STATE HEATING OIL

and

PROPANE PROGRAM

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1995-1996

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**STATE HEATING OIL AND PROPANE PROGRAM
1995-1996**

FINAL REPORT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
1995 - 1996 STATE HEATING OIL AND PROPANE PROGRAM

Introduction

The United States Department of Energy (USDOE), Energy Information Administration (EIA) has continued its program to monitor No. 2 heating oil and propane prices. It encompasses states that are heavily dependent on these products. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU), Division of Energy Planning and Conservation participated in the program again.

According to instructions, we conducted twelve surveys semimonthly, to obtain the necessary price information from retail fuel merchants and propane dealers identified by the EIA. The EIA did not request additional surveys for the 1995/1996 heating season. Surveys began on October 2, 1995 and ended on March 18, 1996. We submitted data collected on specified report dates to the EIA, within two working days of those dates.

Data Collection

The Division of Energy Planning and Conservation collected data for the 1995/1996 heating season from most of the dealers who participated the previous year. Therefore, they were familiar with survey procedures. After some deletions and additions, twenty-two retail fuel merchants and eleven propane dealers remained to provide survey data. Before the first survey, the EIA notified them of their participation. A properly identified staff person from our Division contacted participants according to a schedule established by the EIA. The fuel merchants reported residential retail prices (excluding taxes or discounts) of No. 2 heating oil. The propane dealers reported residential retail prices (excluding taxes or discounts) of propane. On the first report date, each propane dealer furnished the approximate sales of propane sold to residential customers in the State during September 1, 1994 through August 31, 1995.

Data Reporting

The Division recorded price information according to codes assigned to participants by the EIA, and transmitted the results to them via PEDRO software.

Discussion of Survey Procedure

The EIA sent letters to retail fuel merchants and propane dealers included in the surveys, to notify them of their selection and to explain survey procedures. On the first survey date, our Division contact explained survey requirements and discussed the prices we wanted to collect depending on certain determined volumes of sales. Propane dealers had a more difficult time isolating retail prices. We helped all participants to select a consistent price to report. We monitored price data carefully throughout the survey period, to assure the accuracy of survey results. If EIA or Energy staff questioned responses, we contacted survey participants and asked for verification. We made corrections to data if required.

Discussion of Survey Data

The twenty-two retail fuel merchants and the eleven propane dealers identified by the EIA reported the survey data, as scheduled. Since we analyzed all responses carefully to avoid questionable prices, we believe that we produced consistent survey results and provided an accurate price picture for the heating season.

The minimum retail price of No. 2 heating oil of \$0.650 occurred on October 2, 1995. The maximum retail price of \$1.299 occurred on March 4, 1996. On October 2, 1995 the average retail price was \$0.883 and on March 18, 1996 it was \$1.061. The net percent change in the average retail price for the survey period was 20.2%.

The minimum retail price of propane of \$0.940 occurred on November 6, 1995. The maximum retail price of \$1.550 occurred on March 18, 1996. On October 2, 1995 the average retail price was \$1.230 and on March 18, 1996 it was \$1.311. The net percent change in the average retail price for the survey period was 6.6%.

The tables and graphs included with this report reflect the general activity of the prices furnished during the surveys.

WINTER FUELS SURVEYS 1995-1996
USDOE/BPU
HEATING OIL RETAIL PRICES (\$/gal)

