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December 9, 2013

Dear Gasoline Retailer,

You are receiving this letter because your location has been included on the list of gas stations that was released last month that qualify with the geographical requirements to receive a grant for the installation of a back-up generator or hook-up.

The New Jersey Gasoline, Convenience and Automotive Association (**NJGCA**) is a trade association that represents **YOUR** interests and defends the small business community by advocating for effective public policies and offering essential business services to our members. Over the past year, NJGCA has devoted an enormous amount of time, energy and resources to oppose efforts that mandate generators be installed at gas stations.

Since Superstorm Sandy tore through New Jersey over 13 months ago, there has been a consistent push by State legislators and municipal officials to require generators at all gas stations in New Jersey. NJGCA has been successful in opposing mandatory generators at the State level, and for the most part, at the municipal level. The information that NJGCA provided to state and local government officials in the immediate aftermath of the Storm was proof that the idea of mandates was not a good one, and that it was more beneficial to pursue a voluntary generator assistance program, which Governor Christie announced in late October.

Back-up generators alone cannot and will not prevent gas lines like we saw during Superstorm Sandy, but Governor Christie has stated that he also intends to work with all state agencies in order to make New Jersey's fuel supply and distribution systems more resilient and ensure a more reliable source of fuel in an emergency. NJGCA has been a part of discussions that are focused on helping Governor Christie succeed in this endeavor.

Combined with the Governor's efforts to ensure that gasoline retailers are able to obtain gasoline after a storm, I am confident that this new generator grant program will help to avoid the gas lines that motorists were faced with in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

In recent days, NJGCA has received **new and critical information** from the Economic Development Authority (EDA) about how this program will be administered.

- **You cannot engage a contractor or incur costs without first being accepted into the program!** You will not be reimbursed for any expenses incurred before you successfully navigate the entire application process and EDA executes a grant agreement.

- The application process will be two-tiered, and will require:
 - An **environmental review and historical preservation review** by FEMA, and
 - Proof of the site's location and tank capacity, as well as immigration status and personal information about the site owner.
- **There will be ONLY an eight (8) week window to complete the application** from the time that EDA officially rolls out the program.

You can learn more by logging on to www.njgca.org

I am encouraging retailers to start planning early and interviewing contractors and getting quotes. NJGCA has been meeting with and screening contractors since January. I know that there are many good contractors that can be hired, and there are many bad ones too. I would like to share with you several who have earned NJGCA's confidence. These vendors have also agreed to put together special, exclusive programs for NJGCA members!

As always, please contact our office if you have any questions or need additional information. Please call 973-376-0066 or visit our website at www.njgca.org

Sincerely,



Sal Risalvato
Executive Director

NJGCA Approved Generator Contractors:

**Salomone Bros.
Spark Contractors
P3 Generator
Trinity Solar**

**John Lynch
Tom Ruga
Brent Kephart
John Weldon**

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(609) 476-2175
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