

New York Oil Heating Association, Inc.

Est. 1939

Supporters of:

EMPIRE STATE PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION, INC.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR OILHEAT RESEARCH & EDUCATION
NATIONAL OILHEAT RESEARCH ALLIANCE, INC.
PETROLEUM MARKETERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
TRI STATE OILHEAT CONSUMER EDUCATION ALLIANCE



CARLA ROMITA, PRESIDENT
JAMES CORETTI, VICE PRESIDENT
MICHAEL PROSCIA, SECRETARY
DAVID SCHILDWACHTER, TREASURER
LAWRENCE SCUDER, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

JOHN D. MANISCALCO, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

December 10, 2009

**The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515**

Dear Senator Schumer,

On behalf of the numerous family-owned home heating oil distributors and 1.4 million oil-heated housing units in New York City, and in the interest of the industry's transformation to a cleaner and more efficient bio-blended home heating oil product; the 1939 established New York Oil Heating Association urges your support for a one-year renewal of the federal \$1 per-gallon Biodiesel blender's tax credit, which is currently set to expire on December 31, 2009.

On December 9, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a renewal of the tax credit as part of H.R.4213, the Tax Extenders Act of 2009. Despite its busy schedule this month, the Senate must do the same. Timely renewal of this tax credit is vital in light of the planned transformation of heating oil in the United States to 15 parts per million, ultra-low sulfur and bio-blended product, as pledged at an industry summit in Baltimore, Maryland on September 15, 2009:

The heating oil industry recommends and will encourage the Congress and appropriate state bodies to mandate the following changes for heating oil:

- **That by July 2010 of next year, all heating oil will be mixed with a bio component that meets the appropriate specifications to ensure that at least 2 percent of the fuel is renewable. Those levels shall increase over time as technical and economic feasibility permit;**
- **That by July 2011, the petroleum base stock we now call "heating oil" will be transitioned to ultra low sulfur diesel fuel; and,**
- **That in the interest of lowering the carbon intensity of heating oil applications, training will be provided to heating oil companies on thermal solar applications.**

The industry has made this pledge in order to bring to the consumer a new home heating fuel that is in-line with Congressional goals to increase domestic energy and environmental security, including a reduction in imported petroleum and nation-wide greenhouse gas emissions. Equipment manufactures and the American Society for Testing and Materials has approved up to a 5% blend for use in existing oil-fired home heating systems, and the industry is working to raise that percentage to 20%, a blend that has proved itself effective for use in residential heating oil systems. Some states are already moving to a bio blend, and New York City is actively considering similar legislation

as well. On a national basis, should the whole industry move to at least a 5% bio-blended fuel, it could displace 400 million gallons of petroleum-based heating oil each year.

However, federal policies that support the U.S. Biodiesel industry, such as the \$1 per gallon federal Biodiesel tax credit, are needed in order to help facilitate this transition. The tax credit is vital to the continued viability of the 173 Biodiesel plants already in operation, and the 39 new plants currently under development, including plants that will serve states with large numbers of heating oil consumers and dealers. Some of the plants in these states also plan to experiment with converting domestic feedstocks into biofuels, including waste oils and wood.

Again, on behalf of NYOHA I urge you and your colleagues to pass into law a 1 year extension to the \$1 per gallon federal Biodiesel Tax Credit; a move that is vital to the heating oil industry and the consumers it serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Maniscalco", written in a cursive style.

John Maniscalco
Chief Executive Officer

New York Oil Heating Association, Inc.

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December 10, 2009

**The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515**

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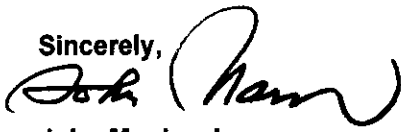
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