

ANDRA Fuel Homologation Policy & Procedure

POLICY TITLE:	ANDRA Fuel Homologation Policy & Procedure
PURPOSE:	Homologation/ Approval of Race Fuels used in ANDRA Competition
INTRODUCED:	August 2006
REVIEWED:	July 2021
REVIEW FREQUENCY:	Biennial
RESPONSIBLE:	ANDRA Technical

Overview

To control the use of aftermarket specialty Hydrocarbon fuels and promote clean air, this policy relates to the control mechanisms for Lead content and composition of Hydrocarbon, Ethanol and Methanol fuels used in Drag Racing and associated activities staged under an ANDRA Permit.

This policy is applied to Unleaded and Ethanol (E85) variant 'Race Fuels'.

Definitions

RACE FUELS: The definition of 'Race Fuels' versus 'Pump Fuels' for the purpose of this policy and other ANDRA fuel related documentation, is that a 'Race Fuel' is supplied by a fuel supplier or agent, in containerised form (drum or similar). Whereas a 'Pump Fuel' is available for purchase from a supply outlet as a fuel produced by an oil company that is available to the general public through a retail petrol station bowser, at any time in normal trading hours, in at least three (3) ANDRA Divisions.

E85: Means a fuel blend consisting of 70–85% ethanol; and

A fuel that meets the requirements of the Fuel Standard (Petrol) Determination 2001.

Criteria

1. FORMULA

Any fuel used in activities staged under ANDRA Permit must meet the following criteria;

Approvals: Fuel parameters and limits as set by the fuel quality standard (petrol) determination 2001, varied by way of ministerial approval through Section 13 Grant of Approval – Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000. In the case of E85 this product must meet the criteria as set out in Fuel Standard (Ethanol E85) Determination 2012.

This information is available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/fuelquality>

Contents: Contains no components that are prohibited for use or import into Australia, as identified by NICNAS.

Lead Content: All fuels to be homologated must be Unleaded.

2. NUMBER OF HOMOLOGATIONS

Each organisation will be permitted to homologate up to ten (10) Unleaded Hydrocarbon fuel blends including one (1) E85 fuel blend.

3. PUBLISHING

All approved fuels and updates will be posted on the ANDRA website and distributed to Divisional Directors and Senior ANDRA Stewards.

Homologation Process

4. HOMOLOGATION

Governance

All fuel homologation applications will be for a single fuel type, multiple fuel types must be applied for separately.

Fuel parameters and limits are controlled by the Australian Federal Government by application for a Section 13 Grant of Approval under the Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000. Applicants must provide ANDRA a 'complete' copy of the gazetted approval notice as approved by the Minister.

A copy of a 'complete' fuel analysis that shows all relevant properties of the fuel must be supplied to ANDRA to support the application. The fuel standard used for testing must be one developed primarily for application of 'Specialist Racing Fuels'.

Pricing Parity

Organisations are required to ensure all ANDRA License holders will be able to reasonably access each homologated fuel blend at a pricing structure that is within reasonable expectations for other competitors in a similar locality or region within Australia. Biased price structuring will not be tolerated and may result in permanent withdrawal of homologation of supplier's fuels by ANDRA.

Homologation Fees

The old procedure which included payment of the initial homologation fee of \$1,100 per fuel plus an additional \$520 per fuel per year has been abolished and therefore is discontinued.

There is now a flat fee of \$2,000 (excluding GST) which is invoiced for the homologation period of 1st July to 30th June.

Payment of the \$2,000 fee enables any/all fuel suppliers to homologate up to ten (10) Unleaded Hydrocarbon fuel blends including one (1) E85 fuel blend.

Supplying test results and a copy of Section 13 Grant of Approval from the Australian Federal Government which confirms the fuel meets all requirements of the Grant of Approval is still required for each fuel.

The costs for fuel testing and Section 13 application are the responsibility of the applicant and should be made directly to the testing authority and the Government agency as applicable.

All ANDRA fees must be paid within fourteen (14) days of application. All fees are non-refundable.

An ANDRA Associate Membership will be bestowed to homologated fuel suppliers as a part of their homologation fees and requirements upon supply of their company logo and lodgement of the ANDRA Membership Application Form.

5. HOMOLOGATION TIMEFRAME

Minimum Homologation Period

Each fuel type must be homologated for a minimum period of one (1) year. This is to provide consistency of product for customers and provide product stability between fuel suppliers.

All fuel blends submitted will be analysed by ANDRA to confirm the blend meets the Section 13 Grant of Approval. Notwithstanding failure of the blend to meet the criteria, any delays in processing will be advised to the applicant as early as possible.

Fuel Blends

6. VARIATION TO SUBMITTED BLEND

Notwithstanding the provisions of each application, any significant variation to homologated fuel blends requires written advice from the supplier/ agent/ refiner and the party granted approval no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the next scheduled ANDRA Championship event, provided the variation to the blend remains within current approved criteria. Variation to fuel blends will only be accepted due to purity variances of fuel componentry.

Reformulation of blends will not be accepted and will be treated as a new fuel therefore will need to go through the homologation process as a new fuel, as changing parameters of fuels e.g. Oxygen, slight batch variations of specific gravity (S.G.) etc. is not classed as a variation.

Suppliers must resubmit updated samples and test results of fuels at any time during the homologation period in which the fuel is known to have changed its approved physical characteristics, which will be checked against previous homologation records and regulation requirements.

