

Reporting Suspected and Confirmed Releases.

Reporting of Spill or Release

Whether it's a suspected or confirmed release from a storage tank system regulated under 20.5 NMAC, a release or spill shall be reported to the Department by phone within 24 hours. In order to facilitate prompt reporting of spills and releases from petroleum storage tank systems the Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau has the "Leak of the Week." The Leak of the Week is PSTB personnel who are on-call during normal business hours to receive these reports. A listing of names and telephone numbers of Bureau personnel who are the "Leak of the Week" can be found on the Bureau's web site at

www.nmenv.state.nm.us/ust/leakweek.html.

Also, owners and operators may call to report spills and releases to the local PSTB Prevention & Inspection Staff listed on the back page of this brochure. When reporting a spill or release please provide all of the following:

- 1) Name, address, and telephone number of the owners and operators of the storage tank system.
- 2) Name, address, and telephone number of the person in charge of the facility where the release or spill occurred.
- 3) Date, time, location, and duration of the spill or release.
- 4) Sources and causes of the spill or release.
- 5) What was spilled and how much was spilled or released?
- 6) What actions have been taken to clean up the spill or release?

PSTB has a form which may be used to help report a spill or a release and this form is labeled "Initial

Incident Report." The form can be found on the Bureau's webpage at the following address:

www.nmenv.state.nm.us/ust/forms.html

Once you have completed the form send it to the "Leak of the Week" as described above.

14 Day Report

Owners and operators shall submit a written report to the Bureau within 14 days of a spill or release which shall include the following:

- 1) Description of the spill or release.
- 2) Any investigation performed since the incident.
- 3) Description of any follow-up actions taken or to be taken.
- 4) Confirmation of the information requested in the previous section on reporting spills and releases.

Suspected Releases

Owners and operators shall report the following conditions, which are considered suspected releases, to the Bureau within 24 hours of their discovery:

- 1) Presence of non-aqueous phase liquid or vapors in the soils, basements, sewer & utility lines, groundwater, drinking water, or nearby surface water.
- 2) Erratic functioning of product dispensing equipment.
- 3) The sudden loss of regulated substance from the storage tank system.
- 4) Unexplained presence of water in tank.
- 5) Presence of regulated substance in the annular or interstitial space of double-walled tanks or piping.

6) Anything other than a "pass" result from any release detection method unless the system equipment is found to be defective.

7) Monthly monitoring results indicate a release may have occurred.

If owners and operators have any questions about suspected releases and reporting of them, they may contact their local PSTB Staff for assistance.

Reporting Confirmed Releases

Owners and operators shall report to the Bureau within 24 hours the following:

- 1) The presence of non-aqueous phase liquid or vapors in soils, basements, sewer & utility lines, groundwater, drinking water, or nearby surface water.
- 2) Visible leak or seeps from any part of the storage tank system.

Spills and Overfills

Owners and operators shall report to the Bureau within 24 hours the following:

- 1) Spills and releases of regulated substance to the environment resulting from overfilling a storage tank that exceed 25 gallons, or that causes a sheen on nearby surface water, or creates a vapor hazard.
- 2) Spill or overfill of a hazardous substance that results in a release to the environment that equals or exceeds its reportable quantity under 40 CFR 302 (CERCLA).

Note: There are times when owners and operators may wish to hire an environmental consulting company to help them out in the reporting of suspected and confirmed releases. There are environmental

consulting companies located throughout the state and most can be found in your local yellow pages.

PSTB Prevention & Inspection Staff

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For more information write or call:

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1301 Siler Road, Bldg. B
Santa Fe, NM 87507

(505) 476-4397

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