



June 25, 2014

The Honorable Doc Hastings, Chairman  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Hastings:

The New England Fuel Institute writes to endorse the “Lowering Gasoline Prices to Fuel an America that Works Act” (H.R.4899). We commend you for introducing this legislation which will help to reduce energy costs for small businesses and consumers in New England and throughout the country. We further understand this legislation is currently being considered on the House floor and urge all members to support its passage.

The New England Fuel Institute (NEFI) represents the home heating oil and Bioheat<sup>®</sup> fuels industry in the six-state region and has done so for over 70 years. Our membership includes more than 1,000 home heating oil, kerosene and propane dealers and related services companies in New England and throughout the Northeast. Our members and consumers would benefit from a diverse and comprehensive national policy that removes barriers to development of all forms of American energy and that unleashes the full potential of the American economy. We believe that H.R.4899 is an important step in this direction.

If enacted, H.R.4899 would ensure a national off-shore development plan includes energy-rich areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts; strengthen environmental and safety regulations for off-shore energy operations; streamline the leasing and permitting processes for developing energy resources on federal lands; allow the country to move forward with the development of oil from kerogen rock (also known as oil shale); green-light the development of American energy resources in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A); share federal leasing revenues with energy producing states; allow internet-based bidding for oil and gas leases; and require the creation of a national strategic plan for on-shore and off-shore energy development.

When combined with smart investments in energy infrastructure and transportation, H.R.4899 would help lower heating costs for American homes and small businesses in New England and beyond. Again, thank you for introducing this important legislation and we support its immediate passage.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Trunzo  
President & CEO

cc: The New England Congressional Delegation

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