1 BEFORE THE STATE OF NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY 2 IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION TO AMEND THE FUEL 4 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS SURCHARGE FOR TAXICAB RIDES. OF LAW AND ORDER 5 6 At a hearing of the STATE OF NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY ("Taxicab Authority"), 7 8 held at the Nevada State Business Center, 3300 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 400, Las Vegas, 9 NV 89102. 10 PRESENT: Dan R. Reaser, Chair Roger C. Thompson, Ph.D. Vice-Chair 11 Don Soderberg, Member J.D. Decker, Member 12 Karl W. Armstrong, Administrator 13 Asheesh Bhalla (audiovisual), Deputy Attorney General 14 The Taxicab Authority makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and 15 Order. 16 FINDINGS OF FACT 17 1. By previous Board vote and an order of the Taxicab Authority dated August 17, 18 2015, the Taxicab Authority ordered 19 "[t]hat a twenty cent (20¢) fuel surcharge shall be added to the metered mile for 20 Clark County taxicabs automatically anytime the cost of regular unleaded fuel rises above \$3.25 per gallon on average during a thirty (30) day period. The fuel 21 surcharge may be reviewed if the unleaded fuel drops below \$3.25 per gallon for 22 thirty (30) consecutive days, the Taxicab Authority Administrator is authorized to remove the surcharge." 23 24 See Exhibit 1, pp. 16-17. 25 26 27

- 2. At that time, the Board found that it "may review the fuel surcharge if the cost of fuel rises above \$4.45 per gallon for a continuing average over a 30 day period." *Id.*, p. 15, lines 11-13.
- 3. At a public hearing on August 26, 2021, the Board voted to affirm its August 17, 2015 order regarding the fuel surcharge and mandated its implementation for all taxicab rides, since the conditions for its imposition had been met at that time.
- 4. At that time, the Board of the Taxicab Authority also voted to amend its previous order and require all certificate holders to add for each compensable "zone" trip a one dollar (\$1.00) fuel surcharge to each of the three flat rate zone prices previously ordered, while the conditions described in the 8/17/15 Order were met.
- 5. The Board's Order from the August 26, 2021 hearing was filed on August 30, 2021, and remains in effect. *Id.*, pp. 6-12.
- 6. On March 30, 2022, certificate holders Henderson Taxi, Whittlesea Bell, Nevada Yellow Cab Corporation, Nevada Checker Cab Corporation. Nevada Star Cab Corporation, Blue Desert, and Desert Cab filed their "Application to Amend Fuel Surcharge Rates" at the office of the Taxicab Authority. See Exhibit 1.
- 7. In their application, the aforementioned certificate holders noted the sustained increase in gas prices and requested approval by the Board of a proposed modification of the fuel surcharge rate in a specific tiered fashion, to reflect the current fuel prices and plan for possible future fuel price increases.
- 8. On March 31, 2022 a notice of a public hearing for "An application to amend the fuel surcharge for taxicab rides" was published in the Las Vegas Review-Journal, with a date set for the hearing before the Taxicab Authority of April 20, 2022.

- 9. On or about April 7, 2022, a Notice and Agenda for April 20, 2022 were issued and posted. The Taxicab Authority's Agenda included an item 6- "Public Hearing in the Matter of an Application to Amend the Fuel Surcharge for Taxicab Rides," noted for discussion and possible action.
- 10. The following filed a Petition to Intervene in this matter: 1) YCS Acquisition LLC, Twenty-First Century Taxi, LLC, Cab Transport, LLC, and Taxi Transport, LLC, on April 1, 2022.
- 11. On April 20, 2022, a public hearing was held regarding the above-entitled matter in compliance with the provisions of the Nevada Open Meeting Law, the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 706 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"), at which time the applicants and intervener appeared and were permitted to be heard. Public comment was also allowed.
- 12. On April 20, 2022, the Taxicab Authority considered agenda item 6- "Public Hearing in the Matter of an Application to Amend the Fuel Surcharge for Taxicab Rides."
- 13. The applicants were represented at the hearing by attorney Kimberly Maxson-Rushton. Industry members also spoke to the Board on behalf of the respective applicants, and in favor of the application's proposals regarding the fuel surcharge.
- 14. An exhibit was submitted to the Board at the time of the hearing by the applicants, a document further detailing information and calculations in support of the proposed modification of the fuel surcharge rate in a specific tiered fashion. This exhibit was admitted into evidence and considered by the Board. See Exhibit 2.
- 15. A correction was made on the record for the application at page 2, line 16 to read "\$6.86-\$8.06 .24¢ fuel surcharge" instead of ""\$6.86-\$7.05 .24¢ fuel surcharge". This

correction was approved by the presiding Chair, and the application was considered with this correction noted.

- 16. During discussion of the application, applicant YCS acknowledged the variance in the PADD 5 rates for regular gasoline and diesel and stipulated to this application's request being limited to the price of regular gasoline.
- 17. Discussion was had between Board members, the applicants and intervener, the Administrator, and industry members regarding the proposals in this application and its effects.
- 18. After discussion and deliberation, all four members of the Taxicab Authority at the April 20, 2022 hearing, having fully considered the law and being fully advised in the premises, voted unanimously in favor of a motion to approve the applicants' "Application to Amend Fuel Surcharge Rates" in full, adopting the tiered fuel surcharge proposal as described in the application (and corrected on the record) for all compensable taxicab rides (both metered and "zone") in Clark County.
- 19. The Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration survey on Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices, Regular Grade West Coast ("PADD 5"), has been used by the Taxicab Authority to calculate the cost of fuel. As of the date of this Order, that price has remained "above \$4.45 per gallon for a continuing average over a 30 day period."
- 20. If any of the foregoing findings of fact is more appropriately construed as a conclusion of law, it may be so construed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Taxicab Authority finds that the Findings of Fact, as well as the argument and statements presented, support the following Conclusions of Law by a preponderance of the evidence:

