

EPA Approves Tropical Storm-Related Waiver for Florida

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(8/22/08) Today, Stephen L. Johnson, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency exercised his authority under the Clean Air Act to temporarily waive federal clean fuel requirements for Duval County in Florida (Jacksonville area). This waiver was granted at the request of the State of Florida and in coordination with the Department of Energy.

Administrator Johnson determined that Tropical Storm Fay caused extreme and unusual circumstances, resulting in a shortage of compliant fuel in the Jacksonville area. The federal waiver will ensure an adequate supply of gasoline in the affected area. This waiver will allow greater flexibility for the fuel distribution system during and in the immediate aftermath of the storm.

This waiver is effective immediately and will continue through midnight on August 27, 2008. The waiver applies to the 7.8 RVP (Reid vapor pressure) gasoline volatility requirements for Duval County in Florida. In assessing the local circumstances, EPA and DOE consulted with state and industry officials to determine the extent and duration of the fuel supply disruption. Gasoline volatility standards are imposed during summer months to help control emissions from motor vehicles; temporary suspension of such standards will allow for the sale of available supplies of conventional gasoline which have higher volatility limits. EPA and DOE carefully examined all aspects of the fuel supply situation in the Jacksonville area and, in accordance with statutory provisions, determined that granting a short-term waiver was consistent with the public interest.

More information: [/www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/caa/fuelwaivers/](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/caa/fuelwaivers/)