Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Chairman
2020 L Street • P.O. Box 2815 • Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov

October 7, 1999

Dear Sir/Madam:

As you may know, on June 24, 1999, the Air Resources Board (ARB) approved a statewide regulation (enclosed) to require the prominent labeling of pumps dispensing gasoline containing methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE). The regulation was adopted pursuant to Governor Davis' Executive Order D-5-99 which, among other things, directed the ARB to adopt labeling regulations for gasoline containing MTBE in order to allow consumers to make an informed choice as to the type of gasoline they purchase. This letter is to notify interested and affected parties that the ARB expects the regulation to become effective no later than December 15, 1999.

On October 1, 1999, the ARB submitted the MTBE labeling regulation to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for approval. Under California law, the OAL has 30 working days (by November 16, 1999) to approve or disapprove the regulation. Upon approval by the OAL, the regulation will be filed with the California Secretary of State. In accordance with the Board's directions in Resolution 99-22, the ARB has requested that the regulation go into effect 30 days after the filing. Therefore, it is anticipated that the regulation will be effective sometime between December 1, 1999 and December 15, 1999.

Upon filing with the Secretary of State, the ARB will issue a letter notifying interested and affected parties of the effective date. The ARB will also update it's web page http:\\www.arb.ca.gov\regact\oxytahoe.99\oxytahoe.htm upon submittal of the regulation to the Secretary of State.

To assist service station operators in correctly labeling their gasoline pumps, the ARB is developing free software that will calculate the MTBE content of their gasoline storage tanks by tracking the service station operator's gasoline deliveries. This software will be available by the time the OAL approves the regulation. More information on how this software can be obtained will be posted on the ARB web page. However, in order to expedite the implementation of the regulation and provide consumers with greatest benefit, the ARB is requesting that gasoline service station operators that are dispensing gasoline containing MTBE voluntarily begin labeling their pumps at the earliest possible date.

If you have any questions regarding the MTBE labeling regulation, or need further assistance, please contact Mr. Gary M. Yee, Manager, Industrial Section, at (916) 327-5986.

Sincerely,

Dean C. Simeroth, Chief
Criteria Pollutants Branch
Stationary Source Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Gary M. Yee, Manager
Industrial Section