



**Statement from Clean Air – Cool Planet  
Regarding Rymes Oil’s sale of biodiesel at retail pumps in New Hampshire**

“This is a very important step in bringing about solutions to the threat of global warming,” said Clean Air - Cool Planet Executive Director Adam Markham, “and we congratulate Rymes Oil and the Granite State Clean Cities Coalition.

“Because biodiesel is an above-ground carbon fuel, it has the potential to reduce harmful releases of greenhouse gases from fossil fuels, the chief cause of global warming,” Markham explained. “We hope the fact that biodiesel is becoming available for diesel vehicles in New Hampshire will increase awareness of the problem and a market for the solutions.”

Markham said some types of biodiesel – like that refined from used fryer oil – are better than others “from a climate point of view” because they do not require fossil fertilizers – and noted that New Hampshire groups like the Oyster River Biodiesel Cooperative plan to produce that.

“This news comes at a particularly auspicious time, because the recent news about atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide is not good,” Markham noted, citing 2003 carbon dioxide measurements from Mauna Loa in Hawaii, “one of the best sources we have, which indicate CO<sub>2</sub> levels have reached a global average of 379 parts per million.

“This is noteworthy,” he said, “because CO<sub>2</sub> levels prior to the Industrial Revolution, just 150 years ago, were only 280 parts per million.”

The previous 100-part increase in CO<sub>2</sub> took more than 10,000 years, from the time glaciers covered New Hampshire, to about 1850, Markham added.

“Chiefly by drawing carbon out of the ground in the form of fossil fuels, humans are responsible for accomplishing, in only a century and a half what it took the Earth millennia to do,” he pointed out, “and we are seeing the consequences here in New Hampshire. Fortunately, we are also seeing the solutions beginning to take hold as well.”