

# The Truth About Ethanol & Air Quality in Los Angeles

## Real World Data Shows Improved Air Quality

- Real world monitoring data clearly shows that Los Angeles air quality improved in the years that ethanol replaced MTBE in gasoline.
- It cannot be proved that ethanol is the sole cause of this improvement, but the statement that ethanol worsened/s air quality is categorically false.
- Urban airshed modeling, universally accepted as the most accurate way to predict fuel change impacts on smog formation, continue to project air quality improvements for ethanol blended gasoline.
- Air quality improvements actually waned during the later MTBE years.

## Facts About Ethanol Use in California

- California uses 6% ethanol blends; most states blend 10% ethanol by volume.
- Ethanol completely replaced MTBE in California gasoline in 2004.
- 2004-06 were the cleanest ozone (smog) years *on record* in the LA Air Basin.
- Ethanol blending also reduces emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) like benzene, and greenhouse gases (GHGs) in comparison to gasoline, and likely reduces soot (particulate matter) emissions.

