News Release

Cleaner fuels, cleaner cars, cleaner air...an environmental trifecta for Canadians

OTTAWA, ON – September 22, 2014 – The Canadian Fuels Association welcomes the federal government’s confirmation of Canadian Tier 3 fuel regulations that will deliver cleaner fuels, cleaner cars and cleaner air, while maintaining the integrity of the North American gasoline market.

Proposed new Sulphur in Gasoline regulations announced today by federal Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq will reduce sulphur in gasoline to 10 parts per million (ppm) from 30 ppm, beginning in 2017, consistent with U.S. regulations published in February this year. The sulphur content in gasoline in Canada has been consistently below current regulated sulphur levels since 2005 (see attached chart).

“Today’s transportation fuels, produced by our member companies, represent years of continuous improvements aimed directly at enhancing environmental performance,” said Peter Boag, President, Canadian Fuels Association.

Sulphur content in gasoline is already 90% lower than it was just 10 years ago. The new regulations will build on this accomplishment, and deliver sulphur levels that are 97% lower than in 2004. These new cleaner fuels will support the introduction of new vehicle technology that will further reduce smog forming substances such as Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Nitrous Oxide (NOx) by 80%, and Particulate Matter (PM) by 70%.

“We look forward to working with the government and our auto industry colleagues to build on our successful environmental track record as we implement Tier 3 gasoline sulphur regulations that deliver further positive environmental outcomes for Canadians and sustain the competitiveness of Canadian fuel suppliers in an integrated North American fuels market.”

The Canadian fuels industry has invested nearly $8-billion in the past 10 years to improve the environmental performance of their refineries where fuels are produced.

Petroleum fuels deliver 95% of Canada’s transportation energy needs today and will continue to be the backbone of the transportation fuels sector well into the future. On a daily basis Canadians pump 200 million litres of our fuels into their cars and trucks – more than 75 billion litres annually. A strong Canadian economy and Canadians’ standard of living depend on our reliable supply of quality products at competitive prices.

The Canadian Fuels Association represents the industry that produces, distributes and markets high-quality petroleum products in Canada and the U.S. The refining sector contributes $6-billion to Canada’s GDP annually and employs 100,000 Canadians at 18 refineries, 21 primary fuel distribution terminals and nearly 12,000 wholesale and retail service stations throughout Canada.

Canadian Fuels refining and marketing members include – Chevron Canada Limited, Federated Co-operatives Limited, Husky Energy Inc., Imperial Oil Limited, Irving Oil, North Atlantic Refining Limited, North West Redwater Partnership, NOVA Chemicals (Canada) Ltd., Shell Canada
Products, Suncor Energy Products Partnership. Marketing company members include – Bitumar Inc. and Parkland Fuel Corporation.

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Additional Information

Chart: Sulphur in Gasoline (Canadian Fuels)