New Hampshire DOT
Department of Transportation

Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

William Cass, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner

October 11, 2019

To Private Equipment Owners:

We hope your summer has gone well and you are planning to continue your equipment rental agreement with the NHDOT this winter. The recently approved State Budget included an additional 10% to increase contract rental rates. The Department will be seeking approval from Governor and Council to amend our contracts with all of you to increase your rates by 10%. We will also request permission to increase the number of 10 hour minimum payments per 2 week pay period from 9 payments to 10. The Department will continue to provide a fuel adjustment to the hourly rental rate that reflects the actual fuel prices through the winter. These items are further described below:

1) Provide a minimum biweekly payment of 10 hours per 2-week pay period to the regularly scheduled hired trucks during the winter maintenance season, beginning November 8, 2019 through March 26, 2020 (10 periods). This payment is based on the highest rate the equipment is typically used (i.e.: Plowing, Spreading or Plowing & Spreading) including operator and added equipment costs but not fuel adjustment (aka: Standby rate). These hours will be adjusted for the hours actually worked during a two-week pay period.

   For instance, if during a 2-week pay period a truck plowed for only 6 hours, the owner would be paid for 6 hours at their Plowing rate with fuel adjustment and an additional 4 hours at the "Standby" rate with no fuel adjustment. If a truck plowed for 12 hours, then 12 hours of Plowing with fuel adjustment would be paid and none of the 10-hour minimum at the "Standby" rate would apply due to exceeding 10-hour minimum for the pay period.

2) Adjust the price for diesel fuel from an average base of $2.18/gallon. As a point of reference the current fuel price for this pay period (*ending September 26, 2019*) is *$2.90*, which would result in a fuel adjustment of $3.06/hour added to the winter truck rates.

The Department, the Governor and the Legislature, through providing the 10% increase in rates and increasing the number of 10-hour minimum payments, sincerely hopes that we are providing fair rental rates. We recognize the importance of the work that all of you and your employees perform on our State roadways each winter and look forward to continuing our partnership well into the future.

We are currently tracking fuel price increases and will continue throughout the winter season. You will see differences in the fuel adjustment rate over the winter season as fuel prices change. This adjustment will be made for any hours that a hired equipment vendor is providing services that are paid a fuel adjustment (i.e.: Plowing), effective immediately.

Thank you again for your dedicated assistance in maintaining New Hampshire's roadways. Your efforts are appreciated by the traveling public and the Department.

Sincerely,

David M Rodrigue, P.E.
Director of Operations

cc: Bureau of Highway Maintenance
Bureau of Turnpikes
Bureau of Programming and Community Assistance - MATS