- 1. The area to be affected by this order is Clark County, Nevada.
- 2. The Taxicab Authority is duly constituted and may regulate the conduct of the taxicab business pursuant to NRS 706.8818.
- 3. Generally, the Taxicab Authority may attach to the exercise of the rights granted by the allocation of taxicab medallions any terms and conditions which in its judgment the public interest may require. NRS 706.8824(5).
- 4. The Taxicab Authority is directed by law to review the rates, charges or fares of the certificate holders in its jurisdiction. NRS 706.8824(6)(b).
- 5. The Taxicab Authority may adjust, alter or change the rates, charges or fares for taxicab service, and is the only entity authorized to do so for taxicab service within its jurisdiction. NRS 706.8819(1)(a), NAC 706.471(1).
- 6. The rates, charges or fares of all certificate holders within a county under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority must be uniform, unless there is a showing that the public interest requires otherwise. NAC 706.471(3).
- 7. The April 20, 2022 hearing was noticed in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Code, including NAC 706.924.
- 8. In conducting any investigation, inquiry or hearing, neither the Authority nor any of its officers or employees are bound by the technical rules of evidence, and no informality in any proceeding or in the manner of taking of testimony will invalidate any order, decision, rule or regulation made or approved by the Authority. NAC 706.948(1).

- 9. The Taxicab Authority's adoption of this proposed modification of the fuel surcharge rate in a specific tiered fashion, to reflect the current fuel prices and plan for possible future fuel price increases, is a reasonable and permissible use of its authority to regulate the taxicab industry and its rates.
- 10. If any of the foregoing conclusions of law is more appropriately construed as a finding of fact, it may be so construed.

<u>ORDER</u>

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Taxicab Authority GRANTS the certificate holders' (Henderson Taxi, Whittlesea Bell, Nevada Yellow Cab Corporation, Nevada Checker Cab Corporation. Nevada Star Cab Corporation, Blue Desert, and Desert Cab) "Application to Amend Fuel Surcharge Rates" filed on March 30, 2022, as modified at the public hearing on April 20, 2022. The Taxicab Authority Board hereby modifies its August 17, 2015 and August 30, 2021 Orders relevant to the fuel surcharge.

As amended and adopted, the fuel surcharge schedule for taxicab rides will now be as follows, for metered rides:

Tier 1: gas price - \$3.25 - \$4.45 - .20¢ fuel surcharge per metered mile.

Tier 2: gas price - \$4.46 - \$5.65 - .19¢ fuel surcharge - .39¢ total per metered mile.

Tier 3: gas price - \$5.66 - \$6.85 - .21¢ fuel surcharge - .60¢ total per metered mile.

Tier 4: gas price - \$6.86 - \$8.06 - .24¢ fuel surcharge - .84¢ total per metered mile.

For zone rides:

Tier 1: gas price from \$3.25 - \$4.45 - \$1.00 fuel surcharge.

Tier 2: gas price exceeds \$4.46 - \$2.00 fuel surcharge.

Tier 3: gas price exceeds \$5.66 - \$3.00 fuel surcharge.

Tier 4: gas price exceeds \$6.86 - \$4.00 fuel surcharge.

All certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority are hereby mandated to have "rate cards" in their taxicabs that show the appropriate fuel surcharge that is in place at the time of the compensable trip, and that will be charged to customers. This "rate card" will be in a general format supplied by the agency, is subject to the approval of the Administrator, and must be approved by the Administrator before placement in the taxicabs of the certificate holder. Any changes to the "rate card" must be reported to the Administrator, and are subject to the Administrator's approval. The correct fuel surcharge currently in effect must be noted in a legible manner on any other material that is offered or displayed by the certificate holders.

The Taxicab Authority directs the Administrator to monitor the United States Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration survey on Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices, Regular Grade – West Coast ("PADD 5"), which is the relevant benchmark and shall be used to calculate the cost of fuel for purposes of this Order. This benchmark shall be monitored by the Administrator to see fourteen (14) continuous days of gas prices above the current tier price range, or below the current tier price range, at which time the Administrator will act on this fuel surcharge schedule. The Administrator is directed to determine when the conditions of this tiered fuel surcharge plan have been met, and is delegated the authority to impose or revoke the fuel surcharge according to the parameters set forth in this Order. No application and/or petition to the Taxicab Authority is necessary for the Administrator to act according to the terms of this Order regarding fuel surcharges, and no fuel surcharge may be imposed by a certificate holder for taxicab rides without the express prior authorization of the Administrator stating that the terms of this Order have been met. When directed to impose or revoke the fuel surcharge by the Administrator, all certificate

1	holders under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority are hereby mandated to charge the
2	appropriate fuel surcharge on their taximeters for each compensable trip.
3	This Order takes effect immediately.
4	
5	Dated this 22nd day of April , 2022.
6	•
7	BY THE AUTHORITY:
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9	Dan R. Reaser
10	Dan R. Reaser – Chairman Nevada Taxicab Authority
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

2	1, Michalle Couis Lahre, do hereby	certify that I deposited in the U.S. mail,
3	postage prepaid, via First Class Mail and Certified	Return Receipt Requested, a true and
4	correct copy of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Co	nclusions of Law, and Order to the following
567	Whittlesea – Henderson ATTN: Brent Bell 1910 Industrial Road Las Vegas, NV 89102	Lucky Cab ATTN: Jason Awad 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103
8 9 10	Whittlesea – Henderson ATTN: Cheryl Gibbons 1910 Industrial Road Las Vegas, NV 89102	Lucky Cab ATTN: Ryan Awad 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103
11 12 13	Whittlesea – Henderson ATTN: Mark Trafton 1910 Industrial Road Las Vegas, NV 89102	Deluxe ATTN: Rich Flaven P.O. Box 531787 Henderson, NV 89053-1787
14	Cooper Levenson Law Firm ATTN: Kimberly Maxson-Rushton 3016 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 195 Las Vegas, NV 89102	Jim Jimmerson 415 S. 6th Street, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89101
16 17 18	Western Cab ATTN: Marilyn Moran 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103	A Cab ATTN: Jay Nady 1500 Searles Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101
19 20 21	Western Cab ATTN: John Moran 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103	A Cab ATTN: Mike Malloy 1500 Searles Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101
22	Lucky/Western ATTN: Desiree Dante 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103	ITPEU/OPEIU LOCAL ATTN: Mike Kilgo 4480 W. Hacienda Ave., Suite 110 Las Vegas, NV 89118
24 25 26	Lucky/Western ATTN: Donald Chan 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103	Robert Winner Esq. 4675 Wynn Road Las Vegas, NV 89103
)7 I	1	

