

MEMORANDUM

TO: Air Quality Board

THROUGH: Bryce C. Bryce, Executive Secretary

FROM: Bo Wood, Rules Coordinator

DATE: December 1, 2021

SUBJECT: Repeal of R307-301. Utah and Weber Counties: Oxygenated Gasoline Program as a Contingency Measure.

During the required five-year review analysis, the Division of Air Quality (DAQ) staff determined that this rule is no longer necessary. The rule was originally adopted as a contingency measure for the carbon monoxide (CO) attainment and maintenance state implementation plan (SIP) revisions for Utah and Weber counties, last approved by the Air Quality Board in 2004. The rule requires gasoline sold in Utah and Weber Counties between November 1 and the end of February to be oxygenated with a 2.7% minimum blend of ethanol, should the area violate the standard and the contingency be triggered.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, more than 98% of gasoline sold in the United States today is oxygenated with a blend of 10% ethanol, exceeding the 2.7% required by the rule.¹ Considering this, the DAQ in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency, have determined that this rule is no longer required to meet any SIP requirements.

Additionally, monitored data shows that neither area has exceeded the CO standard since 1993. The DAQ continues to operate an air quality monitoring network in accordance with 40 CFR Part 58 to verify the continued attainment of the CO NAAQS, but as CO emissions continue to decline, it is unlikely that a violation of the 8-Hour CO standard will occur.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board propose for public comment the repeal of R307-301.

¹ https://afdc.energy.gov/fuels/ethanol_blends.html