

## Background Paper on the Proposed Wisconsin's Clean Energy Jobs Act

Dear Propane/Heating Oil/ Motor Fuel patron,

As you probably know, we are at the mercy of the market when we purchase our energy products and have little influence over the price we have to pay for the products we deliver to your farm or business. But now, the state government is considering energy policies that will have a direct effect forcing higher prices on electricity, home heating and motor fuels as a result of the proposed "Wisconsin Clean Energy Jobs Act" and those higher prices will be paid by you.

Members of the Legislature are holding public hearings on the proposed Wisconsin's Clean Energy Jobs Act. As drafted, it will increase the price of propane and heating oil for the specific purpose of funding a state energy conservation program. It will cause increases in the price of electricity, motor fuels and heating fuels to force you to use less. The thinking is that it will force you to get more efficient vehicles and update your heated buildings and home to be more energy efficient.

We all agree that energy conservation is important to help reduce energy use and saving you, the consumer, money, regardless of your opinion about man-made global warming. But the costs of such programs do matter. Unfortunately, the Legislature has not divulged what the costs and benefits of creating an energy conservation program for propane, motor fuels and heating oil would be. We believe you deserve a fair assessment of the program costs you will ultimately pay and any benefits you might gain.

The proposed bill will also include a provision that would likely lead to a low-carbon fuel standard. Based on the "carbon footprint" of the fuel used this would give a pricing advantage to countries that have not been our most reliable trading partners. Now, we get most of our fuel from Canadian oil.

Your legislators should not lose sight of the fact that this proposed stimulus process will likely raise energy prices and take additional money out of your pocket. Just as you expect us to provide you with information for the costs of the products you buy from us, you may also want to ask your state legislator, "What are all the costs of this proposed legislation and what will I receive for the increased cost."

Thank you for considering the possible impacts of the proposed Wisconsin Clean Energy Jobs Act. Contact your legislator to express your opinion.

Sincerely,

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