1	Desert Cab	Yellow Checker Star
2	ATTN: Rich Frakes 4675 Wynn Road	ATTN: Keith Gibson 5225 W. Post Road
3	Las Vegas, NV 89103	Las Vegas, NV 89118
4	Desert Cab ATTN: George Balaban	KAPTYN ATTN: Andrew Meyers
5	4675 Wynn Road	4675 S. Wynn Road
6	Las Vegas, NV 89103	Las Vegas, NV 89103
7	Nellis Cab ATTN: Michelle Langille	KAPTYN ATTN: Jim Morgan
	5490 Cameron Street	4675 S. Wynn Road
8	Las Vegas, NV 89119	Las Vegas, NV 89103
9	Nellis Cab ATTN: Jamie Pino	KAPTYN ATTN: Michael Morrison
10	5490 Cameron Street	4675 S. Wynn Road
11	Las Vegas, NV 89119	Las Vegas, NV 89103
12	Esther Rodriguez Esq.	KAPTYN ATTN: Chris Bordonaro
13	10161 Park Run Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89145	4675 S. Wynn Road
14	Yellow Checker Star	Las Vegas, NV 89103
15	ATTN: Mike Rawlings	Independent Cab Inc.
16	5225 W. Post Road Las Vegas, NV 89118	ATTN: Brent Carson 7935 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 101
17	Yellow Checker Star	Las Vegas, NV 89117
	ATTN: Jonathan Schwartz	Independent Cab Inc.
18	5225 W. Post Road Las Vegas, NV 89118	ATTN: Claudia Hoeppner 7935 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 101
19	State of Nevada	Las Vegas, NV 89117
20	Asheesh Bhalla, Esq.	
21	Deputy Attorney General 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 3900	
22	Las Vegas, NV 89101	
23	20.0	
24	Dated this 22 nd day of April	, 2022.
25		
26		me -
		Employee of the Taxicab Authority

EXHIBIT 1

28

BEFORE THE STATE OF NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY

Re: Application of Henderson Taxi, Whittlesea Bell, Nevada Yellow Cab Corporation, Nevada Checker Cab Corporation, Nevada Star Cab Corporation, Blue Desert, and Desert Cab to Amend the Fuel Surcharge Rates. Docket#

APPLICATION TO AMEND FUEL SURCHARGE RATES

COMES NOW, Kimberly Maxson-Rushton, Esq., on behalf of Henderson Taxi, Whittlesea Bell Taxi, Nevada Yellow Cab Corporation, Nevada Checker Cab Corporation, Nevada Star Cab Corporation, Blue Desert, and Desert Cab (collectively referred to as "Applicants"), and hereby submits this Application to the Nevada Taxicab Authority (referred to as "TA" or "Board") to modify the fuel surcharge rates currently charged by the taxi industry in Clark County. This Application is filed pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") 706.909.

All notices, pleading documents and correspondence pertaining to this proceeding should be directed to the following individual:

Kimberly Maxson-Rushton, Esq. Cooper Levenson, Attorneys at Law 3016 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 195 Las Vegas, NV 89102

I.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

A. Procedural Background

"By previous Board vote and an order of the Taxicab Authority dated August 17, 2015, the Taxicab Authority ordered

'[t]hat a twenty cent (20¢) fuel surcharge shall be added to the metered mile for Clark County taxicabs automatically anytime the cost of regular unleaded fuel rises above \$3.25 per gallon on average during a thirty (30) day period. The fuel surcharge may be reviewed if the unleaded fuel drops below \$3.25 per gallon for thirty (30) consecutive days, the Taxicab Authority Administrator is authorized to remove the surcharge."

Currently gas prices must remain above the \$3.25 threshold for a period of 30 days.

Said Order was further affirmed by the Taxicab Authority Board on August 30, 2021. See attached Exhibit 1. Accordingly, Applicants hereby submit this Application to amend the prior Board Order to authorize requested modifications to the fuel surcharge rates.

B. Necessity of Increasing the Fuel Surcharge Rates

As evidenced by the procedural history set forth above, the current fuel surcharge rate has been in place since 2015 and in that time gas prices have both fluctuated and steadily increased. According to Pew Research Center (December 2021) gas prices are currently at the highest level in seven (7) years. See attached Exhibit 2. Correspondingly, due to current world events there is further uncertainty in whether the spikes in gas prices recently experienced in the US will continue. As a result of said volatility Applicants' request that the Board consider and approve the following modifications to the fuel surcharge rates charged by taxi operators in Clark County following fourteen (14) days of gas prices above the thresholds proposed below.

Meter Rate:

Currently approved fuel surcharge: Gas prices - \$3.25-\$4.45 .20¢.

Proposed new tiers:

Gas price \$4.46-\$5.65 .19¢ fuel surcharge* \$5.66-\$6.85 .21¢ fuel surcharge \$6.86-\$7.05 .24¢ fuel surcharge

*The lower fuel surcharge rate results from calculations based on the existing meter rate.

Zone Rates:

Currently approved fuel surcharge: \$3.25 - \$1.00 fuel surcharge.

Proposed new rates:

Gas prices exceed \$4.46 - \$2.00 fuel surcharge Gas prices exceed \$5.66 - \$3.00 fuel surcharge Gas prices exceed \$6.86 - \$4.00 fuel surcharge

Applicants submit that this request is supported not only by the rising cost of gas but also the need for more taxi drivers to service passengers in Las Vegas. The continuing inability to attract and retain qualified drivers is endemic to the taxi industry and if not addressed it will ultimately result in the traveling public not having safe, reliable transportation services. Thus, the temporary rate changes

requested herein will assist taxi operators in maintaining drivers. Accordingly, this Application, if approved, will assist the industry and the traveling public.

