

ASTWMO State Symposium on Fuel Oxygenates



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Arlington, VA

THE BOONDOCKS AARON McGRUDER



Our current state of knowledge,...

Accomplishments on Oxygenates

- EPA Blue Ribbon Panel on MTBE
- USGS NAWQA Program
- American Petroleum Institute (API)
- ASTSWMO MTBE and Fuel Oxygenates Workgroup
- ITRC Workgroup
- Hundreds of Papers, Studies, Reports

What have States Learned from MTBE?

- Better site assessment: Diving plumes - 3D Characterization (multi-level sampling devices)
- Accelerate cleanups - More aggressive source removal
- Need to monitor for MTBE and other compounds - look further downgradient

What have States Learned from MTBE?

- Significant consequences from 3rd Party impacts and litigation
- A few states have increased fund coverage
- MTBE is going to be with us for a while

The "Other Oxygenates"

- States recognizing presence of other oxygenates (TBA, ETBE, TAME, ETBE, DIPE, ETOH)
- Many states adding them to their list of analytes - some creating new standards
- Ethanol discussion has continued in the current energy bill - effects of ethanol releases?

Purpose of the Symposium?

- Oxygenates: What are they and how do we test for them?
- What are their fate and transport characteristics and how do we conduct assessments for them?
- How can we remediate them in soil and groundwater?

Bad Timing?

- Falling general fund revenues since 9-11
 - State budget crisis
 - Hiring freezes
 - Travel bans, etc,...
- Some state Petro-Funds operating in the red
- Learn from the lessons of MTBE - fuel formulation is changing and we need to stay technically current

Symposium Objectives

- Build a stronger network of technical collaboration among states, tribes, and the EPA
- Foster discussions on state-specific investigation and remediation approaches
- Summarize our experiences in a set of recommendations to EPA

Are these Oxygenates Present in Your State?

- You betcha - even in Montana



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