UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENERGY
1991 - 1992 HEATING OIL AND
PROPANE PRICE MONITORING PROGRAM

Introduction

In cooperation with the United States Department of Energy (USDOE), Energy Information Administration (EIA) the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (DEPE), Office of Energy participated in a program to monitor retail prices of no. 2 heating oil and propane in New Jersey.

According to program instructions, we conducted price surveys on a semi-monthly basis to obtain the necessary information from retail fuel merchants and propane dealers identified by the EIA. The period of the surveys was October 7, 1991 to March 16, 1992.

We submitted data collected as of specified reference dates to the EIA, within two working days of those dates.

Data Collection

As in the previous winter season, 17 retail fuel merchants and 20 propane dealers provided survey data. The EIA notified them of their continued participation prior to the first survey. A properly identified staff person from our office contacted participants as per the schedule specified by the EIA. The fuel merchants furnished gross retail prices of no. 2 heating oil. The propane dealers furnished retail "bulk keep full" prices of propane. On the first report date only, each propane dealer furnished the approximate sales of propane sold to residential customers in the State during the period of September 1, 1990 to August 31, 1991.

Data Reporting

As instructed, we reported survey results to the EIA as per assigned codes. The results were transmitted via PEDRO.

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Discussion of Survey Procedure

Fuel merchants and propane dealers included in the surveys were notified of their continued participation by letter. On the first survey date, our Office contact addressed any questions or concerns of participants.

In an effort to assure the accuracy of all survey results, we monitored price data carefully throughout the survey period. If EIA or Energy staff questioned it, participants were asked to verify their responses. We made corrections to data if required.

Discussion of survey Data

The seventeen retail fuel merchants and the twenty propane dealers identified by the EIA reported the required data as per the specified schedule in a timely manner. Having participated previously, they were familiar with survey procedure.

The maximum retail price of no. 2 heating oil of \$1.140 occurred on November 4 and 18, 1991. The minimum retail price of \$0.810 occurred on October 7 and 21, 1991. From October 7, 1991 to March 16, 1992 the net percent change in the average retail price was 3.0%.

The maximum retail price of propane of \$1.919 occurred from November 4, 1991 to March 16, 1992. The minimum retail price of \$0.870 occurred on October 7, 1991. From October 7, 1991 to March 16, 1992, the net percent change in the average retail price was 2.7%.

The overall activity of the prices reported during the surveys is reflected in the tables and graph supplied as Attachment 1-1A, 1B and 1-2.

WINTER FUELS SURVEYS 1991 - 1992
USDOE/NJDEPE
HEATING OIL RETAIL PRICES (\$/GAL)

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WINTER FUELS SURVEYS 1991 - 1992
USDOE/NJDEPE
PROPANE RETAIL PRICES (\$/GAL)

[illegible]

WINTER FUELS SURVEY RESULTS

USDOE/NJDEPE