Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

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

Gray Davis
Governor

November 17, 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 0.6 volume percent or more methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE). This letter is to notify interested and affected parties that the regulation will be effective on December 16, 1999; therefore, labels must be affixed to gasoline pumps as of this date.

The MTBE labeling 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. The regulation contains requirements for the size, wording and placement and durability of the label. The regulation also contains requirements that the bill of lading or other transfer documentation for gasoline being delivered to retail service stations state whether or not the gasoline contains 0.6 volume percent or more MTBE; this will assist station operators in properly labeling their pumps. In addition, to further assist service station operators, the ARB has developed free software that will calculate the MTBE content of their gasoline storage tanks by tracking the station operator's gasoline deliveries. This software can be obtained by contacting Mr. Erik White at (916) 327-2953, or downloaded from the ARB's Internet web site at http://www.arb.ca.gov/cbg/mtbelabl/mtbelabl.htm.

Based on discussions with various trade associations, the ARB has been informed that the required MTBE labels can be obtained either by contacting the franchiser of your service station, or by contacting the California Independent Oil Marketers Association at (916) 646-5999. We urge your early compliance with the labeling requirements to allow customers to make an informed choice when purchasing gasoline.

If you have any questions regarding the MTBE labeling regulation, or need further assistance, please contact Mr. Erik White, Air Resources Engineer, Industrial Section, at (916) 327-2953.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Erik White
Industrial Section

Mr. Chuck Beddow, Manager
Field Enforcement Section