

New UST Installation Form

State regulations require owners/operators to notify the Department of Natural Resources at least 30 days prior to installing new underground storage tank systems. DNR has revised its installation notice form so it provides more information on what equipment is being installed.

The new form is available at <http://snipurl.com/pstif009>. Owners, operators and equipment companies are encouraged to begin using the new form immediately.

ULSD Causing Rust?

In a recent bulletin the Petroleum Equipment Institute alerted its members to be on the lookout for corrosion and rust problems in tank and dispensing systems where ultra low sulfur diesel fuel is being stored and dispensed.

According to PEI, "one member investigated several storage systems – all with fiberglass tanks – and found corrosion in the tank riser pipes, inside the STP housing, at the pipe above the STP and the pipe fittings at the STP, and inside the strainer housing. Another member reports rust inside the dispenser fittings before the strainer." Others suggested ULSD is causing problems with gaskets and seals in pumps and meters, and is causing rust to clog PLLDs, functional elements and other components.

Tank owners and operators may want to ask their equipment maintenance personnel to be on the lookout for these problems.

Few Leaks

PSTIF-insured owners and operators continue to do an excellent job monitoring their tanks and piping and responding to maintenance concerns identified by our inspectors. In the twelve months ending June 30, 2008, there were only twelve claims filed where there was an identifiable leak from PSTIF-insured tanks or piping. Considering that on any given day the PSTIF is insuring nearly 9500 tanks, with associated piping and dispensers, that is a commendable record!

Seven of the claims involved piping, connectors, valves, dispensers or functional elements connected to underground tank systems; none were leaks from the tank itself. Five others were AST claims – one caused by a hole in the bottom of a tank, the others involving piping, overfills or dispensers.

In addition to these twelve claims involving "identifiable leaks," there were 70 claims filed as a result of soil or water samples collected during removal of tanks and/or piping and 12 claims filed when a Phase II Assessment identified petroleum in the ground. In these cases, unlike most private insurance companies, the PSTIF provides coverage even though it is not known when or how the petroleum got into the ground.

Cleanup Backlog Grows

Despite the fact that fewer new claims are being filed, the number of unfinished cleanups is growing. The PSTIF currently has 1423 open claims, the highest number since July 2006. Nearly 40% of open claim files are more than ten years old.

The number of claims closed annually has decreased in recent years. Whereas in the mid-1990s, the PSTIF closed several hundred claims per year, only 117 were closed during the last fiscal year. The longer a claim remains open, the greater the administrative cost for both the PSTIF and the DNR. In addition, cleanup costs can increase if contaminants are continuing to migrate.

The PSTIF Board of Trustees and its Advisory Committee are concerned about this trend and believe one cause is the lack of clear, definitive cleanup requirements. The DNR is preparing a set of risk-based cleanup rules, which it will propose to its rulemaking body, the Hazardous Waste Management Commission, in early February. The PSTIF Board of Trustees has engaged an outside expert to assist in reviewing DNR's proposed rules and to offer alternative proposals to the Commission. It is hoped that a final set of cleanup rules will be in place by the fall of 2009.

Lined USTs

The Department of Natural Resources has recently clarified its position on steel underground tanks that were lined to meet the 1998 upgrade standards. DNR rules require an initial inspection of the lining ten years after it was applied, then every five years. *If the lining is repaired or replaced, it still must be inspected again every five years thereafter.*

The PSTIF will ask insured UST owners/operators to demonstrate they have met this requirement when their insurance renews.

Biodiesel Standards

The American Society for Testing and Materials, (ASTM), recently published quality standards for biodiesel blends. They include ASTM D975-08a for highway and off-road diesel engine fuel with up to 5% biodiesel; ASTM D396-08b for home heating and boiler fuel containing up to 5% biodiesel; and ASTM D7467-08, a brand new standard for finished fuel blends with 6-20% biodiesel.

The new specifications can be purchased at <http://www.ASTM.org>.

FY08 Audit

At its recent meeting, the PSTIF Board of Trustees received a positive report from its outside auditor. The financial audit covered the period from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, and contained a "clean opinion." A copy is posted on the PSTIF web site.

Don't forget - The reduction in the transport load fee went into effect September 1, 2008. This will reduce the PSTIF's revenues by half, starting in November 2008.

Soil Vapor Training

Forty-six consultants from 36 firms attended a soil vapor training course co-sponsored by the PSTIF

and the DNR. The course included a half-day classroom session, followed by an afternoon field exercise at a nearby tank site where attendees practiced collecting vapor samples from monitoring wells.

Training was held in Kansas City on November 5 and in St. Louis on November 6. Additional sessions may be offered in 2009.

New Requirement for Well Drillers

According to a recent DNR newsletter, well drillers who use explosives in wells are now required to register with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety and submit an annual use report to that office. For more information, call 573-751-2390 or go to <http://snipurl.com/pstif011>.

Clarification

The last issue of *Latest Leaks* mentioned a \$200 online course from the Steel Tank Institute for persons who wish to inspect ASTs for compliance with the SP001 standard. This course is only offered to existing inspectors and is a recertification course. STI also provides training for new inspectors; it is a full week, must be taken in person, and costs \$1300.

Latest Leaks is a newsletter of the Missouri Petroleum Storage Tank Insurance Fund.

www.pstif.org

Matt Blunt, Governor

Board of Trustees

Donald W. McNutt, Chairman
James P. Ford, Vice Chairman
John Albert
Mark A. Kaiser
Thomas G. Kolb
Schuyler Mariea
Danny Opie
Tom Pfeiffer
Melvin Schebaum
Dan Schuette
Bruce Work

Executive Director

Carol R. Eighmey
PO Box 836
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-522-2352

Third Party Administrator

Williams & Company Consulting, Inc.
1-800-765-2765

Send address changes to:
PSTIF
PO Box 104116
Jefferson City, MO 65110

Petroleum Storage Tank
Insurance Fund
PO Box 104116
Jefferson City, MO 65110