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Mike Beam, Secretary

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## KDA Statement on E15 Fuel in Kansas

In Kansas, the authority to enforce fuel content lies with the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Although there has been some question recently regarding the legality of E15 as a motor vehicle fuel in Kansas, KDA has determined that it is legal and allowable and available for year-round sale at retail facilities in Kansas. In recent months, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment gave final approval of year-round E15 sales in the Kansas City metro area and that decision is awaiting pending approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Kansas Statute K.S.A. 55-441 establishes that the Secretary of Agriculture has authority to adopt rules and regulations establishing standards for and identity of any petroleum product. These rules and regulations shall conform, insofar as practicable, to the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) petroleum testing standards and also conform to the clean air act waivers of the EPA.

E15 was recognized as a defined automotive motor fuel by EPA in February 2012 and E15 was approved in 2019 by EPA for the summer driving season of June 1–September 15 due to a one-pound Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) waiver that allows for E15 sales during this time period. From September 16–May 31 the authority lies with the State of Kansas so the EPA waiver is not applicable. The recognition of E15 by EPA as a defined and recognized fuel for year-round use makes E15 a legal motor vehicle fuel in Kansas.

E15 is one of the most tested fuels in history and those tests have indicated that outside of the summer driving season temperatures, the RVP of E15 is equal to that of E10. Samples of E15 collected by KDA and submitted to a third-party lab for analysis consistently show that the RVP of E15 is at least 0.3 psi lower than comparable samples of E10.

The number of Kansas fuel retailers offering higher ethanol blends continues to increase under the USDA Higher Blends Infrastructure Improvement Program. It is clear that E15 is a clean burning, cost effective fuel legally available in Kansas. The benefits of ethanol blended fuels can be realized by all Kansans including agriculture producers, ethanol manufacturers and the general motoring public.

Michael M. Beam, Secretary of Agriculture

3/11/2021

Date