



UST QUARTERLY



Volume 2, Issue 2
2010

Commonwealth of Kentucky
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Energy and Environment Cabinet
Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

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Environmental Protection**
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Division of Waste Management
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**Underground Storage
Tank Branch**
Robert H. Daniell, Manager

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This newsletter is published by the Underground Storage Tank Branch with state funds and printed on recycled/recyclable paper when printed.

For more information, comments or story suggestions, please contact the editor of the UST Quarterly, Virginia Lewis. She can be reached at Virginia.Lewis@ky.gov or 502-564-5981, ext. 4024.

**To report a release or suspected release call the ERT hotline.
1-800-928-2380**

Reimbursement Funding

With the welcomed passage of legislation to extend the Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fund (PSTEAF) deadlines, the 2011-2012 budget appropriation for the PSTEAF to pay claims for reimbursement loomed as the remaining concern. I am happy to report that the budget recently signed by Governor Beshear included appropriations of \$25 million through bond sale proceeds for each of the next two fiscal years, 2011 and 2012. Bond sale proceeds are mentioned because it is important to understand that those proceeds replace diverted Environmental Remediation Fee receipts that would normally account for the funding appropriated. The fee receipts are being utilized for other General Fund purposes as determined by the Legislature. This establishes reimbursement funding until June 30, 2012, and maintains the current level of funding from the previous budget.



Over \$20 million was reimbursed during fiscal year 2010, which ended June 30, and represents the highest level of reimbursement since 2004. This reflects the outstanding efforts on the part of tank owners, operators, certified contractors and the staff of the UST Branch in carrying out permanent closures, site investigations and corrective actions. We look forward to another very productive year and appreciate everyone's hard work.

*Robert H. Daniell, Manager
Kentucky Underground Storage Tank Branch*



Kentucky UST Program *Protecting Our Natural Resources for 25 Years*

In 1984, Congress passed and the president signed a new law requiring the United States Environmental Protection Agency to protect our nation's land and water from underground storage tank (UST) leaks. In the following year, the Kentucky Underground Storage Tank Program was established.

The state, at that time, estimated that there were 14,750 to 16,000 USTs in Kentucky. After instituting a new federally mandated notification system, it was soon learned that there were over 30,000 USTs in Kentucky. Since then, 49,429 USTs have been registered, 37,780 have been permanently closed and 12,390 No Further Action letters have been issued. This hard work requires cooperation on the behalf of many— UST owners, operators, contractors, neighbors, officials, other agencies, and UST program staff. It is a joint effort to make sure the federal and state regulatory requirements are met and contamination is cleaned up, often with the assistance of the Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fund (PSTEAF). There are still many sites requiring work. Currently, 139 sites are undergoing closure, 1,460 are in site investigation and 377 are receiving corrective action.

Closing tanks and cleaning up contamination is only part of the UST program equation. Today, there are 11,623 active USTs at 3,846 sites—an average of about 3 USTs per site. We are tasked with ensuring that the individuals who manage the day-to-day operations for each UST system comply with federal and state regulations. After all, with good UST system management that includes proper leak detection, corrosion protection, and spill and overfill practices, the chance of having a leak is greatly reduced. *(continued on Page 3)*

Visit our new Web site today at <http://waste.ky.gov/ust>.

New UST Branch Web Site Launched

The Energy and Environment Cabinet, which includes the UST Branch, launched its new Web site on Friday, July 30, 2010. For a fresh, new look at the resources available and to find answers to your questions about our program, please visit our Web site.

<http://waste.ky.gov/ust>

If you have questions, suggestions or comments, contact Virginia Lewis at Virginia.Lewis@ky.gov.



Photo by Lori R. Terry



Planning Around Furlough Days and State Holidays

To help you better plan working with us, we would like to provide this information to you on furlough days and state holidays through the remainder of 2010.

State employees will be furloughed a total of six days from July 2010 through June 2011—a budget balancing measure. For more information on furloughs, visit <http://personnel.ky.gov/furlough>.

More information on state holidays can be found at <http://personnel.ky.gov/stemp/holiday>.

2010 Remaining Furlough Days and State Holidays

Sept. 3, 2010 – Furlough day
 Sept. 6, 2010 – State holiday, Labor Day
 October 2010 – One furlough day to be determined
 Nov. 11, 2010 – State holiday, Veterans Day
 Nov. 12, 2010 – Furlough day
 Nov. 25-26, 2010 – State holidays, Thanksgiving
 Dec. 23-24, 2010 – State holidays, Christmas
 Dec. 30-31, 2010 – State holidays, New Year's

Statewide Database Report

A list of registered Kentucky USTs and associated information, called the Statewide Database Report, will soon be available on our Web site. Previously, this report was only provided through an open records request for a fee.

Annual Tank Fees

Invoices for annual tank fees were sent at the beginning of July. These fees can be paid online. Visit our Web site to use this free, secure and easy to use service.

