

Richard Giddings Vermont Fuel Assistance Program A280 State Drive Waterbury, VT - 05671-1050

November 28, 2022

Richard,

On behalf of certified fuel assistance suppliers, I am requesting an extension to the deadline for returning the \$625 supplemental benefit provided to oilheat and kerosene consumers in September.

A combination of warm weather, high prices and supply outages at regional terminals have delayed turning this financial benefit into fuel before the November 30 deadline. Since the additional \$625 was not anticipated, some consumers filled their tank this summer. Due to the unusually warm October and November, many do not need their tank refilled yet. Other recipients of the supplemental benefit decided to hold off on a delivery in order to maximize the purchasing price of their benefit during historically high prices these past six weeks. Supply disruptions at regional terminals were also a factor in delaying some deliveries. Thankfully the warm weather did not create a heating crisis, but did create a backlog.

Rather than return these funds to the state of Vermont, we are requesting that the balance of these funds be allowed to be converted into heating fuel and delivered in the month of December when we expect a return of more seasonal temperatures.

Thank you for your consideration.

Matt Cota

VFDA Managing Director