ID	1995	1996										
	10/02	10/16	11/06	11/20	12/04	12/18	01/01	01/15	02/05	02/19	03/04	03/18
NJ00009	1.039	1.029	1.033	1.048	1.055	1.092	1.110	1.150	1.158	1.185	1.223	1.185
NJ00019	1.044	1.044	1.044	1.044	1.044	1.074	1.134	1.154	1.134	1.159	1.199	1.144
NJ00027	0.899	0.879	0.929	0.949	0.969	0.999	1.029	1.099	1.099	1.099	1.119	1.119
NJ00044	0.868	0.890	0.898	0.918	0.929	0.973	1.033	1.072	1.085	1.092	1.086	1.082
NJ00225	0.650	0.750	0.780	0.780	0.800	0.890	0.940	0.990	0.970	0.990	0.990	0.990
NJ00242	0.849	0.849	0.849	0.849	0.849	0.849	0.899	0.949	0.949	0.949	0.949	0.999
NJ00265	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.999	1.039	1.069	1.100	1.150	1.120	1.150	1.190	1.190
NJ00280	0.859	0.850	0.899	0.929	0.929	0.979	1.049	1.079	1.079	1.099	1.109	1.079
NJ00300	0.799	0.790	0.810	0.830	0.830	0.840	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.950	0.970	0.970
NJ00356	0.969	0.969	0.969	0.969	0.959	1.019	1.069	1.099	1.099	1.099	1.159	1.159
NJ00381	0.879	0.879	0.909	0.889	0.889	0.969	1.000	1.030	0.980	1.030	1.059	1.049
NJ00391	1.099	1.099	1.099	1.099	1.119	1.159	1.229	1.259	1.199	1.259	1.299	1.229
NJ00496	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.950	0.980
NJ00534	0.780	0.780	0.790	0.810	0.830	0.890	0.920	0.920	0.890	0.950	0.950	0.940
NJ00603	0.750	0.740	0.760	0.790	0.810	0.880	0.910	0.960	0.960	0.970	0.980	0.970
NJ02052	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.790	0.890	0.990	0.990	0.990	0.990	0.990
NJ02065	1.040	1.049	1.049	1.049	1.049	1.040	1.090	1.090	1.090	1.090	1.140	1.140
NJ02080	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.999	1.049	1.079	1.099	1.129	1.159	1.189	1.189	1.189
NJ02095	0.899	0.909	0.909	0.909	0.909	0.969	1.030	1.069	1.059	1.079	1.059	1.059
NJ02102	0.800	0.850	0.850	0.850	0.850	0.890	0.890	0.990	0.950	0.950	0.950	0.950
NJ02103	0.819	0.749	0.749	0.745	0.819	0.829	0.869	0.909	0.899	0.949	0.929	0.989
NJ02121	0.789	0.789	0.819	0.819	0.819	0.889	0.919	0.959	0.919	0.979	0.899	0.949
MINIMUM	0.650	0.740	0.749	0.745	0.790	0.790	0.869	0.900	0.890	0.900	0.899	0.940
MAXIMUM	1.099	1.099	1.099	1.099	1.119	1.159	1.229	1.259	1.199	1.259	1.299	1.229
AVERAGE	0.883	0.886	0.897	0.903	0.915	0.958	1.000	1.039	1.027	1.050	1.063	1.061

WINTER FUELS SURVEYS 1995-1996
USDOE/BPU
PROPANE RETAIL PRICES (\$/gal)

ID	SALES												
	9/1/94-8/31/95 (th/gal)	1995 10/02	10/16	11/06	11/20	12/04	12/18	1996 01/01	01/15	02/05	02/19	03/04	03/18
NJ00002	2,458	1.278	1.280	1.288	1.288	1.299	1.326	1.345	1.386	1.402	1.420	1.429	1.413
NJ00007	1,524	1.073	1.086	0.940	1.078	1.088	1.090	1.101	1.132	1.231	1.303	1.250	1.270
NJ00008	7,200	1.253	1.253	1.240	1.260	1.240	1.275	1.293	1.363	1.274	1.328	1.379	1.392
NJ00015	540	1.420	1.420	1.420	1.400	1.380	1.320	1.370	1.320	1.380	1.460	1.490	1.550
NJ00023	1,400	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150	1.150
NJ00103	166	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.270	1.270	1.270	1.270
NJ00141	180	1.280	1.280	1.280	1.280	1.280	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110
NJ00211	2,900	1.290	1.290	1.290	1.290	1.310	1.310	1.360	1.410	1.460	1.460	1.460	1.460
NJ00226	670	1.190	1.190	1.190	1.210	1.217	1.195	1.254	1.258	1.225	1.265	1.241	1.239
NJ00461	3,700	1.120	1.075	1.049	1.049	1.115	1.094	1.108	1.190	1.257	1.286	1.255	1.170
NJ02128	327			0.979	0.979	1.039	1.110	1.170	1.300	1.340	1.400	1.400	1.400
TOTAL SALES	21,065												
MINIMUM		1.073	1.075	0.940	0.979	1.039	1.090	1.101	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110
MAXIMUM		1.420	1.420	1.420	1.400	1.380	1.326	1.370	1.410	1.460	1.460	1.490	1.550
AVERAGE		1.230	1.227	1.189	1.203	1.215	1.203	1.228	1.261	1.282	1.314	1.312	1.311

USDOE/BPU WINTER FUELS SURVEYS

HEATING OIL

USDOE/BPU WINTER FUELS SURVEYS

PROPANE

USDOE/BPU WINTER FUELS SURVEYS

HEATING OIL/PROPANE COMPARISON