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Memorandum to State Employees Concerning Gas Conservation Measures, July 10, 1973

Kenneth M. Curtis

Office of Maine Governor Kenneth M. Curtis

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STATE OF MAINE

Inter-Departmental Memorandum Date July 10, 1973

To Agency and Department Heads Dept. _____

From Governor Kenneth M. Curtis Dept. Executive

Subject _____

In response to a request by the President of the United States and a recommendation by the United States Senate Committee on Public Works, I ask your cooperation on the following three points in an effort to reduce the amount of gasoline consumed by State of Maine motor vehicles during this summer's gasoline shortage:

1) While on state business, state employees should reduce open highway speeds by 10 miles an hour below the posted speed limit. Figures available to me indicate that the lesser speeds may reduce by 10 to 15 percent the current consumption rate of gasoline by state vehicles. Obviously, the exception to this request are law enforcement vehicles in pursuit of violators and vehicles on emergency calls.

2) Eliminate unnecessary idling. When state vehicles are not being driven, they should not be left running. Aside from the risk of theft by leaving an unattended vehicle running, the vehicle consumes gasoline needlessly.

3) Consolidate trips whenever possible and eliminate unnecessary trips. If practical, telephone contacts should be substituted for face-to-face contacts, and trips, particularly those away from the immediate area of the State House complex, should accomplish more than one purpose, whenever possible.

In addition to promulgating these suggestions to your employees who drive state-owned vehicles, I suggest that you request voluntary cooperation from all of your employees in the operation of their privately-owned vehicles. I particularly recommend car-pooling to and from the State House complex as an effective way of reducing gasoline consumption.

Thank you for cooperating to help assure an adequate supply of gasoline in Maine this summer.