Ministry of Finance Tax Bulletin



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International Air Cargo – Fuel Tax Refund

Motor Fuel Tax Act

This bulletin explains how to apply for a motor fuel tax refund on jet fuel purchased in BC **before April 1, 2012** and used in jet aircraft that carry cargo on international flights.

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Definitions

Jet Fuel

Jet fuel is fuel produced for, and used in, aircraft with turbine engines.

International Flights (before April 1, 2012)

An international flight is a flight that begins in BC and ends outside of North America, or begins outside of North America and ends in BC. Canada and the continental United States, including Alaska but not Hawaii, are considered North America.

Jet Fuel Tax Refunds

Before April 1, 2012

You may qualify for a refund of motor fuel tax paid before April 1, 2012 on jet fuel you purchased in BC. To qualify for the refund, you must have held a licence issued by the Canadian Transportation Agency and the jet fuel must have been used in an aircraft for which, if required, Transport Canada had issued you an operating certificate. The aircraft must have carried either:

paid cargo only on a scheduled or chartered international flight, or

 paid cargo and fare-paying passengers on a scheduled or chartered international flight.

You are eligible for a full refund of the motor fuel tax paid on jet fuel purchased in BC and used in an international cargo-only flight. However, for an international mixed cargo and passenger flight, the refund is based on the ratio of paid cargo weight to the total payload of the aircraft. Total payload means the aggregate weight of cargo, baggage, passengers and other materials carried on the flight.

The refund does not apply to fuel used during unscheduled maintenance flights.

After March 31, 2012

Effective April 1, 2012, the eligibility criteria for motor fuel tax refunds on jet fuel purchased in BC has been expanded to:

- include international air services that offer flights to members of the public for a fee, and
- define an international flight as a flight that begins in BC and ends outside of Canada (e.g. Vancouver to Washington) or begins outside of Canada and ends in BC (e.g. Washington to Vancouver).

For more information, please see **Bulletin MFT 002**, *Motor Fuel Tax Refunds for Purchasers*.

How to Apply for a Refund

To apply for a refund, complete the *Application for a Refund of Motor Fuel Tax - Purchaser of Fuel* form (FIN 147).

Along with the application, you will be required to provide the following:

- a letter that:
 - includes your company's mailing address and legal name,
 - confirms the company held for the period of the claim:
 - o a licence issued by the Canadian Transportation Agency, and
 - if required by Transport Canada, an operating certificate issued by Transport Canada authorizing the operation of an international commercial air service or cargo freight air service for the aircraft using the jet fuel that was purchased,
 - confirms whether the aircraft landed in BC and was part of a route that began or ended outside of North America and was authorized by the Canadian Transportation Agency and Transport Canada (before April 1, 2012),

- confirms the aircraft was flown on a chartered or scheduled basis and was carrying either paid cargo only, or paid cargo and fare-paying passengers (before April 1, 2012),
- states the aircraft did not offload any cargo or passengers in North America, other than cargo or passengers that were loaded outside of North America (before April 1, 2012), and
- is dated and signed by an authorized signing authority of the company,
- a schedule listing all data for each flight claimed, including date, cargo weight, total payload and total fuel uplifted,
- supplier fuel reports, and
- cargo manifests.

Send your application and supporting documents to the address on the application.

Time Limit and Minimum Amount for Claiming a Refund

Your refund claim must be received by the ministry within four years of the date that you pay the tax. For example, if you paid the tax on March 12, 2012, the ministry must receive your refund claim by March 11, 2016.

The ministry cannot issue a refund of less than \$10.



Need more info?

Online: **gov.bc.ca/consumertaxes**Toll free in Canada: 1 877 388-4440
Email: **CTBTaxQuestions@gov.bc.ca**

You can access our forms and publications online at **gov.bc.ca/consumertaxes** (go to *Motor Fuel and Carbon Tax* and then *Forms* or *Publications*)

The information in this bulletin is for your convenience and guidance and is not a replacement for the legislation. You can find the *Motor Fuel Tax Act* and regulations online under *Publications*.