



February 20, 2019

The Massachusetts Energy Marketers Association Responds to Media Report on Biodiesel Blends in Heating Oil

Following a television news report on biodiesel blends in heating oil that aired on WBZ-TV CBS Boston on February 19, 2019, the Massachusetts Energy Marketers Association (MEMA) wants to assure heating oil customers and its industry members that biodiesel— also known as BIOHEAT – is safe and fit for widespread use. Biodiesel fuel that meets established industry production and blending specifications, has a proven track record of safe and reliable performance in heating oil equipment, and provides noteworthy environmental benefits.

“Our association, in coordination with the National Oilheat Research Alliance and the National Biodiesel Board, supports the use and advancement of biodiesel blends in heating oil that meet established, rigid specifications set forth by the American Society of Testing and Materials for blends up to 20% – known as B20 – in a gallon of ultra-low sulfur heating oil,” said MEMA President Michael Ferrante. He added, “Due to its safe, clean, renewable properties; research indicates that B20 blends significantly reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions, improve heating system efficiency and position heating oil as one of the cleanest energy sources.”

Ferrante noted that the recently released **Comprehensive Energy Plan** for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts stated that biodiesel will “*assist in transition to cleaner heating*” and that “*increasing the amount*” of biodiesel “*used in place of oil in existing equipment will reduce emissions and cost for consumers.*”

The Massachusetts Energy Marketers Association is the state trade association representing all sectors of the heating oil industry including retail and wholesale operations, biodiesel producers and distributors, heating system technicians and heating equipment manufacturers.

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