

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

State Actions Banning MTBE (Statewide)

The following states have either a partial or complete ban on MTBE (methyl tertiary-butyl ether). This list is updated when new information becomes available. For more information on MTBE, please visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Web site at www.epa.gov/mtbe.

State (EPA Region)	Phaseout date (in chronological order)	Complete or partial ban?	Applies to other oxygenates?	Date of adoption
IA (7)	7/1/00	Partial: no more than trace amounts (0.5% by vol.) MTBE in motor vehicle fuel.	MTBE only	5/11/00 Replaced previous limit of 2% (vol.)
MN (5)	7/2/00 (partial) 7/2/05 (complete)	Partial/then complete: no more than 1/3 of 1% oxygenate as of 7/2/00; complete ban as of 7/2/05.	MTBE, ETBE ¹ , and TAME ²	Early 2000
NE (7)	7/13/00	Partial: no more than 1% (vol.) MTBE in any petroleum product.	MTBE only	4/11/00
SD (8)	7/1/01	Partial: no more than trace amounts (less than 0.5% vol.) resulting from commingling during storage or transfer.	MTBE only	2/28/01 Replaced previous limit of 2% (vol.)
CO (8)	4/30/02	Complete ban by 4/30/02.	MTBE only	5/23/00
CA (9)	Originally 12/31/02; delayed to 12/31/03	Complete ban by 12/31/02, but latest Exec. Order requires CARB to implement by 7/31/02 a one-year delay in ban. On 7/25/02, CARB delayed the ban by 1 year.	MTBE only	10/9/99 (Orig. E.O. issued 3/25/99; latest E.O. issued 3/15/02)

¹ ETBE stands for Ethyl tertiary butyl ether

² TAME stands for Tertiary amyl methyl ether

State (EPA Region)	Phaseout date (in chronological order)	Complete or partial ban?	Applies to other oxygenates?	Date of adoption
MI (5)	6/1/03	Complete ban by 6/1/03; can be extended if determined by 6/1/02 that phaseout date is not achievable.	MTBE only	6/26/00
CT (1)	1/1/04	Complete ban by 1/1/04, planned in conjunction with NESCAUM regional fuels task force.	MTBE only	6/1/00 (Orig. phaseout date 10/1/03; extended to 1/1/04 on 6/18/03)
NY (2)	1/1/04	Complete ban as of 1/1/04.	MTBE only	5/24/00
WA (10)	1/1/04	Partial: may not be intentionally added to fuel, or knowingly mixed in gasoline above 0.6% (vol.)	MTBE only	5/10/01
KS (7)	7/1/04	Partial: may not sell or deliver any motor vehicle fuel containing more than 0.5% (vol.) MTBE	MTBE only	4/19/01
IL (5)	7/24/04	Partial: may not use, sell or manufacture MTBE as a fuel additive, but may sell motor fuel containing trace amounts of MTBE (0.5% or less by volume)	MTBE only	7/24/01 (original ban) revised 6/24/02 to allow trace amounts
IN (5)	7/24/04	Partial: no more than 0.5% (vol.) MTBE in gasoline	MTBE only	3/14/02
WI (5)	8/1/04	Partial: no more than 0.5% (vol.) MTBE in gasoline	MTBE only	8/11/03
OH (5)	7/1/05	Partial: no more than 0.5% (vol.) MTBE in motor vehicle fuels	MTBE only	5/29/02

State (EPA Region)	Phaseout date (in chronological order)	Complete or partial ban?	Applies to other oxygenates?	Date of adoption
MO (7)	7/31/05	Partial: no more than 0.5% (vol.) MTBE in gasoline sold or stored	MTBE only	7/11/02
KY (4)	1/1/06	Partial: no more than trace amounts of MTBE in fuel after this date	MTBE only	4/23/02
ME (1)	1/1/07	Partial: no more than 0.5% (vol.) MTBE in gasoline sold.	MTBE only	4/14/04
NH (1)	The latter of 1/1/07 or 6 months after Federal approval to opt out of RFG	Partial: no more than 0.5% (vol.) in gasoline sold or stored	MTBE, other gasoline ethers, or tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA)	5/27/04

NOTES:

(1) Oxygenated Fuels Association (OFA) has challenged NY and CA bans in court. Status of these lawsuits is as follows:

- NY: On May 18, 2001, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of NY denied OFA’s motion for summary judgment in the lawsuit challenging the NY ban. On November 21, 2003, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York rejected OFA’s request to strike New York’s Ban.
- CA: On September 4, 2001, the U.S. District Court in Sacramento granted the State’s motion to dismiss, ruling that the federal CAA does not prohibit the State’s action to phaseout MTBE. In June 2003, the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld California’s state MTBE ban.

(2) AZ adopted legislation on 4/28/00 calling for a complete phaseout of MTBE as soon as feasible but in no event later than 6 months after California’s phaseout. This legislation expired on June 30, 2001, so it is no longer official state policy although the state informally still encourages phaseout of MTBE.