Lastly, Applicants request that the Board Order be further amended to find that the price of regular and diesel fuel is an amount equal to the retail price per gallon of regular and diesel fuel according to the United States Department of Energy (DOE), Energy Information Administration (EIA) survey on Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices, Regular Grade - West Coast (PADD 5) and Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices, Diesel, All Types - West Coast (PADD 5).

II.

CONCLUSION

Based on the arguments set forth herein Applicants request that the Nevada Taxicab Authority consider and approve Applicants' request to amend the prior Board Order, dated August 30, 2021 and increase the fuel surcharge rates consistent with the rising cost of gas.

DATED this 30th day of March, 2022.

COOPER LEVENSON, P.A.

/s/Kimberly Maxson-Rushton

Kimberly Maxson-Rushton, Esq. Nevada Bar No.: 5065 3016 W. Charleston Boulevard, #195 Las Vegas, NV 89102

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 30th day of March, 2022, I did deposit for mailing in the
United States mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing
APPLICATION TO AMEND FUEL SURCHARGE RATES in a sealed envelope with first class
postage fully prepaid thereon, addressed to:

Asheesh Bhalla, Esq., Deputy Attorney General OFFICE OF THE NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 390 Las Vegas, NV 89101

/s/ Nina J. Little
An employee of COOPER LEVENSON

EXHIBIT "1"

- This Order has not been repealed by action of the Taxicab Authority, and remains in effect.
- 3. On August 5, 2021 a notice of a public hearing for "The Discussion and Possible Decision Regarding Taxicab Companies Adding a Fuel Surcharge" was published in the Las Vegas Review-Journal, with a date set for the hearing before the Taxicab Authority of August 26, 2021.
- 4. On or about August 12, 2021, a Notice and Agenda for August 26, 2021 were issued and posted. The Taxicab Authority's Agenda included an item 4- *Discussion and possible decision regarding taxicab companies adding a fuel surcharge," noted for discussion and possible action.
- The following filed Petitions to Intervene in this matter; 1) Whittlesea Blue Cab Company and Henderson Taxl; 2) Desert Cab Inc. and Blue Desert LLC (d/b/a Virgin Valley Cab); 3) Boulder Cab Inc. (d/b/a Deluxe Taxlcab Service); 4) Nevada Yellow Cab Corporation, Nevada Checker Cab Corporation, Nevada Star Cab Corporation, YCS Acquisition LLC, Twenty-First Century Taxl, LLC, Cab Transport, LLC, and Taxl Transport, LLC.
- 6. On August 26, 2021, a public hearing was held regarding the above entitled matter in compliance with the provisions of the Nevada Open Meeting Law, the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 706 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"), at which time all interveners appeared and were permitted to be heard. Public comment was also allowed.
- 7. At that meeting, the Taxicab Authority considered agenda item 4- *Discussion and possible decision regarding taxicab companies adding a fuel surcharge.*

Order so that the fuel surcharge could now be imposed as described.

9. Interveners also requested that the existing fuel surcharge be permitted to extend to compensable "zone" trips- certain direct taxicab trips to and from McCarran Airport that are subject to the flat-fare zone pricing- since the August 2015 Order contemplated

met for imposition of the fuel surcharge, and requested that the Taxicab Authority affirm its

All interveners stated that the conditions of the August 17, 2015 Order had been

- covering all compensable taxi trips, but zone pricing had not existed at that time. A \$1,00 fuel
- surcharge, to be added to each zone flat fare, was recommended.
- 10. Discussion was had between Board members, interveners, agency staff, and industry members regarding these concerns and proposals, as well as the need to notify the public of any rate changes.
- 11. The Taxicab Authority noted that, at the time of its meeting, the price of fuel has met the parameters laid out in its August 17, 2015 Order to trigger the imposition of the fuel surcharge.
- 12. After discussion and deliberation, all four members of the Taxicab Authority at the August 26, 2021 meeting, having fully considered the law and being fully advised in the premises, voted unanimously in favor of a motion affirming the terms of its Order of August 17, 2015 regarding fuel surcharges, mandating that all certificate holders charge this fuel surcharge on their taximeters for each compensable trip (that is not subject to zone pricing) since conditions for its imposition are currently met, and ordering all certificate holders to amend the "rate cards" in their taxicabs to show that this fuel surcharge is now in place and will be charged to customers.
- 13. After discussion and deliberation, all four members of the Taxicab Authority at the August 26, 2021 meeting, having fully considered the law and being fully advised in the

premises, also voted unanimously in favor of a motion to require all certificate holders to add for each compensable "zone" trip a one dollar (\$1.00) fuel surcharge to each of the three flat rate zone prices previously ordered, while the conditions described in the 8/17/15 Order are met, and to note the \$1.00 fuel surcharge in a legible manner on any material describing the zone prices.

14. If any of the foregoing findings of fact is more appropriately construed as a conclusion of law, it may be so construed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Taxicab Authority finds that the Findings of Fact, as well as the argument and statements presented, support the following Conclusions of Law by a preponderance of the evidence:

- 1. The area to be affected by this order is Clark County, Nevada.
- The Taxicab Authority is duly constituted and may regulate the conduct of the taxicab business pursuant to NRS 706.8818.
- 3: Generally, the Taxicab Authority may altach to the exercise of the rights granted by the allocation of taxicab medallions any terms and conditions which in its judgment the public interest may require. NRS 706.8824(5).
- 4. The Taxicab Authority is directed by law to review the rates, charges or fares of the certificate holders in its jurisdiction. NRS 706.8824(8)(b).
- 5. The Taxicab Authority may adjust, alter or change the rates, charges or fares for taxicab service, and is the only entity authorized to do so for taxicab service within its jurisdiction. NRS 706.8819(1)(a), NAC 706.471(1).

