

Annexed Crimea Begins Lifting Fuel Rationing Measures After Months of Shortages

October 19, 2026



Arthur Novosiltsev / Moskva News Agency

Kremlin-installed authorities in Crimea have begun lifting fuel rationing measures introduced months ago in response to shortages caused by Ukrainian attacks on Russian oil refineries and supply routes leading to the annexed peninsula.

Mikhail Razvozhayev, the Russian-appointed governor of Sevastopol, [said](#) Monday that purchase limits in the port city had been officially lifted as of midnight as shipments of fuel began to stabilize.

“We’ve removed the restrictions because the logistics situation with gasoline has practically stabilized,” the Interfax news agency quoted Razvozhayev as saying.

He said Sevastopol had enough fuel to ensure its “smooth sale over a short-term period,” though he said some gas stations ran out of certain fuel grades by midday on Monday before

being restocked later in the day.

“Let’s hope the logistics situation will remain this way from now on,” Razvozhayev said.

Related article: [Russian Firms Stand to Gain Most From Trump’s Diesel Deal, Analysts Say](#)

Crimea began rationing fuel in May after Ukrainian drone strikes targeted military trucks and fuel tankers that supply the region from the north, triggering local gasoline shortages. The supply crisis later spread into mainland Russia as Ukraine ramped up its attacks on refineries, causing two major waves of nationwide fuel shortages.

On Oct. 12, the average price of gasoline in Sevastopol hit 131.76 rubles per liter (\$6 per gallon), [according](#) to Rosstat data, which tracks the annexed city alongside Russian regions and lists it as being among the places with the highest gasoline prices nationwide.

Across Russia, the average price of gasoline has increased more than 21% since the start of the year.

Ukrainian strikes on Russian oil refineries began to drive a wedge between the White House and Kyiv this month after U.S. President Donald Trump blamed them for the soaring cost of diesel in the United States, though analysts say the U.S.-Israeli war against Iran is the main cause of high energy prices.

Trump announced an “energy ceasefire” between Russia and Ukraine earlier this month, which neither side said they had agreed to beforehand. That apparent pause in strikes collapsed immediately as the Russian army continued its attacks against Ukraine’s power grid.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/10/19/annexed-crimea-begins-lifting-fuel-rationing-measures-after-months-of-shortages-a94023>