



**NEW**

## Financial Assurance Documentation Required at Annual Self-Certification for PST Compliance

Beginning September 1, 2007, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requires that all annual Self-Certification forms must be accompanied with proof of financial assurance.

Owners or operators of an underground storage tank (UST) must demonstrate financial assurance for corrective action and third party pollution liability

A brief summary of the two types of required coverages is listed below:

- 1) **Corrective Action** - covers the cost of taking corrective action caused by accidental releases arising from the operation of USTs.
- 2) **Third Party Liability** - compensates third parties for bodily injury and property

damage caused by accidental releases arising from the operation of USTs.

Your coverage with Tank Owner Insurance will meet these coverage requirements; and the Certificate of Insurance we provide meets TCEQ Rules and must be sent to the state with your annual self-certification form. Ensure the information on the TOMIC Insurance Certificate **exactly** matches what is on your delivery certificate as any differences (address, number of tanks, owner/operator) will cause your self-certification to be returned and could cause delays in issuing your new delivery certificate.

*For more information on Financial Assurance of Self Certification Contact the PST Registration & Self Certification Team at 512-239-2160.*

## Are you maintaining your spill containment equipment correctly?



A commonly missed TCEQ requirement is the maintenance of spill and overfill equipment; according to the regulations all equipment shall be maintained in good operating condition and serviced and inspected in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Records shall be maintained for at least five years.

Equipment to inspect:

- Tight Fill Fittings – corrosion
- Spill bucket – ensure water is regularly emptied and disposed of properly, also watch for wear & tear of unit (*Spill bucket replacement frequency is recommended at 10 year intervals*)
- Flex connectors – wear & tear and disconnect are a common cause of leaks

## What is Self-Certification?

An annual TCEQ process that certifies that you are in compliance with TCEQ Rules & Requirements, where you must:

- Complete and submit form TCEQ-0724, *UST Registration and Self-Certification Form*.
- Not owe the agency any fees or have any penalties.
- Self-certify compliance with applicable TCEQ rules in the following areas:
  - All regulated tanks at your facility have been registered.
  - All UST fees billed to date to the current owner must be paid in full
  - Financial Assurance (e.g. insurance) requirements have been met
  - Your UST systems must meet the technical standards for:
    - release detection
    - corrosion protection
    - and-
    - spill and overfill prevention
- Make sure each UST fill pipe at your facility has been clearly labeled according to the uniform system described in the rules [Title 30 TAC Chapter 334, Subchapter A, Section 8(c)(5)(C)].

When you complete these steps, you will receive a "delivery certificate." You must post this certificate at the facility.

## GOOD PRACTICES FOR Performing Release Detection Properly

In addition to your leak detection systems (Automatic Tank Gauge and Statistical Inventory Reconciliation) be aware that retail facilities are also required to perform manual inventory reconciliation to be in compliance.

Good practices for manual inventory are:

- reading stick to nearest 1/8th inch
- proper training of employees
- good documentation forms

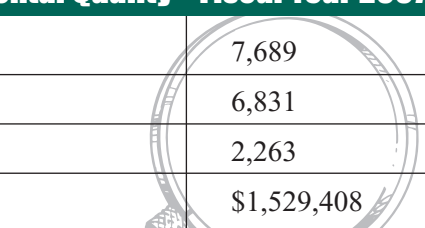
Keep in mind these methods are for the tank only. You must also have proper leak detection for your piping.

While leak detection equipment is not cheap, neither are clean-ups of a petroleum release (estimated at \$100 dollars per gallon of fuel lost) and non-compliance of regulations can run up to \$10,000 per day per violation!

*Questions? Contact Nathan Weiss with the TCEQ at 512-239-6718*

## TCEQ ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Fiscal Year 2007	
Total PST Investigations	7,689
On-Site Investigations	6,831
Notices of Violation	2,263
Penalties Assessed	\$1,529,408



## SPILL & LEAK REPORTING!

For spills and releases at your site that are either greater than 25 gallons on land or any amount that enters water (Surface water, storm drain, groundwater) **YOU ARE REQUIRED to report it IMMEDIATELY.**

**To report petroleum or hazardous substance spills:**

**CALL-**

1. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Hotline: 800-832-8224  
New Mexico Facilities:  
New Mexico Environment  
Department: 505-827-9329

and

2. National Response Center:  
800-424 8802

and

3. Tank Owners Mutual  
Insurance Company:  
800-336-1338

***Do not Delay-***

***Failure to notify can lead to costly environmental clean-ups, fines and violations! It can also result in claim denials!!***

### Frequently Used Phone Numbers

**TOMIC Member Service Team:**

(817) 336-1336 or (800) 336-1338  
www.tankowners.com (website)  
service@tankowners.com (email)

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality:**

Petroleum Storage Tank Team (512) 239-6120  
UST & Stage II Technical Support (512) 239-0300  
TCEQ-Help Line (512) 239-2038  
Or check out their website at: www.tceq.state.ts.us

**Environmental Protection Agency:**

Office of Underground Storage Tanks (703) 603-7171  
www.epa.gov

**New Mexico Environmental Department:**

Petroleum Storage Tank Team (505) 984-1741  
www.nmenv.state.nm.us

## TANK OWNER

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