



# Wyoming Fuel Tax News

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Licensing with Fuel Tax Administration**
- **The Fuel Tax team embraces the community**
- **Customer Satisfaction Results**

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## Licensing Explained

Here at the Fuel Tax Administration we receive dozens of license renewals and new applications each month. Though we realize that each company's situation is different, there are some common issues we see very often that we would like to address.

When applying or renewing your Fuel Tax License, the annual fee will be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) *per fuel type per location*. Fuel types in regards to licensing are designated as follows:

Gasoline	Diesel	Ethanol
Gasoline	Undyed Diesel	Ethanol
Gasohol	Dyed Diesel	
Aviation Gasoline	Jet Fuel	
	Kerosene	
	Dyed Kerosene	
	Undyed Biodiesel	
	Dyed Biodiesel	

### Dealers

Each license may be used for one (1) specific location. Therefore, a dealer with two (2) gas stations requires a license for each location for each fuel type sold.

For example, if a Dealer has two separate locations that sell gasoline, undyed diesel, and dyed diesel, the total amount due would be \$100.00 (\$25/gasoline at Location 1; \$25/gasoline at Location 2; \$25/diesel at Location 1, which includes both dyed and undyed diesel; \$25/diesel at Location 2).

### Suppliers and Distributors

For licensing purposes, the following example would apply: If a Distributor distributes gasoline, undyed diesel, dyed diesel, ethanol and aviation gasoline, the total amount due would be \$75 (\$25/gasoline, which includes gasoline and aviation gasoline; \$25/diesel, which includes undyed diesel and dyed diesel; \$25/ethanol).

In the case that a Distributor or Supplier has a retail location(s), both the licensing process for a dealer and for a distributor or supplier must be completed. For example, if a Supplier has two retail locations, three licenses would be issued: a supplier license and two separate dealer licenses.

### A Reminder for Ethanol

Licensing for ethanol is required for anyone who supplies ethanol in this state, imports ethanol into this state, exports ethanol from this state, or blends ethanol with gasoline to produce gasohol.

We hope this helps clear up some of the confusion surrounding licensing. If you are unclear on any part of the process, please contact our department or your Tax Examiner.

We're on the web:  
[www.dot.state.wy.us](http://www.dot.state.wy.us)

## The Fuel Tax Team in the Community



*Tax Free Gas?*

You might have missed it, but the Wyoming Department of Transportation gave away guaranteed tax free gas on the evening of Friday, January 28th. It was all done to benefit the youth of Cheyenne! Members of the Fuel Tax Team participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boys and Girls Club Chili Challenge. Dressed up as gas station attendants from the 1950's, the full-service team delivered High Octane (Green chili) and Regular (Red Chili) with additives (cheese) and dip sticks (tortilla chips).

Participation in the event was part of our program's on-going Balanced Scorecard in which Goal V is to *Operate as a Highly*

*Functioning Team.* Since finalizing our Balanced Scorecard in January 2010, the team has spent over 72 hours in team building activities that include everything from volunteering as a team in the community to formal training. "Working as a highly functioning team makes us more effective, efficient and productive," said Cheryl Porter, the event organizer. "What a great opportunity this was to operate within FTA's environment of fun." added Porter.

The Fuel Tax Team was awarded first place for the best decorated booth and raised over \$775 in cash donations for the organization. Overall, the event raised more than \$20,000.

Rolinda Sample, Chief Professional Officer from the Boys and Girls Club said, "Since opening in 1997, the Boys & Girls Club of Cheyenne has focused on inspiring and enabling all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. Program areas offered to youth include character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, computer training and sports/fitness/recreation opportunities. The Club provides after school and summer programming for youth ages 6-18. The Club provides services for 500 kids annually."

*We ask that you communicate to your mailing staff the importance of ensuring that metered mail is deposited in the USPS collection box on the same date that it is metered.*



## Metered Mail

The Fuel Tax Program has been receiving metered mailings that appear to be outside the usual delivery time. Our law that applies to reporting timelines was written dependent upon a date shown by the post office cancellation mark which, of course, does not apply to metered mail.

Since it is more difficult to determine the actual date of mailing for articles that are

metered, we ask that you communicate to your mailing staff the importance of ensuring that metered mail is deposited in the USPS collection box on the same date that it is metered. If the date on the check enclosed with the return is later than the metered date and is after the due date, we will impose penalty and interest based on the date of the check.

