



January 2026 Issue

Oil & Energy Online Features

"How Massachusetts' Clean Heat Standard Could Transform Energy Dealer Economics"

Article By Gray, Gray & Gray's Marty Kirshner and Joseph Ugliesto from Diversified Energy Specialists

The proposed CHS represents the most significant challenges energy dealers will face in decades.

Having spent decades working with propane and heating oil dealers across Massachusetts, we've witnessed how regulatory changes ripple through the industry's financial landscape. The proposed Clean Heat Standard represents the most significant transformation energy dealers will face since the implementation of environmental compliance regulations in the 1990s. The financial implications are not merely additive costs but fundamental changes to business models that will require strategic recalibration.



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Gray, Gray & Gray Reaffirms Commitment to Remaining Independent

We are pleased to announce that Gray, Gray & Gray has issued a statement reaffirming our intention to remain independent amidst a growing trend of industry consolidation.

"While many of our peers across the accounting industry have made the choice to be acquired or merge into a larger firm, we strongly believe that our independence provides enormous value for our clients and the talented professionals who comprise our team," said James DeLeo, MBA, CPA/MST, Leading Partner at Gray, Gray & Gray. "We answer directly to our clients, not a corporate board or distant office. We stand alone so our clients don't have to."



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Gray, Gray & Gray Partners Michael Cecere and Paul Gerry, Jr. Retire



MICHAEL CECERE
Partner



PAUL GERRY, JR.
Partner

[Gray, Gray & Gray](#) has announced that two of the firm's Partners, Michael Cecere, CPA, MST and Paul Gerry, Jr., CPA, have retired.

Michael Cecere joined Gray, Gray & Gray in 1989 and was elected Partner in 2002. He led the firm's Nonprofit and Employee Benefit Plan Audit practice groups, while contributing his experience and expertise to clients across the firm.

Paul Gerry, Jr. joined Gray, Gray & Gray in 2008 when the firm acquired his previous firm, Patterson & Gerry. He led the firm's Client Accounting & Advisory practice group and was a strong proponent of advancing the technology profile within the firm.

Best wishes on your retirements, Michael and Paul!

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1099 Filing Requirements



Stay ahead of tax season! Businesses must file 1099 forms for qualifying payments of \$600 or more to contractors and vendors. With deadlines approaching and new e-filing rules in place, now is the time to ensure your records are accurate and ready.

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What You Need to Know About Trump Accounts

"Trump Accounts" are a new type of tax-advantaged investment vehicle for children, created under the recently passed One Big Beautiful Bill Act. They are designed to encourage long-term savings and provide a financial foundation for young Americans. These accounts can be opened for any U.S. child under the age of 18 who has a Social Security number. The accounts are set to launch on July 4, 2026.



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What You Need to Know About the New Electronic Payments Requirements



The Internal Revenue Service is making transformative shifts in interactions with taxpayers. Now you can expect to receive your IRS tax refund via electronic deposit rather than a traditional paper check. Rest assured, your payment will still be delivered—just in a more secure and efficient manner. This change is part of a comprehensive modernization initiative by the Internal Revenue Service, designed to improve efficiency, enhance security, reduce fraud, and lower the

substantial costs associated with paper-based transactions. Additionally, payments to the IRS are now required to be made electronically.

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