



EPP Buyer Update

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MA Moves to Cleaner Greener Fuels



The environmental and public health impact of America's penchant for petroleum is profound. Escalating fuel use has enormous implications for the protection of wilderness and natural resources that are under siege by demands for exploration, the increase of asthma and respiratory illnesses resulting from polluting emissions and, most recently, the threat that is posed to our national security.

In the interest of addressing these concerns and improving the efficiency of state government operations by reducing our dependence on foreign oil, agencies across the Commonwealth are required to substitute a soy-based (bio) fuel for a portion of their petroleum fuel in all diesel vehicles and equipment and in boilers that use #2 heating fuel beginning in FY08. The

mandate is the result of ANF Bulletin #13, issued in August, 2006 as part of former Governor Romney's Energy Plan. The plan will be implemented via a guidance document and trainings provided by an interagency agency team consisting of EOE, DOER and OSD.

There are many benefits of using biofuels; they are a renewable energy source made in the US, they are usable in most diesel equipment with no modifications, and they reduce particulate matter and tailpipe emissions (such as CO₂) that impact climate change. The biofuels targeted within the new mandate include biodiesel blends for vehicles and equipment ranging from B5 to B20, biofuel for heating purposes and E85 ethanol, (85% ethanol to 15% gasoline blend). Biodiesel made from virgin soy is already offered on OSD's statewide contract #ENE23 and the recommended blends include B20 (20% biodiesel, 80% ULSD) for spring and summer months and B5 (5% biodiesel, 95% ULSD) for late fall and winter months. The product meets the industry standard ASTM 6751 and in recommended blends conforms to the warranties of all major vehicle and equipment manufacturers. UMass Amherst and others are already using these fuels in their fleets with success.

The statewide contract also offers a second environmentally preferable fuel - Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel. ULSD complies with the new EPA standard for the sulfur content in on-road diesel fuel sold in the United States. The allowable sulfur content for ULSD (15 ppm) represents a 97% reduction in sulfur content from the previous standard (500 ppm). Reducing emissions of sulfur compounds into the atmosphere helps prevent acid rain. In conjunction with emission control retrofits (also available on statewide contract #VEH71), ULSD helps reduce emissions of nitrous oxides and particulates that contribute to asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

Effective 2010, ULSD will be the only diesel fuel available for use in on-road vehicles in the United States. The EPA has already issued requirements and guidelines for transitioning to the new fuel. All 2007 diesel equipment engines are required to run on ULSD. The Mass Turnpike Authority and Mass Highway departments have transitioned to these fuels, with many cities/towns also moving to this cleaner diesel fuel. Additional information can be found by searching on www.compass.com and using contract #ENE23.

FAQs: Biodiesel

How can I tell if the biodiesel is good quality?

The National Biodiesel Accreditation Program is a voluntary program for the accreditation of producers and marketers of biodiesel fuel called BQ-9000 (www.bq-9000.org). The program is a unique combination of the ASTM standard and a quality systems program that includes storage, sampling, testing, blending, shipping, distribution, and fuel management practices. ENE23 vendors are BQ-9000 Certified.

Do I need to modify my vehicle to use it?

Not for blends of 20% biodiesel or lower, unless there is an issue with specific elastometers that may not be compatible.

Can I use biodiesel in cold climate?

Although B20 blends have been used in very cold climates such as MN and WY where temps routinely fall below -30°F in winter, as well as in Boston's Logan airport shuttle for over four years with no problems, MA Statewide Contract ENE23 is recommending the use of a B5 blend for winter months (Nov.-March) and a B20 blend otherwise for vehicle use to ensure that users are comfortable with the handling and performance of the product.

Who Wants to Save on Lighting and Energy Efficient Products?

Last spring, for the first time ever, OSD held a “Big Buy” for lighting and energy efficient products. For a limited time – for orders placed by the end of the fiscal year – statewide contractors offered the buyers up to 60% off their regular pricing on compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), T-8 fluorescent tubes and LED exit signs. But the savings did not end there, of course. The energy efficient products continued to save agencies money long after being purchased.

This year’s upcoming Save\$mart program for lighting and energy efficient products has made a commitment to achieving even greater savings. How? In addition to expanding our outreach, we will focus on the organizations that buy a lot of “energy inefficient” products. As part of this effort, the EPP Program has identified nineteen top buyers of incandescent light bulbs. Together, these organizations bought nearly 40,000 incandescent light bulbs last year. Switching to more efficient CFLs, according to our detailed estimates, will save these organizations over a million dollars on energy costs alone. Add to that the Save\$mart savings, and the additional investment needed to buy the bulbs would be paid for in just a few months!

Our new year’s resolution is to get the nineteen organizations on board with purchasing CFLs. Would you like to know how much you can save? Contact us (see the form below) and we will provide you an estimate! We will also show you how you can reduce your purchase costs by using the upcoming Save\$mart program for lighting and energy efficient products!

Save\$mart for Lighting and Energy Efficient Products

Show of interest for orders placed before **06/30/07**

First & Last Name: _____
Organization Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Expected purchase quantities:

	Estimated Quantity
CFL equiv. to a 40Wt incand. bulb	
CFL equiv. to a 60Wt incand. bulb	
CFL equiv. to a 75Wt incand. bulb	
CFL equiv. to a 100Wt incand. bulb	
T8 4-foot tube	
T8 8-foot tube	
T8 U-shaped	

Other products you would like included:

Fax this form to Dmitriy Nikolayev, OSD at 617-727-4527 or email to Dmitriy.Nikolayev@osd.state.ma.us

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Choosing a “Green” Slope



Skiers and snowboarders throughout New England flocked to the ski slopes during February vacation in pursuit of the piles of fresh powder left behind after the first big storm of 2007. If you were one of them, most likely you decided on your destination based on the greatest area of accumulation, but we would like to encourage you to think “green” as well.

Close to two dozen ski resorts across the country are turning to clean, renewable wind power and Sugarloaf/USA and Sunday River resorts in Maine are among them. The two areas report that they are jointly purchasing 30 million kilowatt hours or renewable energy certificates (RECs) to offset 100% of their energy use. Under the partnership plan, the wind is being used to offset power use in the resort base lodges, offices, ski lifts, snowmaking operations and hotel and conference centers.

The RECs purchased are certified by *Green-e*, (an independent certification and verification program www.green-e.org/) and each entitles the owner to one megawatt hour of power produced by a green power generator and indirectly reduces the emissions associated with that MWh of electricity produced by a fossil fuel generator.

In addition, proceeds from the certificates subsidize the construction and operation of renewable energy generation facilities, which then replaces energy from traditional fossil fuel sources on the national electric grid. Since the majority of airborne pollutants in the Northeast originate in the Midwest where coal dominates the energy mix, reducing emissions from the national electric grid is likely to contribute to a cleaner environment in the Northeast.

Sugarloaf and Sunday River both have recycling programs in place as well as energy efficient snowmaking equipment, which use 40 percent less energy to make snow. Used vegetable oil from community and on-mountain restaurants at Sugarloaf is being recycled into biodiesel fuel for use in the resort’s busses and grooming equipment and they are looking into reusing wastewater and developing transportation system that operates on alternative fuels.

To hear more about other organizations making the choice to go green, as well as information on the EPA’s Green Energy partnership, visit www.epa.gov/greenpower.