by writing the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission. You must state the reasons why you want the exemption.

(c) If you do not blend the gasoline with other gasoline, you must post consistent with the octane rating certified to you. If you blend the gasoline with other gasoline, you must post consistent with your determination of the average, weighted by volume, of the octane ratings certified to you for each gasoline in the blend, or consistent with the lowest octane rating certified to you for any gasoline in the blend. Whether you blend gasoline or not, you may choose to post the octane rating of the gasoline consistent with your determination of the octane rating according to the method in § 306.4. In all cases above, the octane rating must be shown as a whole or half number equal to or less than the octane rating certified to you or determined by you.

(d)(1) You must maintain and replace labels as needed to make sure consumers can easily see and read them.

(2) If the labels you have are destroyed or are unusable or unreadable for some unexpected reason, you can satisfy the law by posting a temporary label as much like the required label as possible. You must still get and post the required label without delay.

(e) When you receive gasoline from a common carrier, you must also receive from the common carrier a certification of the octane rating of the gasoline, either by letter or on the delivery ticket or other paper.

§ 306.10 Recordkeeping.

You must keep for one year any delivery tickets or letters of certification on which you based your posting of octane ratings. You must also keep for one year records of any octane rating determinations you made according to section 306.4. These records may be kept at the retail station, or at another, reasonably close location. They must be open for inspection by Federal Trade Commission and Environmental Protection Agency staff members or by persons authorized by FTC or EPA.

LABEL SPECIFICATIONS

§ 306.11 Labels.

All labels must meet the following specifications:

(a) *Layout.* The label is 3" wide x 2½" long. The illustrations appearing at the end of this rule are prototype labels that demonstrate the proper layout. Helvetica type is used throughout except for the octane rating number which is in Franklin gothic type. Spacing of the label is ¼" between the top border and the first line of text, ⅛" between the first and second line of text, ¼" between the octane rating and the line of text above it. All text and numerals are centered within the interior borders.

(b) *Type size and setting.* The Helvetica series is used for all numbers and letters with the exception of the octane rating number. Helvetica is available in a variety of phototype setting systems and by linotype. The line "MINIMUM OCTANE RATING" is set in 12 point Helvetica Bold, all capitals, with letterspace set at 12½ points. The line "(R+M)/2 METHOD" is set in 10 point Helvetica Bold, all capitals, with letterspace set at 10½ points. The octane number is set in 96 point Franklin gothic condensed with ⅛" space between the numbers.

(c) *Colors.* The basic color on all labels is process yellow. All type is process black. All borders are process black. Both colors must be non-fade.

(d) *Contents.* The contents are shown in the illustration. The proper octane rating for each gasoline must be shown. No marks or information other than that called for by this rule may appear on the label.

(e) *Special label protection.* All labels must be capable of withstanding extremes of weather conditions for a period of at least one year. They must be resistant to gasoline, oil, grease, solvents, detergents, and water.

(f) *Illustrations of labels.* Labels should meet the specifications in this section, and should look like these examples, except the black print should be on a yellow background.





By direction of the Commission.

CAROL M. THOMAS,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 79-9620 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am]

[6750-01-M]

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[16 CFR Part 306]

OCTANE POSTING AND CERTIFICATION RULE

Request for Comments on Coverage of "Producers"

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Invitation for public comment.

SUMMARY: Today the Federal Trade Commission has in this issue of the FEDERAL REGISTER published its rule on the certification and posting of octane ratings. The Commission has determined that, consistent with the Congressional intent for comprehensive coverage in Title II of the Petroleum Marketing Practices Act, "producers" should be included among those covered by the Octane Posting and Certification Rule. Accordingly, the rule covers producers. "Producers" refers to that industry group that purchases component elements and combines them to produce automotive gasoline, rather than producing gasoline by refining it from crude oil.

Because of the limited number of comments received regarding the inclusion of producers under the rule, the Commission is offering an opportunity for comments on the Commission's decision to include this industry group in the octane certification scheme.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 30, 1979.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Mr. Carol M. Thomas, Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580. If possible also send a copy to Mr. James G. Mills, Attorney, Division of Energy and Product Information, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580. The envelope should be marked "Octane Rulemaking".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James G. Mills, (202) 724-1967, Division of Energy and Product Information, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Trade Commission has promulgated a rule in this issue under the authority of the Petroleum Marketing Practices Act that requires the certification and posting of the octane ratings of automotive gasoline. The rule describes a uniform method for certification by those who distribute gasoline and for posting by those who sell directly to consumers. The rule covers all members of the automotive gasoline industry including refiners, importers, producers, distributors and retailers.

Producers are a small group within the industry who are the originating sellers of automotive gasoline but who do not either import or receive gasoline, or refine if from crude oil. Rather, they purchase component parts and combine them to produce finished gasoline. The Commission, in § 306.1 of its rule, covered producers along with all other members of the automotive gasoline industry who market gasoline for ultimate sale to consumers. This coverage is consistent with Congressional intent to provide octane purchasing information to all consumers. Such information is vital to consumers wishing to make informed gasoline purchases, and is required by Congress to protect consumers and conserve energy.

By direction of the Commission.

CAROL M. THOMAS,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 79-9640 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am]