

Proposal

In order to apply a fairer and more proportionate charge for a licence to store and dispense petroleum spirit, it is proposed to introduce a new fee structure, which removes the amount of petroleum spirit stored as a determining factor for the fee; and, in its place, incorporates a set fee of £200 per licence with an additional fee of £50 per petroleum dispenser (no charge is to be applied for diesel dispensers) for all forecourts and other private and commercial users.

In addition to the above, it is proposed to introduce an annual fee of £2,500 to license and administer the Fuel Farm at La Collette; this figure would be set aside to cover any costs to the States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service associated with employing external consultants to produce a five yearly report and subsequent reports on compliance with current standards similar to those required for a full COMAH (Control Of Major Accident Hazards) site.

Along with the annual fee above, it is also proposed to charge each of the companies which distribute fuel from La Collette an annual fee of £1,000 to provide a funding stream for external reports, training exercises, and specialist equipment for petroleum incidents etc.

Reason for Proposal

Petroleum forecourts regulations have become more stringent over the years and the monitoring of petroleum products to ensure a safe environment is essential for public safety. As a result, inspectors from the States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service require regular training to ensure they remain current within industry standards.

Recent events involving incidents at Fuel Storage depots in the UK have also highlighted the need to ensure that these complex installations are maintained and managed according to approved standards and regulations. As the regulator, the States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service inspect the installation annually; however, in order to achieve and monitor full compliance with all of the standards, the States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service will need to employ external industry specialists to carry out periodic inspections and produce reports which will be funded through the proposed changes to the fee structure.

The annual petroleum licences that are currently issued by the States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service are charged according to the amount of petroleum spirit kept in storage on the premises. This is applied as follows:

Storage not exceeding 2,500 litres = £118

Storage exceeding 2,500, but not exceeding 50,000 litres = £ 146

Storage exceeding 50,000 litres = £175

These charges have increased historically with inflation, but are disproportionate in how they are applied. As a result, they do not fall in line with the States of Jersey 'user pays' principle and are not reflective of the work the States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service undertakes in maintaining competence, carrying out the inspections, and administering the Law.

Supported: Yes No

Additional Comments:

Please continue on separate sheet if required