



Media Contact:

Jamie Py, President, Maine Energy Marketers Association

[Jamie@maineenergymarketers.com](mailto:Jamie@maineenergymarketers.com)

(207) 729-5298

New ultra-low sulfur heating oil (ULSHO) represents cleanest home heating oil yet

*Reduces emissions by over 99 percent.*

BRUNSWICK, Maine — July 16, 2018 — Home heating oil delivered in Maine will have dramatically lower sulfur content as part of a new standard proposed and supported by the industry starting this month. The new standard caps the amount of sulfur in residential heating oil at 15 parts per million (ppm). The prior limit was 5,000 ppm.

“Heating oil is getting even cleaner in Maine,” said Jamie Py, president, Maine Energy Marketers Association. “This new standard drastically reduces emissions and improves homeowners’ heating efficiency without them having to purchase a new heating system. Mainers will save money and help the environment by simply doing nothing.”

### **Benefits of ultra-low sulfur heating oil (ULSHO) for consumers**

- ULSHO is the cleanest heating oil ever produced, emitting almost zero particulates, cutting sulfur dioxide emissions by 99 percent and nitrous oxide emissions by 10 percent compared to traditional heating oil. Emissions from this cleaner heating oil are the equivalent of natural gas according to research conducted at [Brookhaven National Laboratory](#).
- With virtually no sulfur in the fuel, oil heating systems can burn fuel more efficiently, leading to lower heating bills.
- Running ULSHO fuel produces 90 percent less ash and 40 times less soot than regular heating oil. Cleaner burning fuel means less build-up and gunk on heat exchangers, leading to longer equipment life, especially for boilers and furnaces. This means the heat stays in your home and less goes up the chimney. Additionally, taking sulfur out of heating oil causes no problems for heating equipment or storage tanks.
- ULSHO requires no modification to existing heating systems, however, consumers now have the option to install super-efficient heating systems previously unavailable. And,

this clean fuel can be blended with renewable biodiesel and used with existing equipment and fuel storage tanks.

For more technical details, see Ultra Low Sulfur Home Heating Oil Demonstration Project. 2015 study funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) conducted at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Report available at <https://www.bnl.gov/isd/documents/89253.pdf>

### **About Maine Energy Marketers Association**

MEMA has more than 300 members including 125 heating oil, propane, biofuels, pellets, electricity, motor fuels providers as well as convenience store owners who serve more than 415,000 Maine households and keep nearly 1 million Maine people warm and cozy. MEMA also has more than 175 associate members who provide goods and services to Maine's petroleum dealers and their customers.

In addition, our members own and operate 70% of Maine's 1,300 convenience stores, through which we sell more than 1 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel. Our members also sell more than 90% of all the propane sold in our state each year.

### **About MEMA Technical Education Center**

MEMA members own and operate the state's leading non-profit 501c(3) HVAC-R training facility, MEMA Technical Education Center (MTEC). Overseen by an all-volunteer Education Committee comprised of business owners and associates currently working in the industry, MTEC's curriculum continually evolves to reflect relevant trends, advancements and industry best practices, ensuring your employees possess the qualifications necessary to provide unsurpassed service to your customers.