- 6. The rates, charges or fares of all certificate holders within a county under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority must be uniform, unless there is a showing that the public interest requires otherwise. NAC 706.471(3).
- The August 26, 2021 hearing was noticed in accordance with Nevada Revised
 Statutes and Nevada Administrative Code, including NAC 706.924.
- 8. In conducting any investigation, inquiry or hearing, neither the Authority nor any of its officers or employees are bound by the technical rules of evidence, and no informality in any proceeding or in the manner of taking of testimony will invalidate any order, decision, rule or regulation made or approved by the Authority. NAC 706.948(1).
- 9. The Taxlcab Authority's previous Order of August 17, 2015 regarding just surcharges is valid, remains in effect, and is a reasonable and permissible use of its authority to regulate the taxlcab industry and its rates. In addition, the extension of the fuel surcharge to cover "zone" trips is also a reasonable and permissible use of its authority.
- 10. If any of the foregoing conclusions of law is more appropriately construed as a finding of fact, it may be so construed.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Taxicab Authority AFFIRMS its previous Order of August 27, 2015 permitting a fuel surcharge. Specifically, it affirms

"That a twenty cent (20t) fuel surcharge shall be added to the metered mile for Clark County taxicabs automatically anythme the cost of regular unleaded fuel rises above \$3:25 per gallon on average during a thirty (30) day period. The fuel surcharge may be reviewed if the unleaded fuel drops below \$3:25 per gallon for thirty (30) consecutive days, the Taxicab Authority Administrator is authorized to remove the surcharge."

All certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority are hereby mandated to charge this fuel surcharge on their taximeters for each compensable trip (that is

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not subject to zone pricing) while the conditions described in the 8/17/15 Order are met, as they currently are.

All certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority are hereby mandated to amend all of the "rate cards" in their taxicabs to show that this fuel surcharge is now in place and will be charged to customers. This change to the "rate card" may be done by any uniform and legible means- sticker, stamp, etc. These changes must be reported to the Administrator.

For each compensable trip that is subject to zone pricing (i.e., certain direct taxical trips to and from McCarran Airport, as previously ordered by the Taxicab Authority), all certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the Taxicab Authority are hereby mandated to add a one dollar (\$1.00) fuel surcharge to each of the three flat trate zone prices previously ordered. As with compensable trips not subject to zone pricing, this \$1.00 fuel surcharge is mandated and applies while the conditions described in the 8/17/15 Order are met, and will be maintained and removed under the same standards as described in the 8/17/15 Order. The \$1.00 fuel surcharge added to the zone prices is to be noted in a legible manner on any material describing the zone prices that is offered or displayed by the certificate holders.

The Taxicab Authority directs the Administrator to monitor the United States Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration survey on Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices; Regular Grade – West Coast, which shall be used to calculate the cost of fuel. The Administrator is directed to determine when the conditions of the fuel surcharge have been met; and is delegated the authority to impose or revoke the fuel surcharge according to the conditions set forth in the 8/17/15 Order. No application and/or petition to the Taxicab Authority is necessary for the Administrator to act according to the terms of this and the 8/17/15 Order regarding fuel surcharges.

This Order takes effect immediately.

Dated this **30th** day of **August**, 2021.

BY THE AUTHORITY:

Dan R. Reaser - Chairman Nevada Taxicab Authority

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 1

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27 28 BEFORE THE STATE OF NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING FUEL PRICES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A FUEL SURCHARGE.

ORDER

At a regular monthly session of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority, held at the Nevada Taxicab Authority, 2080 E. Flamingo Rd., Les Vegas, NV 89119.

PRESENT:

Ileana Drobkin, Chairperson Dean Collins, Member Dennis Nolan, Member James Campos, Member

Jennifer De Rose, (Acting) Textical Authority Administrator Christine Guerol-Nyhus, Deputy Attorney General

On July 23, 2015, a public hearing was held regarding the above entitled matter in compliance with the provisions of the Nevada Open Meeting Law, the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 706 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NR6) and the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), at which time all interested parties appeared and were permitted to be heard.

The following filed Petitions to Intervene and all were permitted to intervene and be heard: (1) Desert Cab Company. (2) Western Cab Company. (3) A Cab LLC. (4) Nellis Cab Company. (5) Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies. (6) Whittlesea Blue Cab Company/Henderson Taxi. (7) Lucky Cab Company. (8) Ace Cab, Inc., Union Cab Co., A NLV Cab Co., Vegas-Western Cab, Inc., and Virgin Valley Cab Company. (9) ITPE Union, and (10) United Steehworkers Union.

intervences and Staff were allowed to present argument and evidence regarding the need for a permanent fuel surcharge adjusting automatically due to the rising cost of fuel.

The Taxicab Authority received proof regarding the circumstances affecting the interests of the taxicab industry, drivers and customers in Clark County, and having duty considered the evidence and being fully advised in the premises, makes its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board recognizes the need for a fuel surcharge due to the recent increasing cost of gasoline.
- 2. The Taxicab Authority Staff recommends a twenty cent (20¢) fuel surcharge on every metered mile be implemented when fuel costs rise above \$3.25 per gallon for a continuing average over a 30 day period. The Board may review the fuel surcharge if the cost of fuel rises above \$4.45 per gallon for a continuing average over a 30 day period. Staff testified that it would be able to begin the process of calibrating taximeters for the fuel surcharge upon approval.
- 3. Intervenors supported a fuel surcharge, but recommended that the surcharge be implemented automatically at any time fuel costs fall within the parameters of \$3.25 to \$4.45 per gallon.
- 4. Intervenore supported keeping the current index used to calculate the cost of fuel for the purposes of the fuel surpharge.
- 5. The Board finds that further research is needed prior to considering the removal of California from the index used to calculate the cost of fuel for the purposes of the fuel surcharge.
- 6. For purposes of this order, the cost of fuel shall be based upon the figures provided by the United States Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration survey on Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices, Regular Grade West Coast.

