

Georgia Department of Revenue Policy Bulletin SUT-2021-02 Reporting Requirements for Sales and Uses of Fuels Used by Common or Contract Carriers Exclusively for Locomotive Operation Revised July 30, 2021

Purpose: This Policy Bulletin sets forth reporting requirements necessitated by House Bill 588¹ for sales and uses of fuels used exclusively in the operation of locomotives by common or contract carriers regulated by the United States Surface Transportation Board.

Publication Date: June 24, 2021

Authority: House Bill 588 (2020-2021 Regular Session)

Scope: A Policy Bulletin is intended to provide guidance to the public and to Department personnel. It is a written statement issued to apply principles of law to a specific set of facts or a general category of taxpayers, superseding all conflicting documents and oral directives previously issued by the Department. A Policy Bulletin does not have the force or effect of law and is not binding on the public. It is, however, the Department's position and is binding on agency personnel until superseded or modified by a change in statute, regulation, court decision, or subsequent Policy Bulletin.

Issues:

1. What is changing on the sales and use tax return regarding locomotive fuels?

- 2. Does this reporting requirement apply to fuels used for any other purpose?
- 3. Why must sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels be separately reported?
- 4. How will taxpayers separately report sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels?

Discussion of Issues:

1. What is changing on the sales and use tax return regarding locomotive fuels?

¹ House Bill 588 was enacted May 5, 2021 and is effective on July 1, 2021.

Beginning with the sales and use tax return for the July 2021 period, taxpayers are required to separately report sales and uses of fuels used exclusively in the operation of locomotives by common or contract carriers regulated by the United States Surface Transportation Board.²

2. Does this reporting requirement apply to fuels used for any other purpose?

No. This requirement applies only to sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels.

3. Why must sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels be separately reported?

The separate reporting of sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels is necessary to implement House Bill 588. House Bill 588 requires state sales and use tax remitted on Carrier Locomotive Fuels to be appropriated to the Georgia Department of Transportation for use exclusively on freight and logistics projects located on or connected to publicly owned roads. To enable the Department of Revenue to calculate the amount of state sales and use tax remitted on Carrier Locomotive Fuels, taxpayers must separately report sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels using a special reporting code.

4. How will taxpayers separately report sales and uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels?

Detailed reporting instructions are available on the <u>Department's website</u> (https://dor.georgia.gov/reporting-carrier-locomotive-fuel-sales-and-uses-instructional-guide). If you have sales or uses of Carrier Locomotive Fuels to report for the July 2021 period and you use the sales and use tax return import template to import your transactions into the Georgia Tax Center (GTC) portal, please wait to file your return until a template approved for reporting Carrier Locomotive Fuels has been posted to the <u>Department's website</u>.

For more information, please contact the Department at 1-877-423-6711 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. For forms and other information, visit the Department's website at dor.georgia.gov.

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² Fuels used exclusively in the operation of locomotives by common or contract carriers regulated by the United States Surface Transportation Board are hereinafter referred to in this bulletin as "Carrier Locomotive Fuels."