

Senate Bill No. 1962

CHAPTER 288

An act to amend Sections 25000.5, 25350, 25354, 25356, and 25364 of, and to add Section 25141 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to petroleum fuel.

[Approved by Governor August 31, 2000. Filed with Secretary of State September 1, 2000.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1962, Costa. Petroleum products: reports.

Existing law requires each refiner of petroleum products to submit monthly information to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, including information on feedstock inputs, origin of petroleum receipts, refinery outputs, refinery stocks, and finished product supply and distribution, and each major marketer of petroleum products to report on petroleum and petroleum product receipts, inventories, and distributions.

This bill would require refiners to additionally report on imports and exports of petroleum products, including the sale of gasoline sold "unbranded" by the refiner, blender or importer. The bill would also require marketers to report on receipts of finished petroleum products and blendstocks, by type, through branded and unbranded distribution networks, and exports of unfinished petroleum products and blendstocks, by type. The bill would define "unbranded" for these purposes.

Existing law requires the commission to gather, analyze, and interpret the information submitted to it pursuant to the foregoing provisions concerning, among other things, motor fuel prices, and any significant changes in prices charged by the petroleum industry for petroleum or petroleum products sold in California and the reasons for those changes.

This bill would additionally require the commission to gather, analyze, and interpret information submitted to it concerning sales of fuel to unbranded retail markets.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 25000.5 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

25000.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that overdependence on the production, marketing, and consumption of petroleum based fuels as an energy resource in the transportation sector is a threat to the energy security of the state due to continuing



market and supply uncertainties. In addition, petroleum use as an energy resource contributes substantially to the following public health and environmental problems: air pollution, acid rain, global warming, and the degradation of California's marine environment and fisheries.

(b) Therefore, it is the policy of this state to fully evaluate the economic and environmental costs of petroleum use, and the economic and environmental costs of other transportation fuels, including the costs and values of environmental impacts, and to establish a state transportation energy policy that results in the least environmental and economic cost to the state. In pursuing the "least environmental and economic cost" strategy, it is the policy of the state to exploit all practicable and cost-effective conservation and improvements in the efficiency of energy use and distribution, and to achieve energy security, diversity of supply sources, and competitiveness of transportation energy markets based on the least environmental and economic cost.

(c) For the purposes of this section, "petroleum based fuels" means fuels derived from liquid unrefined crude oil, including natural gas liquids, liquefied petroleum gas, or the energy fraction of methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) or other ethers that is not attributed to natural gas.

SEC. 2. Section 25141 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

25141. "Unbranded," as applied to fuel, means gasoline and diesel fuel sold for wholesale or retail distribution to consumers without proprietary additives or marketing under a brand name or trademark owned or controlled by an independent refiner or an integrated refining and marketing company.

SEC. 3. Section 25350 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

25350. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the petroleum industry is an essential element of the California economy and is therefore of vital importance to the health and welfare of all Californians.

(b) The Legislature further finds and declares that a complete and thorough understanding of the operations of the petroleum industry is required by state government at all times to enable it to respond to possible shortages, oversupplies, or other disruptions and to assess whether all consumers, including emergency service agencies, state and local government agencies, and agricultural and business consumers of petroleum products have adequate and economic supplies of fuel.

(c) The Legislature further finds and declares that information and data concerning all aspects of the petroleum industry, including, but not limited to, crude oil production, production and supplies of finished branded and unbranded gasoline, supplies of diesel fuel and



other distillates, supplies of blendstocks used to make gasoline and other refined products, refining, product output, exports of finished gasoline, diesel fuel, and blendstocks, prices, distribution, demand, and investment choices and decisions are essential for the state to develop and administer energy policies that are in the interest of the state's economy and the public's well-being.

SEC. 4. Section 25354 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

25354. (a) Each refiner and major marketer shall submit information each month to the commission in such form and extent as the commission prescribes pursuant to this section. The information shall be submitted within 30 days after the end of each monthly reporting period and shall include the following:

(1) Refiners shall report, for each of their refineries, feedstock inputs, origin of petroleum receipts, imports of finished petroleum products and blendstocks, by type, including the source of those imports, exports of finished petroleum products and blendstocks, by type, including the destination of those exports, refinery outputs, refinery stocks, and finished product supply and distribution, including all gasoline sold unbranded by the refiner, blender, or importer.

(2) Major marketers shall report on petroleum product receipts and the sources of these receipts, inventories of finished petroleum products and blendstocks, by type, distributions through branded and unbranded distribution networks, and exports of finished petroleum products and blendstocks, by type, from the state.

(b) Each major oil producer, refiner, marketer, oil transporter, and oil storer shall annually submit information to the commission in such form and extent as the commission prescribes pursuant to this section. The information shall be submitted within 30 days after the end of each reporting period, and shall include the following:

(1) Major oil transporters shall report on petroleum by reporting the capacities of each major transportation system, the amount transported by each system, and inventories thereof. The commission may prescribe rules and regulations that exclude pipeline and transportation modes operated entirely on property owned by major oil transporters from the reporting requirements of this section if the data or information is not needed to fulfill the purposes of this chapter. The provision of the information shall not be construed to increase or decrease any authority the Public Utilities Commission may otherwise have.

(2) Major oil storers shall report on storage capacity, inventories, receipts and distributions, and methods of transportation of receipts and distributions.

(3) Major oil producers shall, with respect to thermally enhanced oil recovery operations, report annually by designated oil field, the monthly use, as fuel, of crude oil and natural gas.



(4) Refiners shall report on facility capacity, and utilization and method of transportation of refinery receipts and distributions.

(5) Major oil marketers shall report on facility capacity and methods of transportation of receipts and distributions.