Vapor Intrusion Seminar

Day and Time: Friday, Oct. 1, 2010, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Frankfort, Ky.

Speakers: National vapor intrusion experts, Dr. Blayne Hartman (Hartman Environmental Geoscience) and Louise Adams (H&P Mobile Geochemistry Inc.)

Sponsors: Division of Waste Management and Division of Compliance Assistance

Cost: \$40 standard registration; \$20 for KY EXCEL members; no registration cost for state employees

For more details and online registration, go to <http://waste.ky.gov/pages/training>.

Talk to Us

Tell us what you think. Let us know if there is something you would like to see in the UST Quarterly. Help us help you and tell us what you think.

Let us know if you can convert from a paper to electronic subscription.

This publication is best viewed electronically and is e-mailed on a quarterly basis. If you received a paper copy, please contact us to request future issues via e-mail.

Contact: Virginia Lewis
 E-mail: Virginia.Lewis@ky.gov
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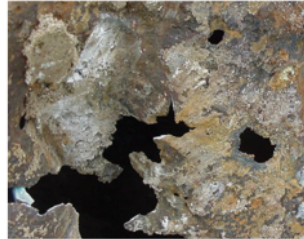
Visit our new Web site today at <http://waste.ky.gov/ust>.

How can UST releases be prevented?

Part of the regulations for UST systems requires them to be protected from spills, overfills, and corrosion. This is a four-part series on what you can do to help prevent UST releases.

PART 3 of 4 : Corrosion Protection

Unprotected underground metal components of the UST system can corrode and release product through corrosion holes. Corrosion can begin as pitting on the metal surface. As the pitting becomes deeper, holes may develop. Even a small corrosion hole can leak hundreds of gallons of petroleum into the surrounding environment over a year.



These corrosion holes were documented in a UST that was removed in Lebanon, Ky.

Division of Waste Management photos

In addition to tanks and piping, metal components can include flexible connectors, swing joints, and turbines. All metal UST system components that are in contact with the ground and routinely contain product must be protected from corrosion to help prevent releases. Depending on the UST system, corrosion protection options include the following:

- * Impressed current protection
- * Galvanic cathodic protection
- * Internal lining (tank only)
- * Isolation in the case of flex connectors
- * Using noncorrosive materials

Persons conducting corrosion protection testing must meet certain minimum qualifications. If you would like help in determining which corrosion protection options apply to your UST system, please contact us.

It Takes More Than Proper Equipment

It takes proper maintenance and operation of corrosion protection equipment over time to prevent new releases. According to the federal government, preventing just one new release can save \$125,000, the estimated average cost to clean up a contaminated site.

Kentucky UST Program

Protecting Our Natural Resources for 25 Years (continued from Page 1)

“Reduced” is the key word. Even with proper management and all the best equipment donning the fanciest bells and whistles, there is still no such thing as a leak-proof UST system. Tanks still leak—even new ones—and the piping with all its joints, twists and turns leaks, too. Throughout the history of the Kentucky UST Program, there have been 14,515 confirmed leaks, 163 of which occurred since the beginning of this year.

Many challenges remain along the road to success. State regulations are being updated to implement the most recent changes in the federal regulations and to address other existing issues. Innovative ways are being considered to streamline and expedite site assessment and cleanup. Simplification of the reimbursement process and the elimination of unnecessary “red tape” are top priorities as well as defining new ways to boost compliance rates to help minimize future releases.

As we celebrate this 25th year of the Kentucky UST Program, we thank everyone who has worked with us to take care of our homeland. Our journey must continue; the destination lies ahead and we look forward to traveling with you toward a greener and cleaner Kentucky for future generations.

*“Today,
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11,623
active USTs
at 3,846
sites.”*

“... we thank everyone who has worked with us to take care of our homeland.”



Underground Storage Tank Branch
200 Fair Oaks Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601



Important
program
information
is enclosed!

Are your UST system test results due?

Just as you need regular checkups and tests to maintain a healthy body, UST systems (active or in temporary closure) need to be checked and tested regularly to make sure they're in top-notch condition. If your UST system is "sick" and problems are found early, the chances are better for a quicker and lower-cost repair or cleanup.

By law, it is the UST owner's responsibility to perform proper testing and submit the results to the UST Branch. Through letters and phone calls we are helping owners identify the tests their systems need and when the results are due ... or, in some cases, when the results *were* due.

If you get a letter from us, it's very important that you closely read it and contact us if there are any problems.

Make sure your UST system gets the checkups and tests it needs to operate properly and find problems early. Knowing your UST system and what it takes to maintain it is one of the first steps in having a "healthy" UST system.



Depending on the parts and status of your UST system (active or in temporary closure), you may be due to file the following test results with the UST Branch:

- ◆ Cathodic Protection Survey
- ◆ Line Tightness Test
- ◆ Tank Tightness Test
- ◆ Internal Lining Test
- ◆ Line Leak Detector Test

Please contact us if you need assistance.

Visit our new Web site today at <http://waste.ky.gov/ust>.