

First Shipment of Russian Diesel Departs for the United States Under Trump Deal

October 23, 2026



REUTERS / Manon Cruz

The Kremlin confirmed Friday that the first shipment of diesel to the United States left port the day before as part of an energy deal made between President Donald Trump and Russia's Vladimir Putin.

"The first tanker is on its way to buyers," spokesman Dmitry Peskov [told](#) reporters. "From here on out, shipments will continue on a regular schedule."

Reuters, citing shipping data, confirmed the tanker was loaded with 40,000 tons of ultra-low sulphur diesel in the Baltic port of Primorsk. It is expected to arrive in the United States on Nov. 7.

Trump announced the diesel deal on Oct. 9, saying that Russia would "immediately" supply 300,000 metric tons of diesel to the U.S. and global markets, followed by another 500,000 tons in November and 1 million tons thereafter.

The following day, Russia partially lifted its diesel export ban — first introduced in the summer due to domestic shortages.

Most experts agree that the agreement will have little effect on global energy markets in the near future. The 300,000 tons scheduled to hit the U.S. market this month cover only three-quarters of the country's daily consumption, according to [calculations](#) by The Guardian.

Related article: [Trump's Russian Diesel Debacle Risks Backfiring](#)

Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak [said](#) Wednesday that subsequent shipments “will satisfy all the U.S. requirements within our capacity.” Deliveries to other international buyers, he added, will depend on how quickly Russian refineries can restore output following Ukrainian drone strikes.

“If, according to the schedule, we can reach full volume only by the end of the year, then other countries will receive the volumes they previously received,” Novak said.

Turkey's energy minister [said](#) this weekend that Ankara had negotiated to secure a share of the Russian diesel under the Trump agreement.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and European allies have criticized the U.S.-Russian agreement, arguing that it will bolster the Russian economy and strain transatlantic relations.

By most accounts, the diesel deal is designed to boost support for Republicans going into the midterm elections in early November. Polls show that surging energy costs in the United States, largely triggered by the war in Iran, are driving voter frustration and hurting the chances of Trump allies being elected to office.

Reuters contributed reporting.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/10/23/first-shipment-of-russian-diesel-departs-for-the-united-states-under-trump-deal-a94039>