RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
235 Promenade Street, Room 425
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

March 26, 2020

Dear Interested Parties,

On March 9, 2020 Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo issued Executive Order 20-02, declaring a state of emergency for Rhode Island, and on March 13, 2020, the President issued a national state of emergency declaration for the country.

RIDEM has evaluated the impact that the COVID-19 public health threat and the declarations by state and national leaders have had on fuel supplies in Rhode Island. Based on this evaluation, RIDEM has determined that as a result of the public health threat and the emergency declarations relating to COVID-19, the public's driving habits have significantly decreased to the point where gasoline consumption has drastically dropped. RIDEM is aware that distributors are experiencing an over-supply of winter fuel relative to this time of year, making it difficult or impossible to shift supplies to a lower volatility fuel.

Based on the above conditions, RIDEM hereby waives the ASTM Class D-4 compliance requirements set out in Section 31-37-7.1(b) of the Rhode Island General Laws, and extends the ASTM Class-E-5 compliance requirement for gasoline through the month of April. This waiver shall take effect as of the date of this letter and continue through April 30, 2020.

Please contact Laurie Grandchamp, RIDEM Administrator of Air Resources, if you have any questions. She can be reached by email at laurie.grandchamp@dem.ri.gov or by phone at (401) 222-4700 extension 7143.

Sincerely,

Janet Coit
Director