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- 7. After discussion, the Board made a motion to approve a twenty-cent (20¢) fuel surcharge on the metered mile, to cover costs of fuel up to and including \$4.45 per gallon. This motion also specified a base of \$3.25 for calculation only, and grants to the Administrator the authority to remove the surcharge if the cost of fuel falls below \$3.25 per gallon for a period of 30 consecutive days.
- 8. The Board decided that any meter change as a result of a fuel surcharge would be conducted concurrently with the implementation of the 8% excise tax.
- 9. If any of the foregoing findings of fact is more properly deemed a conclusion of law, it may be so construed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. This matter was held in accordance with applicable Nevada Revised Statutes
- 2. The Taudes Authority has the authority to review and alter taudes rates, charges, or fares in Clark County, pursuant to NRS 708.8819(1)(a).
- 3. The area to be affected by this Order is Clark County.
- 4. The interests, welfare, convenience, necessity, and well-being of the customers of tradestas are better served by this Order.
- 6. If any of the foregoing conclusions of law is more appropriately construed as a finding of fact, it may be so construed.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the rates, charges and fares be increased as follows:

That a twenty cent (20%) fuel surcharge shall be added to the metered mile for Clark County textoable automatically enytime the cost of regular unleaded fuel rises above \$3.26 per gallon on average during a thirty (30) day period. The fuel surcharge may be reviewed if the

unleaded fuel drops below \$3.25 per gallon for thirty (30) consecutive days, the Taxicab Authority Administrator is authorized to remove the surcharge.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2015.

BY THE AUTHORY

ILEANA DROBKIN - CHAIRPERSON

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING When the U.S. mail,

postage prepaid, via First Class Mail and Certified Return receipt Requested, a true and

correct copy of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order to the following:

Whittlesea - Henderson ATTN: Brent Bell 1910 Industrial Road Las Vegas, NV 89102

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Whittlesea – Henderson ATTN: Cheryl Gibbons 1910 Industrial Road Las Végas, NV 89102

Whittlesea - Henderson ATTN: Mark Trafton 1910 Industrial Road Las Végas, NV 89102

Cooper Levenson Law Firm ATTN: Kimberly Maxson-Rushton 3016 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 195 Las Vegas, NV 89102

Westerd Cab ATTN: Marilyn Moran 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103

Western Cab ATTN: John Moran 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103

Lucky/Western
ATTN: Jason Lather
4195 W. Diablo
Las Vegas, NV 89103

Lucky/Western ATTN: Donald Chan 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103 Lucky Cab ATTN: Jason Awad 4195 W. Dlablo Las Vegas, NV 89103

Lucky Cab ATTN: Ryan Awad 4195 W. Diablo Las Vegas, NV 89103

Deluxe ATTN: Rich Flaven R.O. Box 531787 Henderson, NV 89053-1787

Jim Jimmerson 415 S. 6th Street, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89101

A Cab ATTN: Jay Nady 1500 Searles Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101

> A Cab ATTN; Mike Malloy 1500 Searles Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101

ITPEU/OPEIU LOCAL ATTN: Mike Kilgo 4480 W. Hacienda Ave., Suite 110 Las Vegas, NV 89118

Robert Winner Esq. 4675 Wynn Road Las Vegas, NV 89103

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EXHIBIT "2"

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Gasoline costs more these days, but price spikes have a long history and happen for a host of reasons



A driver makes his selection from various fuels priced over \$6 at a Shell gas station in Los Angeles on Nov. 15, 2021. (Al Seib/Los Angeles Times via Getty Images)

Americans are <u>acutely sensitive to gasoline prices</u>, especially when they're on the rise. One reason, of course, is that we buy a lot of gas: an estimated 570 gallons this year for the average driver, which at current national average prices would cost close to \$2,000. Also, gas prices are posted all over town on large signs — unlike, say, <u>milk prices</u> — and people typically buy gas on its own rather than as part of a larger shopping trip, making price changes more noticeable. And gas prices can and do swing sharply and unpredictably, in ways that can seem unconnected to the rest of the economy.

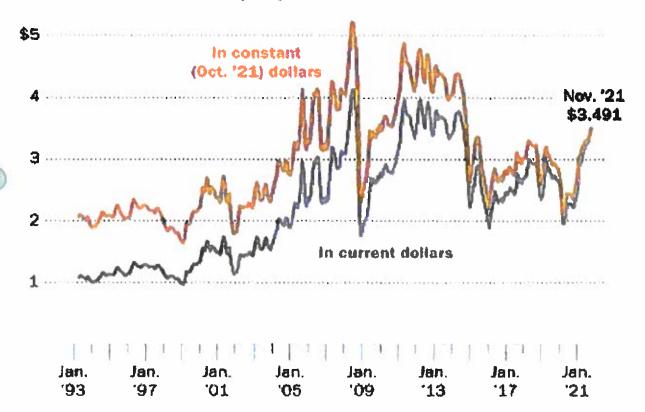
Regular gas costs, on average, 58.7% more than it did a year ago this time - \$3.491 a gallon last month, versus \$2.20 in November 2020, according to the federal Energy Information Administration (EIA).

But looking just at the recent rise can be misleading, or at least incomplete. For one thing, a year ago the United States was battling yet another wave of COVID-19 cases, large parts of the economy were still shuttered and demand for gas was way down. Estimated consumption in 2020 was 534 gallons per driver, down 14.4% from 624 gallons in 2019.

How we did this

U.S. gas prices are high, but less striking when inflation is factored in

Monthly average retail gasoline prices, all grades and all formulations, in dollars per gallon



Note: Current dollars refers to the actual price at a given time. Constant dollars are adjusted for inflation, relative to October 2021.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration (prices); Bureau of Labor Statistics (inflation).

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Also, the volatility of gas prices means they can go down as sharply and as suddenly as they go up. In the spring of 2020, as the <u>COVID-10 pandemic</u> sparked widespread lockdowns, the average gas price

sank 27% between Feb. 24 and April 27. Since 1994, average gas prices have fluctuated between a low of 96.2 cents a gallon in February 1999 and a high of \$4.114 in July 2008. The current average price, in fact, is almost exactly what it was in September 2014 – at least on a nominal basis.