(c) Each person required to report pursuant to subdivision (a) shall submit a projection each month of the information to be submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) for the quarter following the month in which the information is submitted to the commission.

(d) In addition to the data required under subdivision (a), each integrated oil refiner (produces, refines, transports, and markets in interstate commerce) who supplies more than 500 branded retail outlets in California shall submit to the commission an annual industry forecast for Petroleum Administration for Defense, District V (covering Arizona, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, and Hawaii). The forecast shall include the information to be submitted under subdivision (a), and shall be submitted by March 15 of each year. The commission may require California-specific forecasts. However, those forecasts shall be required only if the commission finds them necessary to carry out its responsibilities.

(e) The commission may by order or regulation modify the reporting period as to any individual item of information setting forth in the order or regulation its reason for so doing.

(f) The commission may request additional information as necessary to perform its responsibilities under this chapter.

(g) Any person required to submit information or data under this chapter, in lieu thereof, may submit a report made to any other governmental agency, if:

(1) The alternate report or reports contain all of the information or data required by specific request under this chapter.

(2) The person clearly identifies the specific request to which the alternate report is responsive.

(h) Each refiner shall submit to the commission, within 30 days after the end of each monthly reporting period, all of the following information in such form and extent as the commission prescribes:

(1) Monthly California weighted average prices and sales volumes of finished leaded regular, unleaded regular, and premium motor gasoline sold through company-operated retail outlets, to other end-users, and to wholesale customers.

(2) Monthly California weighted average prices and sales volumes for residential sales, commercial and institutional sales, industrial sales, sales through company-operated retail outlets, sales to other end-users, and wholesale sales of No. 2 diesel fuel and No. 2 fuel oil.

(3) Monthly California weighted average prices and sales volumes for retail sales and wholesale sales of No. 1 distillate, kerosene, finished aviation gasoline, kerosene-type jet fuel, No. 4 fuel oil, residual fuel oil with 1 percent or less sulfur, residual fuel oil with greater than 1 percent sulfur and consumer grade propane.



SEC. 5. Section 25356 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

25356. (a) The commission, utilizing its own staff and other support staff having expertise and experience in, or with, the petroleum industry, shall gather, analyze, and interpret the information submitted to it pursuant to Section 25354 and other information relating to the supply and price of petroleum products, with particular emphasis on motor vehicle fuels, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) The nature, cause, and extent of any petroleum or petroleum products shortage or condition affecting supply.

(2) The economic and environmental impacts of any petroleum and petroleum product shortage or condition affecting supply.

(3) Petroleum or petroleum product demand and supply forecasting methodologies utilized by the petroleum industry in California.

(4) The prices, with particular emphasis on retail motor fuel prices, including sales to unbranded retail markets, and any significant changes in prices charged by the petroleum industry for petroleum or petroleum products sold in California and the reasons for those changes.

(5) The profits, both before and after taxes, of the industry as a whole and of major firms within it, including a comparison with other major industry groups and major firms within them as to profits, return on equity and capital, and price-earnings ratio.

(6) The emerging trends relating to supply, demand, and conservation of petroleum and petroleum products.

(7) The nature and extent of efforts of the petroleum industry to expand refinery capacity and to make acquisitions of additional supplies of petroleum and petroleum products, including activities relative to the exploration, development, and extraction of resources within the state.

(8) The development of a petroleum and petroleum products information system in a manner that will enable the state to take action to meet and mitigate any petroleum or petroleum products shortage or condition affecting supply.

(b) The commission shall analyze the impacts of state and federal policies and regulations upon the supply and pricing of petroleum products.

SEC. 6. Section 25364 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

25364. (a) Any person required to present information to the commission pursuant to Section 25354 may request that specific information be held in confidence.

(b) Information presented to the commission pursuant to Section 25354 shall be held in confidence by the commission or aggregated to the extent necessary to assure confidentiality if public disclosure



of the specific information or data would result in unfair competitive disadvantage to the person supplying the information.

(c) (1) Whenever the commission receives a request to publicly disclose unaggregated information, or otherwise proposes to publicly disclose information submitted pursuant to Section 25354, notice of the request or proposal shall be provided to the person submitting the information. The notice shall indicate the form in which the information is to be released. Upon receipt of notice, the person submitting the information shall have 10 working days in which to respond to the notice to justify the claim of confidentiality on each specific item of information covered by the notice on the basis that public disclosure of the specific information would result in unfair competitive disadvantage to the person supplying the information.

(2) The commission shall consider the respondent's submittal in determining whether to publicly disclose the information submitted to it to which a claim of confidentiality is made. The commission shall issue a written decision which sets forth its reasons for making the determination whether each item of information for which a claim of confidentiality is made shall remain confidential or shall be publicly disclosed.

(d) The commission shall not make public disclosure of information submitted to it pursuant to Section 25354 within 10 working days after the commission has issued its written decision required in this section.

(e) No information submitted to the commission pursuant to Section 25354 shall be deemed confidential if the person submitting the information or data has made it public.

(f) With respect to petroleum products and blendstocks reported by type pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25354 and information provided pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 25354, neither the commission nor any employee of the commission may do any of the following:

(1) Use the information furnished under paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25354 or under subdivision (h) of Section 25354 for any purpose other than the statistical purposes for which it is supplied.

(2) Make any publication whereby the information furnished by any particular establishment or individual under paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25354 or under subdivision (h) of Section 25354 can be identified.

(3) Permit anyone other than commission members and employees of the commission to examine the individual reports provided under paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25354 or under subdivision (h) of Section 25354.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commission may disclose confidential information received pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 25310.4 or Section 25354 to the State Air



Resources Board if the state board agrees to keep the information confidential. With respect to the information it receives, the state board shall be subject to all pertinent provisions of this section.

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