



For Immediate Release
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IAIS Tests Bio-Diesel in Locomotives

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA – The Iowa Interstate Railroad Ltd. (IAIS) based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa has begun testing the use of bio-diesel blended fuel in some of its locomotives. Working with the Renewable Energy Group (REG) plant in Newton, Iowa, testing began in June on one unit in the IAIS Council Bluffs Yard. Tests will include measuring wear and tear on movable engine parts, horsepower ratings, and emissions measurements among other things. A number of different blends will be tested in order to determine the correct mixture. Bio diesel is a bio degradable product manufactured from various vegetable oils and fatty acids and can be used as fuel in diesel engines. Major manufacturers of diesel engines will not warrant certain engine parts if bio diesel is used as a primary fuel because no official tests have been completed to determine how it affects the locomotive engine.

President & CEO Dennis H. Miller commented: “Our Company has been looking at bio diesel as an alternative to diesel fuel for some time. Having REG located on our rail line and being a customer of ours, it just seemed to make sense to try and partner with them to purchase their products. This could open the door for over 600 other railroads to have another source of fuel to use in their locomotives that burns cleaner and is environmentally friendly. It is also another value added market to Iowa farmers and the Ag industry by providing another use for their products.”

Founded in 1984, IAIS is a regional rail carrier operating over 600 miles between Omaha, Nebraska, and Chicago, Illinois, with connections to all major Class 1 carriers. Its headquarters are located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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