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Heating Oil Price Averages Dropping Slightly

Augusta--- The Governor’s Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted and is publishing the first oil survey of the off season and has found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.10 per gallon**.

“In these difficult economic times our office wants to provide oil consumers with the best information on prices across the state and in their region.” says OEIS Director John Kerry.

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$1.65 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The high-end price of \$2.40 per gallon was found in the Central region. At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$48.53. The statewide kerosene price average is \$2.54 per gallon at this time. The table below provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny.

As Of April 27, 2009

Heating Oil	Statewide	Southwest	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern
Average	2.10	1.95	2.16	2.19	1.99	2.28
High	2.40	2.15	2.40	2.30	2.10	2.35
Low	1.65	1.65	2.01	2.10	1.75	2.20
Kerosene	2.54	2.40	2.65	2.60	2.46	2.68

For assistance please contact MaineHousing about their Home Energy Loan Program (HELP) that provides low interest rate loans of up to \$30,000 to low- and moderate-income homeowners to finance a wide variety of energy-related improvements to their homes. For program details and a list of HELP lenders visit MaineHousing’s website at www.mainehousing.org or call 1-877-544-3271. Many projects funded through this program save more money through the improvements than the loan payments they have to make. Businesses should take advantage of Efficiency Maine’s small business loan program to make energy upgrades: http://www.energymaine.com/business_programs.htm

The next survey is scheduled for May 4, 2009.