



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

August 24, 2015

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Illinois Association of Convenience Stores
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Dear Gentlemen:

Illinois consumers have seen a dramatic spike in gasoline prices in recent days and have been reaching out to our offices to complain about them. Hard-working Illinois residents rely on their cars to get them to work and take their children to and from child care and school. Gasoline is not an optional purchase for most, and paying more for gasoline means less money to spend on other essentials, such as rent, groceries, and medicine.

The spike can be felt throughout Illinois, although it appears the Chicago area has been hit the hardest, with gasoline prices in some areas approaching and, in some cases exceeding, \$4 per gallon. This represents increases of over a dollar per gallon.

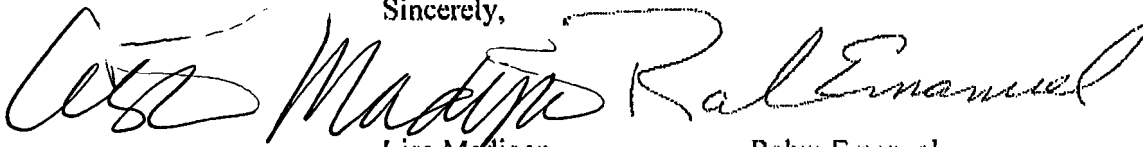
We understand that many factors affect the price of a gallon of gasoline, and we are aware of the unplanned outage at the BP refinery in Whiting, Indiana. However, it is widely known that crude oil prices have been at all-time lows for quite some time. Also, reports from the Energy Information Administration indicate that while spot prices for gasoline increased temporarily in the Chicago area, they began falling quickly and significantly around August 14, 2015. It seems that retail prices are lagging spot prices as spot prices begin to normalize.

In order to help us understand this gasoline price spike, please answer the following questions:

1. What are all the factors that caused and are causing gasoline prices in Illinois to increase?
2. When are Illinois gasoline prices expected to decrease?
3. What factors will facilitate and/or expedite the price decrease process?
4. What can be done to prevent future gasoline price spikes under similar circumstances?

Please provide these answers to our offices by September 8, 2015.

Sincerely,



Lisa Madigan
Attorney General
State of Illinois

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor
City of Chicago