



Thailand's 2026 Ministry of Energy Directives for Oil Traders Amidst Middle East Tensions

On April 20, 2026, the Ministry of Energy issued Announcement No. 2, establishing updated trade measures and conditions for oil traders in response to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. Effective upon its publication in the Royal Gazette, this directive is designed to modernize trade regulations and the criteria for reporting crude oil refining costs. By aligning these protocols with current economic realities, the government aims to secure the accurate data necessary for efficient national energy management while ensuring a fair and balanced market environment for all stakeholders.

To promote transparency, the new regulations introduce strict guidelines for how fuel information is presented to the public. Oil traders are required to display daily retail prices and remaining stock quantities for gasoline, gasohol, and high-speed diesel prominently at the front of every refinery and oil terminal. These displays must clearly indicate the price in "Baht per liter" and the volume in "liters" using highly visible Arabic numerals. Furthermore, any accompanying text or details presented alongside these figures must be primarily written in Thai, though supplementary languages are permitted.

The Ministry has enhanced its oversight of fuel logistics by implementing a rigorous transport monitoring protocol. Traders must upload sales or transfer data, along with copies of transport documents, to the government's official online fuel transport monitoring system every time a shipment is dispatched. While standard transport documents are standard, traders may use comprehensive commercial or tax invoices as substitutes, provided they contain all the required information. This specific tracking mandate goes into effect for all sales data and documentation issued from February 1, 2026, onwards, ensuring a tighter grip on the national fuel supply chain.