

NEW ERA FOR PENNSYLVANIA FUELED BY HERO BX

ERIE, PA (May 6, 2010) –Pennsylvania entered a new era in fuels with little fanfare, last Saturday, as the state’s mandate that all diesel fuel sold for on road use contain at least two percent biodiesel took effect. HERO BX, the largest biodiesel producer in the Eastern United States, today hailed the biodiesel mandate for its impact on the environment and the economy.

Mike Noble, president of HERO BX, located in Erie, Pennsylvania, said “while there was little public attention given to the changeover, this is a significant action by Pennsylvania, benefiting us all by replacing foreign oil, reducing emissions, and creating additional jobs in the state’s agriculture, transportation and distribution industries. We are proud that we could help make this happen.”

Last year, HERO BX produced more than 82 percent of all biodiesel made by Pennsylvania’s 11 producers. “The mandate requires two percent biodiesel after statewide production reaches 40 million gallons per year. HERO BX by itself is able to maintain more than 45 million gallons per year, and serve the citizens of the state,” he said.

“Consumers should know that biodiesel is non-toxic, biodegradable, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 78% over petro diesel,” Noble said. Biodiesel has gone through almost 20 years of research, testing, and regulatory reviews, and is the only alternative fuel to have fully completed the health effects testing requirements of the Clean Air Act. HERO BX’s annual production, by replacing diesel fuel, reduces carbon emissions by more than 900 million pounds. The company received the Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence for 2009.

Use of biodiesel has been shown to increase engine performance engine life. And unlike some other alternative fuels, biodiesel produces 3.5 times more energy than is used in its production. Biodiesel can be made from soy, canola, camelina and other vegetable oils, waste oils, and animal fats and tallow. HERO BX is unique in the state, and is able to make biodiesel from blends of these various feedstocks.

HERO BX is one of only two biodiesel producers in the nation to receive BQ 9000 certification for excellence in quality production and marketing. “We pride ourselves on our devotion to quality and our DEP certified testing program here in Erie,” Noble said. “Fuel quality is critical both to develop engine specifications, and to ensure customer satisfaction.”

Under the state’s biodiesel mandate, an increase of biodiesel production to 100 million gallons or more will trigger an increase in the volume of biodiesel blends in diesel fuel to five percent. The 11 existing biodiesel producers now have the capacity to reach that production level, but to date only HERO BX has produced to its capacity.

#