



April 1, 2025

Minnesota Legislature

Subject: SF 2458 – Gasoline Fuel Specification Update

Dear Members of the Senate Agriculture, Veterans, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee:

The American Petroleum Institute (API) appreciates this opportunity to share our support of language in SF 2458 that updates Minnesota's gasoline fuel specifications (SF 621).

The API represents all segments of America's oil and natural gas industry, which supports more than ten million U.S. jobs and is backed by a growing grassroots movement of millions of Americans. Our nearly 600 members produce, process, and distribute the majority of the nation's energy, and participate in API Energy Excellence, which is accelerating environmental and safety progress by fostering new technologies and transparent reporting. API was formed in 1919 as a standards-setting organization and currently has more than 800 active standards to enhance operational and environmental safety, efficiency, and sustainability.

API and its members work closely with the ASTM International (formerly the American Society of Testing Materials), commonly abbreviated as ASTM, to develop standards that are:

- Consistent, uniform, and of high quality
- Help products meet high levels of performance and safety
- Define the specific manufacturing process of a material
- Determine the exact chemical composition of a material

In December 2023, ASTM approved changes to the gasoline specification (D4814 - Standard Specification for Automotive Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel) and they were published in April 2024 (with a modification in July). Most states adopt the latest specification either through a direct adoption of the latest version of the standard or through the adoption of NIST Handbook 130 automatically, but 18 states reference older versions and thus, need to adopt rules or make legislative changes to adopt the latest version, which includes Minnesota along with fellow neighboring states of Iowa, South Dakota and Wisconsin. South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa have already completed their rulemaking while Wisconsin's rulemaking is ongoing but has a waiver to operate under the new standard until the rulemaking is completed.

ASTM revised the gasoline specification and included changes to the volatility of the fuel in many states, as well as a change to the evaporated distillation temperature requirements for gasoline-ethanol blended fuels.

Changes to the volatility table have not happened in several decades. The temperature data supporting the original requirements was from the 1950's to the 1970's. The recently adopted changes are based on temperature data from across the country from 1996 to 2015.



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Additionally, the specification includes revisions to the evaporated distillation temperature requirements for winter fuels (i.e., minimum T50 for Classes D and E fuels containing 1% to 15% by volume ethanol). This is a technical requirement that will allow more efficient refinery operations, slightly higher gasoline volume, and less risk of refinery noncompliance without affecting the consumers' vehicle performance.

We thank the committee, Chair Aric Putnam, Senator Gary Dahms and Senator Matt Klein for their leadership on this issue and including SF 621 in the update in SF 2458, which ensures consistent and uniform standards for gasoline fuel.

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