

Tankers

Trump secures diesel shipments in ‘highly successful’ discussion with Putin

Moscow agrees to ship 1.8m tonnes of diesel to America



President Donald Trump's Marine One helicopter takes off from the South Lawn of the White House Photo: Molly Riley/White House

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US President Donald Trump has agreed to allow 1.8m tonnes of diesel fuel to be imported from Russia.

The deal comes three weeks after he signed legislation to punish countries that purchase Russian petroleum.

Trump said on Truth Social that the agreement came out of a “highly successful” meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.



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Russia will supply 300,000 tonnes to the US immediately, followed by 500,000 tonnes in November and 1m tonnes after that.

Trump’s deal with Putin comes as Trump faces political pressure over fuel prices, propped up by his war with Iran, ahead of congressional elections in early November.

“Between our TOTAL CONTROL of the Strait of Hormuz, and this great announcement on Russian Energy, Diesel Prices for Americans and, indeed, the World, will be COMING DOWN, IN RECORD NUMBERS, AND FAST!,” Trump said, with his characteristically free use of capitalisation.

Farmers, ranchers and truckers

“Lower prices for Americans, especially our Great Farmers, Ranchers, and Truckers, is my Greatest Priority. This is a very big and important announcement.”

All told, the volumes add up to about 45 MR tanker voyages.

The US Treasury Department moved quickly to ensure that such shipments would be free from sanctions.



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“Today, at President Trump’s direction, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is immediately issuing a temporary general licence to allow the supply of Russian diesel to the global market,” the department said on X.

On 19 September, Trump signed into law a bill that empowered him to impose 100% tariffs on countries that buy Russian oil or natural gas.

The Lindsey O Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026, which passed in bipartisan votes in Congress, did not include diesel fuel in those measures.

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