

# **Workshop Regarding Regulatory Fuels Activities**

**July 12, 2001**

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

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**Air Resources Board**

# Agenda

- ✦ Introductions
- ✦ Review of MTBE and other Deminimus Levels in CaRFG3 Regulations
- ✦ Results from the California Energy Commission Survey of Ethanol Producers
- ✦ Ongoing Work on Commingling from the Effects of Ethanol in Gasoline
- ✦ Ongoing Work on Permeation from the Effects of Ethanol in Gasoline
- ✦ Development of CaRFG3 Vehicle Certification Fuel Standard Regulations
- ✦ Presentations from Others
- ✦ Open Discussion
- ✦ Closing Remarks

# MTBE Deminimus Levels

- ✦ Review current CaRFG3 MTBE deminimus limits
- ✦ Change current MTBE deminimus limits to oxygen content equivalent
- ✦ 0.3 percent volume MTBE is about 0.06 percent weight oxygen
- ✦ 0.15 percent volume MTBE is about 0.03 percent weight oxygen

# Results from the Recent California Energy Commission Survey of Ethanol Producers

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Demand

# **Ongoing Work on Commingling from the Effects of Ethanol in Gasoline**

# Ongoing Work on Commingling

- ✦ Board prohibited use of MTBE beginning December 31, 2002
- ✦ Federal oxygen requirement still in place
  - Ethanol will be only allowable oxygenate
  - 70% of California fuel
- ✦ Board directed the staff to further evaluate real-world impacts of mixing (commingling) ethanol and non-ethanol gasoline

# Evaluation of Real-World Impacts

- ✦ ARB Commingling Study
  - Established ARB/Industry working group
  - Evaluate consumer refueling practices
  - Vehicle fuel sampling program

# ARB/Industry Commingling Study Working Group

- ✦ Continuing efforts to fulfill staff's data needs regarding consumer refueling practices
  - Industry members to report on availability of information from industry marketing data
  - Possibility of conducting public survey
- ✦ Discussions regarding ongoing development and implementation of the fuel sampling program
  - Results from preliminary field work
  - Need for additional focused study to capture ethanol blends

# Commingling Study

## Vehicle Fuel Sampling Program

- ✦ Completed Preliminary Bay Area Field Work
  - Three teams, two days, six stations
  - 99 voluntary participants
  - About 60% sampling success rate
  - Revealed only minor revisions needed to protocol
  - Complete laboratory results not yet available
- ✦ Actual testing to be conducted in Lake Tahoe, Bay Area, and Los Angeles during August & Sept.
  - Need for industry members to identify/recommend additional site locations

# **Ongoing Work on Permeation from the Effects of Ethanol in Gasoline**

# Ongoing Permeation Emission Evaluation

- ✦ Contract awarded to investigate potential permeation emissions losses
  - Performed literature search for permeation rates with ethanol and non-ethanol gasolines
    - Confirms ethanol increases permeation emission losses
    - literature search results have been posted on our webpage
  - Gathering data on permeable fuel system materials in vehicle fleet to estimate statewide permeation emissions
  - Design test program to evaluate permeation rates to increase available data
- ✦ Final report is available on the ARB's Cleaner-Burning Gasoline webpage

# Ongoing Permeation Emission Evaluation (continued)

- ✦ The ARB staff will conduct a test program to evaluate the permeation emissions associated with ethanol in California gasoline and will report to the Board on its progress by the end of the year.

# **Development of CaRFG3 Vehicle Certification Fuel Standard Regulations**

# CaRFG3 Certification Fuel

- ✦ Plan regulatory update to the CaRFG2 certification fuel specifications
- ✦ Planning additional workshops in the near future
- ✦ Will work closely with auto, oil, and ethanol industries and the ARB Mobile Source Control Division
- ✦ Scheduled for consideration by the ARB Board in November 2001

# **Presentations by Others**

# Open Discussion

# Closing Remarks