

To Whom It May Concern,

While I appreciate the gradual acceptance of biodiesel blends by government I'm concerned about a few key issues outlined in this paper. I have been running a brand new 2007 BMW diesel on 100% biodiesel made from recycled cooking oil, which meets both European (EN) and Australian Standards for biodiesel (which, ironically is more stringent than that of petroleum based diesel in this country & Europe) - distilled at a commercial biodiesel plant in Australia.

I am doing this to prove a point. That a modern European diesel engine performs perfectly with this fuel and requires no modification. If I was to wait for the vehicle manufacturers to give me a 'green light', I would be waiting forever.

I am concerned that your proposed approval process limiting higher blends to vehicles that have been 'sanctioned' to use these blends by OEMs will have a detrimental impact on the future of biodiesel in this country.

We need more choice, not restrictions by government and the oil companies. The oil companies, in their submissions highlighted in your paper, clearly want to undermine the industry & protect their own markets. It is offensive to read.

As far as vehicle manufacturers are concerned, my advice to you is simple: remove natural rubber components (and other apparently 'incompatible' components) in the fuel system and the biodiesel will not cause any problems. We need legislation at this end of the 'food chain', not at the production end. The quality of B100 (meeting the standards) in this country makes our diesel look very poor indeed.

As a side note, the concerns that many have regarding the use of crop land for biomass production (biodiesel, ethanol, etc) shows the short-sighted position they hold. The future of biofuels will be in the production of biodiesel or ethanol (and indeed hydrogen) from cultivated algae, that can grow anywhere and doesn't require high quality water to grow in. There are many companies around the world (and Australia) working on this right now - try doing a search for 'algaculture'.

I'd like to see Australia lead the way here and we need more discussion, now more than ever. I demand that the deadline be extended until July 2008.

Yours sincerely,