

Letter from Commissioner Charles Bronson
To Florida Building Officials:

You may be aware that on June 1, 2006, a state law went into effect requiring motor-fuel terminals, wholesalers and certain gas stations to be fitted with a transfer switch that will enable the station to operate from generated power in case of an emergency. In addition, certain facilities are required to maintain generators onsite.

The deadline for installing the necessary transfer switch was June 1, 2007. Many gas stations have not met this deadline. The department has been working and will continue to work with these facilities to bring as many stations as possible into immediate compliance.

I am requesting your immediate assistance in helping these gas facilities as they follow through on the local permitting and inspection process necessary to complete the required modifications. We want Florida's citizens to have every advantage possible in case a natural disaster should occur during the 2007 hurricane season. Assuring that everyone has adequate access to gasoline in case of an evacuation is a major step toward achieving the preparedness level we want to reach.

We appreciate your cooperation on this matter and, should you encounter any questions regarding the implementation of this law, please contact our enforcement coordinator, Art Williams, at (850) 488-0645.

Sincerely,
Charles H. Bronson
Commissioner of Agriculture