



Fuel Dealers Worry About Winter



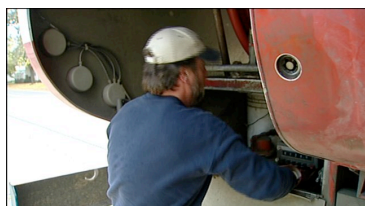
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Vermont fuel dealers are worried they won't have enough access to credit this winter.

The group brought their concerns to the state Food-n-Fuel partnership.



Small dealers say they can't collect money from customers fast enough to buy oil. And with the credit market having problems they are having trouble borrowing money. So far they have enough fuel but dealers say a sudden price spike could change that.



"We need to be able to borrow that money in order to buy the fuel, sell it, and then collect the money and that happens in a very short amount of time-- we can sell 20 percent of our product in just 30 days and if there is price spike or a cold snap we need to know there is access to capital in order to be sure our trucks stay on the roads and people stay warm," said Matt Cota, of the Vt. Fuel Dealers Association.



The group is urging the state to support a plan for the federal government to set aside money for guaranteed loans for dealers who have already tapped out their lines of credit.

[Kristin Carlson](#) - WCAX News



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