We also receive mailings with postage due. Please

ensure that adequate postage has been applied to those envelopes that are larger than a Number 10. Our policy will be to accumulate envelopes with postage due and to bill you along with tax billings or semi-annually when tax billings have not been generated.

If you have any questions about either of these policies, please contact your Tax Examiner.

# 2011 Wyoming Legislative Update

## Bill Proposing Increased Fuel Tax Rate

House Bill 22 sponsored by the Joint Transportation, Highways and Military Affairs Interim Committee proposed a phased-in increase to the state's fuel tax

rate. The proposal was to increase the state's tax on motor fuel by ten cents over three years.

Although the bill successfully made it out of committee, on February 2nd it failed the House of Representatives Committee of the Whole vote.

## Agricultural Gasoline Exemption News

House Bill 153, sponsored by: Representative(s) Semlek, Blikre, Madden, Moniz, Petersen and Teeters and Senator(s) Schiffer, proposed moving the agricultural gasoline exemption process to a refund process.

The existing exemption process requires the agricultural producer to go through an application process and once approved the producer will pay 30% of the fuel tax on the bulk gasoline deliveries he receives.

House Bill 153 proposed mov-

ing the exemption to a refund process where the agricultural producer would purchase tax-paid fuel and apply to the State of Wyoming for a refund of the tax on the gallons used for agricultural purposes.

House Bill 153 would make gasoline used for agricultural purposes mirror the existing agricultural clear diesel refund program. Supporters of the bill included the Wyoming Petroleum Marketers Association who advocated for the change due to the fact that under the exemp-

tion process their population is responsible for paying for the tax and applying to the state for a refund on the exempted gallons.

In early February, the bill was amended and passed by the House of Representatives. In mid-February, the Senate also added a minor amendment and approved the bill. Late February saw the House concur with the Senate-approved bill, and the bill has been sent to Governor Mead for his signature.

*The 2011 legislative session*

*included numerous fuel tax related issues.*

## Additional Fuel Tax Related Legislation

Several other fuel tax related bills were before the Wyoming Legislature this year. They included House Bill 185 which proposed increasing the additional license fuel tax and increasing mineral severance tax distributions to the LUST program. This bill failed in the House Revenue Committee.

House Bill 128 proposed a reduction of the credit granted to producers of ethanol from \$.40 to \$.10 per gallon of ethanol produced in Wyoming. This bill failed to make it out of the House Revenue Committee. Senate File 86 proposed extending the agricultural exemption from one year to four

years. This bill failed on 3rd Reading in the Senate.

This year the FTA Team took an opportunity to have the team attend several hours of legislative action in an effort to expose them to a glimpse of the legislative process.



The FTA Team at the 2011 Wyoming Legislature

# Survey Says.....The Results Are In!

The survey results from both the DIE/Supplier Customer Satisfaction Survey and the Dealer Customer Satisfaction Survey are in, and we would like to express our sincere appreciation to you, our customers, for taking the time to participate. We are proud to say that the response rate was well above the standard participation rate!

While our service scored high in both surveys, we appreciate that we have opportunities and sincerely intend to attempt to address them in an efficient and methodical manner.

The DIE/Supplier results have been analyzed, and the following themes and action items were identified by the Fuel Tax Administration Team:

*Prevalent Themes* included timeliness of refunds, electronic filing, cost effectiveness of

billings and credits, licensing clarification, and required paper size (legal vs. letter).

*Action Items* were prioritized into immediate, near future, and future based on how prevalent they were in the survey and the amount of time and resources that would be required to address each item.

The *immediate* action items include adding our website address to our email signatures and letterhead, and placing pictures of our staff members to our website and future newsletter.

The *near future* action items include developing an FTA newsletter to be mailed out by December 2010, holding an EDI (electronic filing) work team meeting, putting together education/information for taxpayers, holding a Licensing work team meeting, adding propane & ethanol to fuel types, creating

preprinted license information, evaluating our website content, and evaluating the refund process.

The *future* action items include evaluating the cost effectiveness of the billings/credits process, discussing the concept of annual billings/ buffer accounts, and evaluating the concerns about paper size requirements.

We are currently working towards completing these items, and we are happy to report that many of them are underway, and progress is being made.

We are currently analyzing the results of the recent Dealer customer satisfaction survey, and soon we will provide a similar report of action items to our Dealer customers.

The Agricultural customer survey will be conducted in March 2011.

Thank you again for your participation and input.



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### Fuel Tax Administration Mission

We are committed to providing world class service by accurately collecting taxes, distributing revenues, and administering the laws associated with fuel tax.