

CES NEWSLETTER FALL 1992

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CES recently updated its estimates of motor fuel taxes generated on a per parish basis. The update was in response to a proposed constitutional amendment to provide for a local option motor fuel tax. The original estimates were provided as background material for the Transportation Trust Fund in response to a formal request from the City of New Orleans. The new version uses an updated retail trade census of motor fuel sales and the 1990 population census. Jefferson Parish is the leading parish in generating motor fuel taxes and more than half of statewide collections are generated by only five parishes (Jefferson, Orleans, E. Baton Rouge, Caddo and St. Tammany). To receive the two page report and accompanying table depicting revenue estimates by parish, please send a , selfaddressed business envelope.

1992-93 ROBERT BROOKSHER/LA. MIDCONTINENT OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

This full-tuition scholarship was awarded this year to Jacqueline D. Awadzi. Ms. Awadzi is currently a Junior in the Department of Petroleum Engineering at LSU and is the top-rated minority P.E. student. She is very active in the student chapter of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and served as secretary for the 1991-92 year in addition to being an active participant in numerous other extracurricular activities. Bob Brookaher and Mr. James Porter of the LMOGA presented Ms. Awardzi with the scholarship on August 20, 1992.

DOE INNOVATIVE ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARDS

CES recently completed the technical review for the national competition for U.S. Department of Energy Innovative Energy Conservation Awards. Some sixty-four submissions in five categories were reviewed from throughout the United States. Ms. Diane Smith and Ms. Lisha Ellis of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources coordinated the reviews with the U.S. DOE, CES, and the State Energy Officers group.

NATURAL GAS PRICING STUDY

CES is studying the price residential and commercial consumers pay for natural gas in Louisiana. The study is a response to two different concerns.

First, for some time, natural gas producers have complained that the lower prices they have been receiving for their product have not been passed along to residential and commercial customers. And high prices in these markets, they claim, is one reason that the demand for Louisiana's abundant, clean burning natural gas is not increasing as much as the forces of supply and demand indicate that it should.

The second concern is an out-growth of the apparent paradox that, although Louisiana is one of the nation's leading producers of natural gas, the average price paid per btu of gas consumed by Louisiana's residential consumers has been above the U.S. average since 1986 and the disparity seems to be increasing. Some of the paradox can be explained by factors such as Louisiana's