



**LOCAL COMPANY ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT TO  
DIVEST ITS COMMERCIAL FUEL AND LUBRICANT BUSINESS**

**Ukiah, California, March 2017** – **Eel River Fuels, Inc.** (“ERF”) a locally based propane, fuel, and lubricants supplier, today announced that it has agreed to sell its commercial fueling, lubricant and bulk refined fuel storage assets in Ukiah, Willits, Fort Bragg, Lower Lake and Upper Lake, California to Ukiah-based distributor **Nick Barbieri Trucking LLC** (“NBT”). The transaction is anticipated to close by March 31, 2017.

**Nick Barbieri Trucking LLC.** A third-generation family-owned fuel distribution business founded in 1994 by Nick Barbieri in Santa Rosa, NBT is small enough to provide the personal service customers expect, yet large enough to provide the value they deserve. NBT carries Chevron Lubricants, is a First Source Elite certified lubricants marketer and supplies Bulk Gasoline, Diesel, Kerosene and Racing Fuels. “We have what it takes to keep your business moving.”

ERF employs 35 experienced and dedicated personnel in its refined fuel and lubricants operations who will be joining NBT’s team to continue to operate the acquired assets and business locally from NBT facilities.

Foster said, “We believe that the Company and NBT have a strong plan in place to provide both a smooth transition for our fuel customers who have supported our business for many years and will also ensure local employment and career development opportunities for our affected employees who have been a primary key to our success and outstanding reputation for service and quality.”

**JOSEPH HALE COMPANY**, Houston, Texas provided acquisition and financing advisory services to **Nick Barbieri Trucking LLC**, which included valuation, financial modeling, transaction due diligence, contract negotiation and origination of credit facilities to close the transaction.