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EXECUTIVE ORDER

Taking Action on High Gas Prices in Colorado

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order taking action on high gas prices by directing the Colorado Departments of Public Safety (CDPS), Transportation (CDOT), and Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to carry out actions due to high gas prices in Colorado.

I. Background and Purpose

On February 28, 2026, the United States Armed Forces launched large-scale airstrikes against Iran. This military action led to Iran cutting off access to the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway that normally carries one-fifth of the world's oil supplies. The closure of the Strait of Hormuz has led to global energy supply issues and has significantly increased the price of gas and diesel fuel in the United States and in Colorado. These increased prices are negatively impacting Colorado families, both at the pump and the dinner table. The price of gas and diesel fuel impacts our farmers and ranchers who grow and raise food, our truckers who get the food to grocery stores, and our hardworking Colorado communities.

On October 5, 2026, President Trump signed an Executive Order to temporarily allow off-road "dyed" diesel for highway use. This Executive Order directs the Secretary of the Treasury to defer payment of the Federal excise tax imposed for on-road use of dyed diesel fuel for the remainder of the year without interest or penalties and explore a pathway to eliminate the obligation to pay the deferred taxes. Many farmers and ranchers maintain on-site supplies of dyed diesel fuel for non-taxable, off-road use. Deferral of the Federal excise tax will delay some of the cost of dyed diesel fuel for farmers and ranchers.

To lower the cost of delivery of gas and diesel fuel, which will result in savings that will be passed on to Coloradans, the State is taking action to increase the volume of gasoline and diesel fuel delivered and reduce the total number of trucks required for such deliveries. CDOT issues non-interstate overweight divisible load permits to motor carriers transporting gasoline or diesel fuel to operate on State highways with the proper safety protocols in place. I encourage motor carriers to take advantage of CDOT's variety of divisible load permits including those that

allow certain vehicles to carry up to ninety-seven thousand (97,000) pounds and one hundred and ten thousand (110,000) pounds.

In Colorado, State law prohibits the use of dyed diesel in vehicles operating on any highway in the State. Minimizing enforcement of this prohibition will allow Coloradans to use dyed diesel fuel in vehicles operating on State highways and potentially avoid higher cost diesel fuel. The State should take reasonable and lawful action to provide some relief to Coloradans from these soaring fuel prices and to align with federal directives. As such, through December 31, 2026, CDPS should adjust enforcement priorities concerning the use of dyed diesel fuel on State highways.

In the past, CDPHE has requested the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) temporarily waive Reformulated Gasoline requirements to allow certain fuels otherwise prohibited under the summer requirements of the Clean Air Act. This temporary waiver will expand the supply of gasoline that can be sold in the State. While this waiver would only be applicable for the summer months of May to September, the State should take all steps necessary to submit a waiver for the 2027 season.

II. Declarations and Directives

A. I direct CDOT to issue non-interstate overweight indivisible permits pursuant to C.R.S. § 42-4-510 and 2 CCR 601-4 to motor carriers transporting gasoline or diesel fuel to operate on State highways at a gross vehicle weight, provided that such vehicles continue to comply with all established safety protocol, outing limitations, bridge weight limits, and individual axle-spacing regulations.

B. I direct CDPS to avoid the enforcement of the prohibition of dyed diesel fuel use on State highways pursuant to C.R.S. § 42-4-1414 and § 42-4-1701(4)(a)(1)(N) through December 31, 2026. I further direct CDPS to refrain from initiating inspections, citations, or other enforcement actions based solely upon the presence or use of dyed diesel fuel in highway vehicles through December 31, 2026.

C. I direct CDPHE to submit a request to EPA to issue a temporary waiver of Reformulated Gasoline requirements in 2027 to lower the cost of gas during summer months.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect unless modified or rescinded by future Executive Order of the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado this ninth day of October, 2026.

Jared Polis
Governor