



JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah Department of Commerce

FRANCINE GIANI
Executive Director

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Deputy Director

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MEDIA ALERT

Commerce requests information from Utah Gas Industry in pricing probe
“Consumers now have access to the lowest gas prices through State websites”
(For immediate release...)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Francine A. Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that letters have been sent to the attention of Lee Peacock, Utah Petroleum Association and John Hill, Utah Petroleum Marketers & Retailers Association requesting financial information to aid the Division of Consumer Protection’s investigation into Utah’s high gas prices. The letters to the Utah Petroleum Association requested copies of financial statements, crude oil pricing and purchasing histories, along with records of “rack” industry pricing for refineries that supply Utah consumers. The letter addressed to the Utah Petroleum Marketers & Retailers Association requested daily pump pricing and bill of lading information for twenty four randomly chosen retail outlets around Utah. The three letters were sent as a result of the initial meeting September 19, 2006 between Department of Commerce employees and representatives from Utah’s gas refineries and retailers.

“As we investigate Utah’s high gas prices, I would advise consumers to use their purchasing power to find stations offering discounted prices at the pump,” said Francine Giani, Executive Director for the Department of Commerce, “If every Utahn makes an extra effort to find the best price, retailers will be forced to lower prices.”

In addition to steps being taken by Giani and her investigative team, Governor Huntsman and the Department of Commerce have added links to find Utah’s lowest gas prices through their websites. You can find the Governor’s link at www.utah.gov/governor by going to the Quick Links section and clicking on “Find Cheap Gas Prices in Utah”. There is also a link at the Commerce Department website at www.commerce.utah.gov

On September 15, 2006 Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. asked Francine Giani, Executive Director of the Department of Commerce to investigate Utah’s high gas prices after local prices edged higher than national averages. Once the investigation is complete, the Department of Commerce will submit a report to Governor Huntsman and the media for review.

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