

UST Operator Training

The PSTIF Board of Trustees held a public hearing on March 14, 2012 in Jefferson City to hear testimony from interested persons on whether to create and fund an underground storage tank operator training program.

At the hearing, Carolyn Hoskinson, Director of EPA's Office of Underground Storage Tanks, explained the federal requirements and answered questions from Trustees. The MO Department of Natural Resources urged the Board to create a program, and Wallis Companies offered ideas on how to make it less burdensome for tank owners and operators.

A video of the public hearing can be accessed at http://www.pstif.org/ust_operator_training.html. The Board is also receiving written comments, which are posted on the same web page as the video.

Additional comments are welcome. The Board plans to make a decision at its meeting on July 25.

Proposed New EPA Rules for USTs

The U.S. EPA extended its deadline to comment on proposed new rules governing the operation of USTs to April 16, 2012.

A summary of the proposed new requirements was published in the last issue of *Latest Leaks*, available at <http://www.pstif.org/newsletter.html>.

The PSTIF submitted comments to EPA on behalf of Fund participants; our comment letter is available at <http://www.pstif.org/laws.html>.

Legislative Report

Several bills of interest are being considered by the Missouri Legislature, which is in session until May 18:

"Fund Sweep," SB899—Would transfer cash from special state funds into general revenue; is unclear whether the bill would affect the PSTIF, as it contains certain exemptions.

"Downsizing Government," SB469 & HB1135—Would require all state agencies to periodically review all their rules and determine whether rules should be rescinded or amended to be less onerous.

"State Program Reviews," HB1029—Requires evaluation of state agencies, including budget transparency and accountability, by the Legislature's Oversight Committee.

"Retailer Liability," SB491—Protects retailers who sell ethanol-blended fuels from liability under state law for damage to customers' vehicles.

Other bills would alter Missouri's tort laws, affect gubernatorial appointments to boards and commissions, and change Missouri's Sunshine Law.

Joplin Headlines

The effects of the tornado on Joplin's convenience stores are the cover story in the current issue of *L.U.S.T.Line*, the premier national publication read by UST regulators. The article, written by Heather Peters of MDNR, is at <http://snipurl.com/pstif044>.



More Than You Wanted to Know About Insurance

The PSTIF Advisory Committee recently published a report on private insurance, which is posted on the PSTIF's web site.

Tank owners in Missouri are required to have pollution liability insurance and can obtain it from PSTIF or other sources. Owners who buy private insurance may be interested in these documents, which contain advice on understanding your coverage: ASTSWMO Guide to Tank Insurance (2011) <http://snipurl.com/pstif042> and ASTSWMO UST Financial Responsibility Options (2002) <http://snipurl.com/pstif043>.

Vapor Intrusion

EPA recently published a paper discussing how vapor intrusion risks associated with petroleum differ from other substances. It is available at <http://snipurl.com/pstif045>.

Final guidance on vapor intrusion at petroleum sites will be issued by EPA later this year.

Biofuels Compatibility

The Petroleum Equipment Institute (PEI) has created a web site to help UST owners and their equipment

companies ensure that their equipment is compatible with ethanol and biodiesel blends.

The web site currently contains letters from 21 manufacturers regarding compatibility of their legacy equipment with ethanol blends above 10% and biodiesel above 20%. See <http://snipurl.com/pstif040>.

In addition, the Steel Tank Institute, (STI), has posted information on compatibility of steel components with higher-level ethanol blends. See <http://snipurl.com/pstif041>.

More Kudos

Phil Farrell, president of Double Check Company, headquartered in Kansas City, is currently serving as Treasurer of the Petroleum Equipment Institute. *Congrats, Phil!*

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