

Irrigators, Start Your Propane Engines

WASHINGTON (July 26, 2011) - The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) has developed a new propane-to-diesel irrigation cost calculator that shows farmers how much they can save by using propane compared with diesel.

Propane irrigation engines offer an environmentally friendly option that can save farmers on fuel and maintenance costs compared with diesel. According to University of Nebraska research, modern propane irrigation engines are 20 percent to 30 percent more efficient than older propane engine models. This increase in efficiency can mean cost savings for many farmers.

“PERC research revealed that new propane irrigation engines are much more efficient than older models. As a result, farmers can see real savings by switching from diesel to propane,” said Mark Leitman, PERC director of agriculture programs.

Farmers can calculate their potential costs savings when switching from diesel to a propane-fueled irrigation engine by visiting the cost comparison calculator at www.agpropane.com/FEED. Simply enter the engine horsepower needed and set the local propane and diesel prices to calculate the savings per hour.

Farmers interested in purchasing a new irrigation engine can immediately earn an incentive of up to \$2,500 through the Propane FEED (Farm Equipment Efficiency Demonstration) program. Sponsored by PERC, the Propane FEED program is a demonstration initiative that tests the performance of new propane-fueled technology like irrigation engines.

“Space in the program is limited, and I encourage farmers to apply now at www.agpropane.com/FEED,” said Leitman. “And for those producers that already power their pumps with propane, remember to maintain your propane engine for safe and efficient irrigation this season.”

PERC's vision is that the agricultural industry will embrace propane as a preferred energy source that offers cost-effectiveness, efficiency and productivity, reliability, portability, and environmental friendliness. For more information on PERC and its programs to promote the safe and efficient use of propane in agriculture, call 202-452-8975 [begin_of_the_skype_highlighting 202-452-8975 end_of_the_skype_highlighting](http://www.agpropane.com) or visit www.agpropane.com.

The Propane Education & Research Council was authorized by the U.S. Congress with the passage of Public Law 104-284, the Propane Education and Research Act (PERA), signed into law on October 11, 1996. The mission of the Propane Education & Research Council is to promote the safe, efficient use of odorized propane gas as a preferred energy source.