

## **Comments on SB 382 from Paul Hoar, President, AgriFuels LLC. March 12, 2010**

My name is Paul Hoar and I am President of AgriFuels LLC, a biodiesel quality consulting company located in Glastonbury, CT. We assist producers, marketers and laboratories become BQ 9000 accredited and assist our customers determine the quality of their biodiesel through our Biofuels Quality Trending Service. I am also the treasurer of the Connecticut Biodiesel / Bioheat Association.

I would like to speak in favor of SB382.

The environmental benefits of SB 382 are substantial. Sulfur reduction from 3000 parts per million to 15 parts per million in heating oil will significantly reduce the effects of acid rain in CT and the Northeast. Introduction of an ever increasing biodiesel component into heating oil from 2% to 20% will help make heating oil a very clean fuel. Significant reductions of unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and particulate matter will occur. In addition, for every percentage point of biodiesel used in heating oil there will be a corresponding reduction in Nitrous Oxide, a major green house gas, according to the National Energy Renewable Lab of the Department of Energy.

The provisions in the section on quality control standards will help insure these benefits are achieved. The Department of Consumer Protection will have the authority to verify that the biodiesel offered for sale conforms to the specifications mandated by the EPA for biodiesel with the designation of ASTM D6751. The DCP will be insuring compliance with the "critical specifications" of the biodiesel component whether it is produced in the state or is imported. Assisting the DCP insure compliance will be the newly created ASTM lab at the Center of Environmental Services and Engineering at UCONN with equipment funds made available by the state legislature last year. In-state producers and marketers will be able to reduce their testing costs and show compliance to the DCP through this "critical specifications" testing protocol, designated Tier II testing, at UCONN.

Section 2 b (2) contains a provision for the states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York to adopt requirements that are "substantially similar" to the biodiesel blend components in the bill.

As many of you know, the Massachusetts legislature passed the Clean Energy Biofuels Act in July 2008 requiring the use of 2% biodiesel in heating oil and diesel motor fuel starting in July 2010 and increasing to 5% in 2013. The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources is studying the benefits of applying the percentage mandates on a statewide average basis rather than for every gallon of diesel motor fuel sold.

In Rhode Island, House bill H7653 introduced last month calls for the reduction of sulfur in heating oil to 15 ppm. This bill also requires an introduction of bio-based diesel into heating oil up to 5% over a similar time frame to SB 382.

The New York State Assembly has already passed an Ultra Low Sulfur (15 parts per million) Heating Oil bill and will be looking to implement legislation for a biodiesel component in the heating oil.

One might argue that the requirements in Massachusetts and those being introduced in Rhode Island and New York are substantially similar to those in this bill.

On a positive note, the U.S. Senate yesterday passed the IRS \$1 per gallon incentive so the future looks bright for the industry in 2010 as it strives to meet the approximately 700 million gallon biodiesel requirement of the EPA RFS2 mandate. What Connecticut's portion is of that requirement is not clear but, by approving SB382, we will be making significant headway into the national effort to clean up our environment and to locally put people back to work.

Thank you for your time. Do you have any questions?