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**For Immediate Release
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Higher Heating Oil Prices Greet First Day of Summer

Augusta--- The Governor’s Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted its weekly oil survey and found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.63 per gallon**, up 3 cents from last week.

“Crude oil rose to its highest price in six weeks upon speculation of increased demand,” said OIES Director John Kerry. “Potential economic recovery, growing oil demand and drops in gasoline inventories may affect heating oil prices as the summer season gets underway,” Kerry continued.

As of June 21, 2010

| Heating Oil | Statewide | Southwest | Central | Eastern | Western | Northern |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Average | 2.63 | 2.50 | 2.68 | 2.73 | 2.57 | 2.74 |
| High | 2.82 | 2.65 | 2.75 | 2.80 | 2.70 | 2.82 |
| Low | 2.36 | 2.38 | 2.62 | 2.60 | 2.36 | 2.70 |
| Kerosene | 2.99 | 2.86 | 3.07 | 3.08 | 2.88 | 3.09 |
| Propane | 2.70 | | | | | |

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$2.36 per gallon was found in the Western region. The highest price of \$2.82 per gallon was found in the Northern region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$2.99 per gallon at this time. The statewide average for propane based on a use of 600 gallons a year is \$2.70 per gallon. The table above provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny. At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, a major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$78.61.

For assistance please contact Efficiency Maine and ask about their Home Energy Savings Program. It links Maine homeowners with qualified, certified contractors who provide one-stop-shop access to a whole-house approach to home improvements. The first **pre-approved** homes in the program will receive up to \$3,000 each in incentives for approved energy-efficiency projects that meet minimum heating and hot water energy savings requirements. Approved projects completed before August 31, 2010 may receive an extra \$1,000 incentive. For program details call 877-334-6583 or visit www.energymaine.com. Businesses should take advantage of Efficiency Maine’s small business loan program to make energy upgrades: http://www.energymaine.com/business_programs.htm.