When inflation is factored in, today's prices appear more modest. In today's dollars, gas cost an average of \$5.20 a gallon in June 2008, and more than \$4 as recently as September 2014.

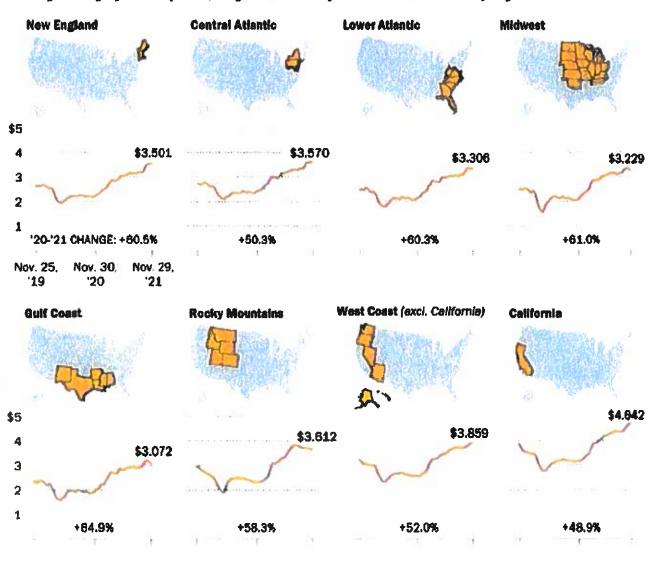
Also, gasoline is not a single, uniform product. Besides regular, midgrade and premium gas, which differ by octane rating, there's conventional and "reformulated" gas. The latter is required to be sold in California, along the Northeastern seaboard and in several other major urban areas to reduce smog and other air pollutants.

Over the past year, reformulated gas was consistently 30 to 35 cents more expensive than conventional gas until mid-October, when the differential began to widen, according to an analysis of EIA price data – it's now about 46 cents more expensive. Over the same period, midgrade gas has ranged from 37 cents to 46 cents more expensive than regular, while premium has been 25 to 27 cents higher than midgrade.

Where you buy gas also matters. Much of the U.S. petroleum industry is concentrated along the Gulf Coast, making it perhaps unsurprising that gas tends to be cheapest there. The average price in that region was \$3.072 a gallon in late November, and in Texas it was also a hairsbreadth above \$3.

How much to fill the tank? Where you are matters a lot

Weekly average gasoline prices, all grades and all formulations, in dollars per gallon



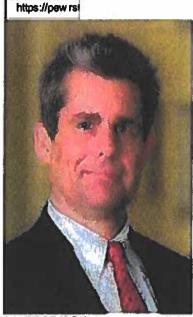
Note: Regional breaks are by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (PADD). Prices are not adjusted for Inflation. Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration.

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By contrast, California almost always has the most expensive gas in the country. The state's average price in late November was \$4.642 a gallon, and in San Francisco it was \$4.816. Besides the fact that California already uses pricier reformulated gas and has relatively high gas taxes and environmental fees, it is geographically far removed from other refining centers and relatively few fuel pipelines cross the Rocky Mountains to connect California's refineries to the rest of the country.

Under normal conditions, the state's refineries can produce enough gasoline to meet demand there, according to the <u>California Energy Commission</u>. But if refineries go offline due to weather, accidents or mechanical breakdowns, the state typically imports gasoline from overseas – adding to the price because of the cost of marine shipments.

Topic Economic Conditions SHARE THIS LINK:



<u>Drew DeSilver</u> is a senior writer at Pew Research Center. <u>POSTS BIO TWITTER EMAIL</u>

COOPER LEVENSON

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Nevada Taxicab Authority

FROM:

Kimberly Maxson-Rushton, Esq.

DATE:

April 19, 2022

RE:

Application to Amend Fuel Surcharge Rates

In support of the Application to amend the fuel surcharge rates, Applicants respectfully submit the following information and calculations:

- * Average length of taxi trip approximately in Clark County = 4 miles
- * Average paid mileage percentage is roughly = 50%
- * Average MPG per vehicle / fleet 14 MPG
- * Each trip is approximately 4 miles and paid mileage is 50% meaning that taxi's spend an additional 4 miles finding that trip. Therefore, the average taxi trip takes approximately 8 miles to complete.
- * 8 miles / 14 mpg = .572 gallons of fuel to complete each trip.

Source: Kabit - compilation of statistical information provided by Desert Cab, Virgin Valley Cab, Whittlesea Cab, Henderson Cab, YCS Cabs and New Cab Co.

Basis for the proposed tiers:

- * Tier range is \$1.20
- *.572 x \$1.20 = \$0.69 extra fuel cost to fulfill a trip
- * The requested \$0.20 per mile will raise the rate \$0.80 cents per trip
- * For a 4 mile trip (just the paid mile portion) x \$0.20 = \$0.80
- * That is \$0.11 cents more than the cost of just the fuel
- * \$0.80 \$0.69 = \$0.11

FLAT rates January 1, 2022 thru March 15, 2022

Avg distance to zone I = 3.69 miles

Avg distance to zone 2 = 3.99 miles

Avg distance to zone 3 = 4.98 miles

Avg distance to all zones = 4+ miles

4+ miles x \$0.20 = \$0.80+

Source: Kaptyn.

Additionally, please find attached hereto the weekly PADD 5 retail gas and diesel prices for the weeks March 7, 2022 and March 28, 2022 as published by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Kaptyn

Home Profess Partners Contact My Account

Fuel Surcharge Study

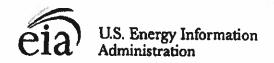
Average Trip Paid Distance

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PETROLEUM & OTHER LIQUIDS

OVERVIEW

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FAQS .

Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices (Dollars per Gallon, Including Taxes)

Area: West Coast (PADD 5) Darladi Washin

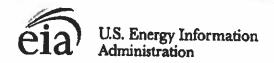
Area. Hear Coast (PADD 5)		Period: Y	veekly	V.				
Show Date By: Product O Area	Graph Clear	02/21/22	02/28/22	03/07/22	03/14/22	03/21/22	03/28/22	View History
Gasoline - All Grades	0	4.340	4,419	4,893	5.267	5.339	5.383	
All Grades - Conventional Areas	0	3.949	3.991	4,448		4.778		1995-2022
All Grades - Reformulated		4.552	4,652	5,142		5,649		1985-202
Regular		4.233	4.311	4.777		5.222	5.267	
Conventional Areas	0	3.875	3.916	4.369	4,691	4,702	4.725	-
Reformulated Areas	0	4.440	4.546	5.027	5.435	5.536	5,596	1994-202
Midgrade		4.594	4.877	5,176	5.530	5.629	5,670	
Conventional Areas		4.162	4.201	4.549	4.955	4.994	5,010	
Reformulated Areas	۵	4.769	4.869	5.396	5.768	5.893	5.945	
Premium	0	4.722	4 803	5,299	5.672	5 751	5.804	1994-2022
Conventional Areas	0	4.307	4.352	4.822	5.120	5.142	5,184	1995-2022
Reformulated Areas	0 1	4.889	4.984	5,492	5,896	5.997	8.067	1995-2022
Diesel (On-Highway) - Ali Types	0	4.579	4711	5,383	5.867	5.797	5.874	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
Ultra Low Sulfur (15 ppm and Under)		4.879	4.711	6.393	5.867	5,797	5.874	

it on the source key from to learn how to download saries into Excel, or to embed a chart or map on your website.

Notes: Conventional was is any area that does not require the sale of reform/sixed gasoline, All types of finished motor gasoline may be sold in this area, RFG area is an exone sonetilalment area designated by the Environmental Protection Agency which require the use of reformated gasoline, Publication of Low Sulfur On-Highway Dissel (1.50) prices at the U.S. level was discontinued on December 8, 2003 due to a diminishing number of stations sating LSD as a result of EPA dissel fuel regulations. EIA continued to collect LSD prices from retail outlets and included them in the Dissel Average All Types price until July 24, 2010, when no more outlets reported LSD sales. Beginning July 26, 2010 publication of UEx Now Sulfur Dissel (ILSD) price became high represented by the Dissel Average All Types price. As of December 1, 2010 (September 1, 2008 in California), any on-highway dissel fuel sold is ULSD as mandated by EPA on-highway dissel fuel acquisitors. EIA did not collect weetly install motor gasoline data between December 10, 1990 and January 14, 1691. Monthly and annual averages are simple averages of the weetly data contained therein. For months and years with incomplete weetly data series, the monthly and/or ennual averages are not available. See Definitions, Sources, and Notes link above for more information on this table.

Release Date: 3/28/2022 Next Release Date: 4/4/2022

^{- =} No Deta Reported; -- = Not Applicable; NA = Not Available; W = Withheld to avoid disclosure of individual company data.



PETROLEUM & OTHER LIQUIDS

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GLOSSARY .

FAQS

Weekly Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices (Dollars per Gallon, Including Taxes)

Area: West Coast (PADD 5)	•	Period: V	Voekly	•	X			
Show Date By: Product O Area	Graph Clear	03/07/22	03/14/22	03/21/22	03/28/22	04/04/22	04/11/22	Vlew
Gasoline - All Grades	0	4,893	5.267	5.339	5.363	5.333	÷ 5:256	History
All Grades - Conventional Areas	0	4.446	4,764	4.778	4.802	4,767	4.706	
All Grades - Reformulated Areas		5.142	5.545	5,649	5,707	5.654		
Regular		4.777	5,155	5,222	5.267	5.218	5.139	1905-2022
Conventional Areas		4,369	4.691	4,702	4,725	4.689		
Reformulated Areas		5.027	5,435	5.536	5,596	5,544	4.626 5.460	
Midgrade	0	5.176	5.530	5.629	5,670	5,625	5,549	1994-2022
Conventional Areas	0	4,649	4.955	4.994	5.010	4.985	4.930	1994-2022
Reformulated Areas	0	5.395	6.768	5,893	5.945	5.699	5.814	1995-2022
Premium	0	5.299	5.672	5.751	5.804	5.743	5.683	1995-2022
Conventional Areas	0	4,822	5.120	5.142	5 184	5.137	6,081	1894-2022
Reformulated Areas	0	5,492	5,896	5.997	6.067	5,999		1995-2022
Diesel (On-Highway) - All Types		5.393	5.887	5.797	5.874	5.832	5.948	1995-2022
Ultra Low Sulfur (15 ppm and Under)		5.393	5.867	5,79	5.874	5.832	5.761	1994-2022 2007-2022

Click on the source key loon to learn how to download series into Excel, or to embed a chart or map on your website.

Notes: Convenient was any are that does not require the sate of reformulated gesoline. All types of firsthed motor gesoline may be sold in this area is an ozone nonatishment area designated by the Environmental Protection Agency which requires the use of reformulated gesoline. Publication of Low Sulfur On-Nighway Diseal (LSD) prices at the U.S. level was discontinued on December 8, 2006 due to a dishinking number of stations selling LSD as a result of EPA diseal fuel regulations. EIA continued to cotect LSD prices from retail outlets and included triam in the Diseal Average All Types price until July 26, 2010 publication of Ultra Low Buffur Diseal (ULSD) price are until July 26, 2010 Average All Types price until July 26, 2010 (September 1, 2006 in California), any on-highway diseal fuel sold is ULSD as mendated by the Diseal Average All Types price and the selling the selling diseal fuel regulations. EIA did not collect veetdy retail motor gesoline data between December 10, 1990 and January 14, 1981. Monthly and annual averages are simple averages of the westdy data contained therein. For months and years with incomplete weetdy data series, the monthly and/or annual averages are not believed.

5.761 2007-2022

Release Date: 4/11/2022 Next Release Date: 4/18/2022

No Date Reported; -- = Not Applicable; NA = Not Available; W = Withheld to avoid disclosure of individual company date.