



BIODIESEL FUEL QUALITY STANDARDS BIODIESEL (GENERAL) REGULATION

Under Manitoba's *Biofuels Act*, biodiesel and blends of biodiesel and petroleum diesel fuel must meet specified fuel quality specifications if they are sold or offered for sale in Manitoba for use in powering a diesel engine. These specifications are found in standards adopted under the *Biodiesel (General) Regulation*.

Q: What is biodiesel?

A: *The Biofuels Act* defines biodiesel as an ester-based oxygenated fuel that is derived from vegetable oils, animal fats or other biomass material.

Q: What is blended biodiesel?

A: *The Biofuels Act* used the term "blended biodiesel". Blended biodiesel is a blend of biodiesel and petroleum diesel fuel. The proportion of biodiesel in the blend can vary. Blends are often referred to as B2, B5 or B10, for the percentage of biodiesel contained in the blend. For example, a B2 blend contains 2% biodiesel and 98% petroleum diesel fuel; a B5 blend contains 5% biodiesel and 95% petroleum diesel fuel.

Q: Why is Manitoba imposing fuel quality standards on biodiesel and blended biodiesel?

A: Fuel quality is a key element of Manitoba's biofuels program. Meeting fuel quality standards is vital for protecting consumers, maintaining the integrity of the fuel supply, and developing a viable biodiesel manufacturing industry.

Fuel suppliers and biodiesel manufacturers support the rigorous fuel quality standards.

Q: What fuel quality standards apply to biodiesel?

A: *Biodiesel that is sold or offered for sale in Manitoba for use in powering a diesel engine* must meet the specifications set out in one of the following standards:

(a) ASTM Standard D6751, *Standard Specification for Biodiesel Fuel Blend Stock (B100) for Middle Distillate Fuels*, ASTM International;

(b) EN 14214, *Automotive Fuels - Fatty Acid Methyl Esters (FAME) for Diesel Engines - Requirements and Test Methods*, European Committee for Standardization.

The ASTM and EN standards are specifications for neat biodiesel, often called B100.

ASTM Standard D6751 is available from ASTM International at:

<http://www.astm.org/Standard/index.shtml>

EN Standard 14214 is available from BSI at: <http://www.bsigroup.com/en/Shop/Publication-Detail/?pid=000000000030109388>

Q: Are there fuel quality standards for blended biodiesel?

A: Yes. Blended biodiesel that is sold or offered for sale in Manitoba for use in powering a diesel engine must meet the following specifications:

(a) blends containing at least 1% but not more than 5% biodiesel must comply with CAN/CGSB-3.520-2005, *Automotive Low-Sulphur Diesel Fuel Containing Low Levels of Biodiesel Esters (B1-B5)*;

(b) the biodiesel portion of blends containing more than 5% biodiesel must meet the ASTM D6751 or EN14214 standard.

CAN/CGSB-3.520-2005 is available from the Canadian General Standards Board at: <http://www.techstreet.com/cgsbgate.html>

Q: Where can biodiesel manufacturers have their biodiesel tested to ensure that it meets applicable fuel quality standards?

A: Manitoba Hydro Laboratories in Selkirk, Manitoba is an accredited biodiesel testing facility. Biodiesel producers will be able to have their biodiesel tested at the Selkirk laboratory. Other accredited testing facilities exist in other provinces.

Further information can be obtained from:

Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines (STEM)
Biofuels Office
1200-155 Carlton Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3H8
Telephone 1-204-945-7392
Manitoba Toll Free: 1-800-282-8069 or 1-866-444-4207
Fax: 1-204-943-0031
Web: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/stem/energy/biofuels/biodiesel/index.html>