

San Francisco Fire Department

Division of Fire Prevention and Investigation



Mr. Eric Bowen
SF Biodiesel Access Task Force
11 Grove St.
San Francisco, CA 94102

May 27, 2009

Re: SF Biodiesel Access Task Force – Fee Waiver Proposal and Discussion

Dear Mr. Bowen:

I am writing on behalf of Chief of Department Joanne Hayes-White in response to your letter requesting that the San Francisco Fire Department waive all permit fees for biodiesel filling stations in San Francisco in order to encourage their installation. I apologize for the delayed response, but your letter did not include your contact information which resulted in our late reply.


It is our understanding that the Chief of Department does not have the authority to waive fees, and we have confirmed this with the City Attorney's office. Only the Board of Supervisors has the authority to waive fees that are required by the San Francisco Fire Code.

Please note that the fees we charge are based on cost recovery for services provided.

Additionally, if you decide to seek a fee waiver for Fire Department permits associated with fuel filling stations, you may want to include licensing fees collected through the Tax Collector's office in your request for waiver as this is the way the Fire Department collects the annual fees.

If you have further questions, please give me a call at (415) 558-3320.

Sincerely,


Barbara A. Schultheis
Fire Marshal

Cc: Joanne Hayes-White - Chief of Department
Alec Balmy – Lt. SFFD Permits