

Calif. gas prices expected to jump overnight

By James F. Peltz, Los Angeles Time

The slide in California's gasoline prices could abruptly end Friday, with prices possibly jumping 30 cents a gallon due to seasonal changes in the state's refinery operations, a consumer advocacy group predicted Thursday.

Prices often climb in California this time of year because refineries switch from the winter blend of fuel to the more expensive summer blend required in the state.

The average price of regular unleaded in California was \$2.306 a gallon Thursday, down 24 percent from \$3.03 a year ago, according to AAA.

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