Batch numbers and date/s of supply must be noted directly on each container provided by the supplier. Notwithstanding this provision, the specific gravity and colour of each homologated blend must be confirmed by the supplier every ninety (90) days, these results will be published on the ANDRA website. The cost of any additional testing of the blend required by ANDRA in this instance will be borne by the applicant.

NOTE: Failure to comply with notification requirements by the supplier may result in temporary removal or cancellation of the fuel homologation, and ineligibility of the blend for use in competition until the matter is rectified.

NOTE: Failure to comply with fuel reformulation requirements will result in some or all of the responsible supplier's current homologation approvals being suspended for up to twelve (12) months and/or a fine of up to \$50,000. The supplier's previous homologated fuels will all need to be resubmitted for approval again and pay all the associated homologation fees at the end of suspension. Suspension period will be determined by Judicial Process convened by an ANDRA Tribunal Hearing or formal notification from the ANDRA.

7. WITHDRAWAL OF A HOMOLOGATED BLEND

Suppliers wishing to withdraw a homologated blend from the list must do so in writing/email to ANDRA Technical. Any blend withdrawn from Homologation will be deleted from the ANDRA Approved Fuels List ninety (90) days from receipt of written notice, at the discretion of ANDRA. All fees relevant to the blend are non-refundable.

The removal of all Leaded fuels, effective 30th June 2019, was automatically carried out by ANDRA and therefore did not require any prior notice detailing the intent to remove by the fuel suppliers.

NOTE: Suppliers of homologated fuels wishing to cease homologation and/or supply of any fuel are required to provide intention to remove fuel from market in writing to ANDRA with at least six (6) months' notice. This time is to allow for ANDRA to notify competitors who may hold stocks of fuel that they must use up existing stocks prior to the date of removal.

8. INTRODUCTION OF NEW FUEL BLENDS

Suppliers wishing to homologate a new blend must do so in writing. Any Unleaded fuel blend introduced for homologation will be added to the ANDRA Approved Fuels List twenty-eight (28) days from the date of written acceptance by ANDRA that the fuel meets all relevant Federal Government approvals and testing requirements, or at the discretion of ANDRA. All fees relevant to the blend are non-refundable.

NOTE: Intention to introduce a new fuel must be advised in writing to ANDRA with at least twenty-eight (28) days' notice. This time is to allow for ANDRA to notify competitors prior to the date of introduction in competition. ANDRA reserves the right to delay the introduction date of any new fuel into competition.

NOTE: E85 that meets the Fuel Standard (Ethanol E85) Determination 2012 will be deemed legal for use in ANDRA sanctioned competition from 1st December 2012.

Variation to ANDRA Fuel Homologation Policy

Any variation to the ANDRA Fuel Homologation Policy will be advised in writing to all participating organizations, with twenty-eight (28) days' notice from the date of the correspondence.

NOTE: No variations to the Fuel Standard (Ethanol E85) Determination 2012 will be homologated. It is the responsibility of the final vendor in the supply chain to ensure that all conditions are complied with.

Distribution Network

Organisations are required to demonstrate and maintain a network of distribution, ensuring all ANDRA Licence holders will be able to reasonably access each homologated fuel blend.

Field Testing

ANDRA will conduct various field tests as deemed appropriate from time to time during the season, to ensure Competitor's compliance with the ANDRA Approved Fuels List. Where field testing discovers non-compliant results, fuel samples will be taken and sent to the testing authority for compliance. Where non-compliance is confirmed the costs associated with testing will be borne by the supplier, or competitor.

A tolerance will be allowed for all field testing, the tolerance factor will be provided to ANDRA Officials on a confidential basis. If any sample exceeds this tolerance further independent sampling must be conducted.

9. PENALTIES

The costs of independent testing and penalties will be borne by the following parties pending the outcome of a hearing conducted by an ANDRA Judicial Tribunal or determination by ANDRA.

ANDRA:

Where independent fuel samples are found to be within the Section 13 gazetted approval specification and the ANDRA approved homologation documentation; the cost of fuel sample testing will be borne by ANDRA. All sample testing requests must be submitted through ANDRA Technical.

Competitor:

Evidence of fuel tampering or variation by competitors;

Up to twelve (12) month suspension from competition and removal of any records attained at the event in which testing was conducted and any events after testing date until completion of suspension period and/ or a fine up to \$20,000.

NOTE: Costs of fuel testing will be borne by the competitor where found guilty by tribunal. Competitors found guilty of fuel tampering or variation will be published on the ANDRA website.

Fuel Suppliers:

Evidence of fuel tampering or variance to the homologated blend (whether for a performance advantage of not) by suppliers;

Up to twelve (12) months suspension of ALL homologated fuels of the responsible supplier and/ or a fine up to \$25,000.

NOTE: The supplier's previous homologated fuels will all need to be resubmitted for approval again and pay all the associated homologation fees at the end of the twelve (12) month suspension.

NOTE: Costs of fuel testing will be borne by the supplier where found guilty by Tribunal or tampering/ variance is found by ANDRA Technical.

NOTE: Suppliers found guilty of fuel tampering or significant variance from the homologated blend will be published on the ANDRA website.

Any penalty to a fuel supplier may be appealed to the Board of ANDRA LTD within fourteen (14) days of the penalty with a \$5000 bond held by ANDRA.