



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

SB19 - Statutory Cleanup ORS 646 Fuels

Contact: Lisa Hanson, Deputy Director
503-986-4632/lhanson@oda.state.or.us
Jason Barber, Program Director
503-986-4767/jbarber@oda.state.or.us

Description

- Cleans up statutory language regarding the gasoline/ethanol blending requirements.
- Cleans up and simplifies requirements for labeling gasoline with oxygenates like ethanol.
- Simplifies the statutory list of substances that cannot be blending into gasoline by using common names and abbreviations.

Background

The following changes to the vehicle fuels section of ORS 646 are proposed to update the motor fuel quality and fuel dispenser labeling requirements;

- ORS 646.910 contains a listing of substances that cannot be blended into gasoline. The proposed changes simplify the list by replacing chemical names with their more commonly used names and abbreviations.
- ORS 646.913 has three issues;
 - a. Current statute does not correctly distinguish between ethanol and denatured fuel ethanol. The proposed changes will address this.
 - b. Current statute allows all denaturing recipes found in the federal regulations. The appropriate fuel ethanol denaturing recipes are those that are found in the ASTM fuel ethanol specification. The proposed changes will reference the applicable ASTM specifications.
 - c. Current statute treats gasoline and ethanol components separately. The current version of the ASTM gasoline standard covers gasoline blended with 10% ethanol without the need to treat their components separately. The proposed changes will reference the applicable current version of ASTM.
- In ORS 646.915
 - The oxygenate labeling standard for gasoline (i.e. gasoline blended with ethanol) found in current statute is out of date. In the current fuel market, the principle reason for requiring labeling on fuel dispensers is simply to facilitate fair competition between fuel marketers and to provide adequate information for consumers who are buying that gasoline. SB 19 allows ODA more freedom to work with stakeholders to adjust the dispenser labeling requirements as modern motor fuels evolve in the market.