012, RSA 146-C:17-21 requires that all regulated facilities in New Hampshire have designated class A, B and C operators who have been trained and certified in accordance with an approved training program. DES is currently offering an approved training class for class A and B operators in New Hampshire.



#### Underground Storage Tank Operator Training Schedule

Classes are conducted at the Department of Environmental Services - 29 Hazen Dr. in Concord, NH, unless otherwise noted, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM on the following dates:

October 19, 2011  
November 16, 2011

January 18, 2012  
February 22, 2012

March 28, 2012, Heating Oil Only  
April 25, 2012

For more information on the Operator Training Program or to sign up for future Operator Training classes, please contact Matt Jones, Underground Storage Facility Operator Training Program Coordinator, at Matthew.Jones@des.nh.gov or by calling (603) 271-0673.



## Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire

As a retail fuel dealer in the Northeast, you play an integral role in the lives of your customers by ensuring their homes stay heated and their businesses have power. You deserve the same level of service, commitment and reliability from your insurance carrier.

Acadia Insurance is one of the excellent benefit programs offered to the membership of the **Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire** through the **New Hampshire Motor Transport Association**. This relationship between **NHMTA**, **Acadia** and now the **OHCNH** is a testament to our long-term commitment to the fuel oil and transportation business in the communities where we live and work.



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Acadia has developed a safety group dividend plan for qualifying Oil Heat Council of NH and NH Motor Transport Association members, based upon premium volume and favorable loss experience of the group and individual members. *To date, Acadia has returned over \$2,300,000 in dividends to participating safety group members.\**



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For more information, contact the endorsed agency **Wieczorek Insurance** or your local independent Acadia Insurance agent. To find an Acadia agent, please visit [www.AcadiaInsurance.com](http://www.AcadiaInsurance.com).

*† This is only a summary of currently available coverages. For actual coverage provisions, terms and conditions, please refer to the policies. All policies are subject to applicable underwriting guidelines and may be offered by one or more of the following affiliated insurance companies: Acadia Insurance Company, Continental Western Insurance Company, Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington, D.C. and Union Insurance Company.*

*\*Dividends are based upon experience, are subject to Board approval and the terms and conditions of the Program, and are not guaranteed. The amount of dividends paid in the past are not indicative of what may be payable in the future.*





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September 28, 2011  
HazMat Training (8:30am-4pm)  
OHCNH Office  
19 Henniker St., Concord, NH

October 6, 2011  
Air Brakes Foundations (9am-3pm)  
OHCNH Office  
19 Henniker St., Concord, NH

October 27, 2011  
Collectors Training (8:30am-4:30pm)  
OHCNH Office  
19 Henniker St., Concord, NH

December 14, 2011  
Annual Meeting  
Grappone Conference Center  
70 Constitution Ave., Concord, NH  
( More Information to Follow )