

~ SPECIAL ISSUE FOR UST OWNERS & OPERATORS ~

New UST Rules Effective

The first significant updating of Missouri's UST rules in twenty years was just completed, and the new rules went into effect on December 30, 2011.

Among the more significant changes are:

- New requirements for equipment companies that install USTs;
- A new requirement to permanently close underground tanks, or assess for pollution, one year after a tank is emptied;
- More stringent leak detection requirements for high-throughput facilities; and
- A requirement for under-dispenser containment sumps at new UST facilities.

The new rules can be viewed at <http://www.pstif.org> under "Laws and Regulations." Anyone with questions may contact Heather Peters, DNR, 573-751-7877.

More New UST Rules?

On the heels of Missouri's rule changes, the U.S. EPA has proposed changes to federal regulations governing UST operations. EPA estimates its proposed new rules would cost each convenience store or other UST facility owner \$890 per year, on average.

EPA's proposals, if adopted, would have a major impact on Missouri UST owners/operators. For example,

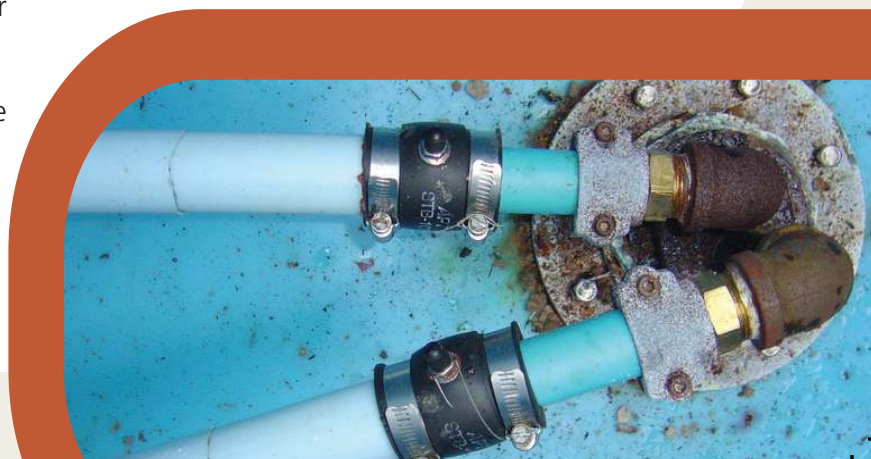
- All new UST systems would have to be double-walled;

- Ball float valves would be outlawed on new UST systems;
- When a ball float valve wears out or malfunctions, a different type of overfill prevention device would have to be installed;
- Spill buckets would have to be tested annually, or double-walled spill buckets with continuous monitoring would have to be installed, and records of the testing or monitoring would be required;
- All secondary containment, including sumps, either would have to be continuously monitored or tested every three years;
- Monthly "walk-through inspections" of the UST system would be required and would have to be documented;
- Vapor monitoring and groundwater monitoring would be eliminated as acceptable leak detection methods;
- All leak detection equipment, including gauges, battery backups, probes, sensors, vacuum pumps, pressure gauges, etc., would have to be tested annually; and
- Overfill prevention equipment would have to be tested every three years.

Comments may be submitted until February 16, 2012. Tank owners and operators are encouraged to read and comment on the proposals, and/or to forward their concerns to their trade associations.

See <http://snipurl.com/pstif039>.

[Read the back for more important information!]



And New Requirement for UST Operator Training?

As if you don't have enough to do... Missouri is considering whether to implement a federally-mandated requirement for UST operator training.

The PSTIF Board of Trustees must decide whether to create and fund an operator training program. The Board plans to make a decision by July 2012. If implemented, the program would have to meet EPA requirements; which means every UST facility would have to designate and properly train a person to have "primary responsibility to operate and maintain the UST system" and to "maintain compliance with regulatory requirements."

In addition, every UST facility would have to designate and properly train a person to be responsible for "day-to-day aspects of operating, maintaining, and recordkeeping for USTs." (Some states have combined this training class with the one described above.)

In addition, every employee who is responsible for responding to alarms or other indications of emergencies would also have to receive training on what actions to take if there is a fuel spill or leak. This generally includes every convenience store employee.

All aspects of the program are under discussion, such as:

- How facility owners would prove they have met these requirements;
- Whether other states' training, or "in-house

training programs," would be accepted in Missouri;

- What specific information the training would have to cover;
- Whether a test would be required to demonstrate the employee knows what he or she is supposed to know;
- What the consequence would be for an UST owner whose operator fails to comply with the training requirements;
- How soon new employees would have to be trained; and
- Other issues.

Input from owners and operators is being solicited, and anyone who wishes to express an opinion or offer a suggestion is invited to send an email to pstif@sprintmail.com or call Carol Eighmey, PSTIF Executive Director, at 573-522-2352.

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