

**Environmental Quality, Environmental
Response and Remediation
R311-201
Underground Storage Tanks:
Certification Programs and UST
Operator Training**

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE

(Amendment)

DAR FILE NO.: 34271

FILED: 12/01/2010

RULE ANALYSIS

PURPOSE OF THE RULE OR REASON FOR THE CHANGE: Removes reference to a format for reports submitted by UST consultants, to provide for more streamlining of the reporting process and to remove a reference to the "most recent" consultant's day handbook, a reference that is not specific enough. No actual reference to a report format is necessary, because the content of the report is of more importance than adhering to a specific format. Reference to the date of the EPA Significant Operational Compliance matrices is removed because the date is given where the matrices are incorporated by reference (Subsection R311-206-10(b)(1)).

SUMMARY OF THE RULE OR CHANGE: Removes a reference to a specific format for reports submitted by UST consultants. Removes a reference to the version date for the EPA Significant Operational Compliance matrices.

STATUTORY OR CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR THIS RULE: Section 19-6-105 and Section 19-6-402 and Section 19-6-403

ANTICIPATED COST OR SAVINGS TO:

♦ **THE STATE BUDGET:** No anticipated costs. The changes remove references that no longer reflect current practice or are unnecessary. No significant changes in current report-preparation practices are anticipated. Potential savings to the Petroleum Storage Tank (PST) Fund. Reports submitted by consultants may be less expensive if the reports are not required to adhere to a specific format. For example, on a site-specific basis, Corrective Action Plans for leaking underground tank sites can be generated through a meeting between the PST Fund project manager and consultant to determine exact needs for the site, rather than requiring a pre-formatted report. This can result in a savings to the PST fund of up to \$4,000 per site where this process can be used. Aggregate savings will depend on number of reports submitted. Similar savings could result to the state as an underground storage tank owner who is paying for reports

generated as part of a cleanup of a leak from an underground storage tank.

♦ **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:** No anticipated costs. Potential savings to a local government who is an underground storage tank owner who is paying for reports generated as part of cleanup of a leak from an underground storage tank.

♦ **SMALL BUSINESSES:** Consulting firms may see some savings in costs related to report preparation. Small businesses that are underground storage tank owners or operators may realize the same savings in their costs related to report preparation by their consultants when they are cleaning up releases from underground storage tanks. Savings to be determined by number of reports and amount saved per report.

♦ **PERSONS OTHER THAN SMALL BUSINESSES, BUSINESSES, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** Consulting firms may see some savings in costs related to report preparation. Underground storage tank owners or operators may realize the same savings in their costs related to report preparation by their consultants when they are cleaning up releases from underground storage tanks. Savings to be determined by number of reports and amount saved per report.

COMPLIANCE COSTS FOR AFFECTED PERSONS: No compliance costs are anticipated. The changes remove references that no longer reflect current practice or are unnecessary.

COMMENTS BY THE DEPARTMENT HEAD ON THE FISCAL IMPACT THE RULE MAY HAVE ON BUSINESSES: Removing the reference to a specific format for reports is done to bring the rule in line with current practice. Reports can be tailored to the level of detail necessary for each cleanup site. If the report contains the correct information, adherence to a specific rule format is not necessary. Consulting firms may be able to save some report preparation costs, resulting in savings to the firm preparing the report and the underground tank owner or operator, for whom the report is created.

THE FULL TEXT OF THIS RULE MAY BE INSPECTED, DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, AT:

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE AND
REMEDATION

ROOM FIRST FLOOR

195 N 1950 W

SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84116-3085

or at the Division of Administrative Rules.

DIRECT QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RULE TO:

♦ Gary Astin by phone at 801-536-4103, by FAX at 801-359-8853, or by Internet E-mail at gastin@utah.gov

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PRESENT THEIR VIEWS ON THIS RULE BY SUBMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS NO LATER THAN AT 5:00 PM ON 01/14/2011

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY ATTEND A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THIS RULE:

♦ 01/06/2011 02:00 PM, MASOB, 195 N 1950 W, Room 1015, Salt Lake City, UT

THIS RULE MAY BECOME EFFECTIVE ON: 02/14/2011

AUTHORIZED BY: Brent Everett, Director

R311. Environmental Quality, Environmental Response and Remediation.

R311-201. Underground Storage Tanks: Certification Programs and UST Operator Training.

R311-201-6. Standards of Performance.

(a) Certified UST Consultant. An individual who provides UST consulting services in the State of Utah:

(1) shall display the certificate upon request;

(2) shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations regarding UST release-related consulting in this state;

(3) shall provide, or shall associate appropriate personnel in order to provide a high level of experience and expertise in release abatement, investigation, or corrective action;

(4) shall perform, or take steps to ensure that work is performed with skill, care, and diligence consistent with a high level of experience and expertise in release abatement, investigation, or corrective action;

(5) shall perform work and submit documentation in a timely manner [~~as determined by the Executive Secretary and in a format established by the Division of Environmental Response and Remediation, as outlined in the most recent Consultant's Day Seminar Handbook~~];

(6) shall review and certify by signature any documentation submitted to the Executive Secretary in accordance with UST release-related compliance;

(7) shall ensure and certify by signature all pertinent release abatement, investigation, and corrective action work performed under the direct supervision of a Certified UST Consultant;

(8) shall report the discovery of any release caused by or encountered in the course of performing environmental sampling for compliance with Utah underground storage tank rules, or report the results indicating that a release may have occurred, to the local health district, local public safety office and the Executive Secretary within twenty-four hours;

(9) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to performance of work for which certification is granted; and,

(10) shall not participate in any other activities regulated under Rule R311-201 without meeting all requirements of that certification program.

(b) UST Inspector. An individual who performs underground storage tank inspecting for the Division of Environmental Response and Remediation:

(1) shall display his certificate upon request;

(2) shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations regarding underground storage tank inspecting in this state;

(3) shall report the discovery of any release caused by or encountered in the course of performing tank inspecting to the local health district, local public safety office and the Executive Secretary within twenty-four hours;

(4) shall conduct inspections of USTs and records to determine compliance with this rule only as authorized by the Executive Secretary.

(5) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to any certificate application;

(6) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to performance of work for which certification is granted; and,

(7) shall not participate in any other regulated certification program activities without meeting all requirements of that certification program.

(c) UST Tester. An individual who performs UST testing in the State of Utah:

(1) shall display his certificate upon request;

(2) shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations regarding UST testing in this state;

(3) shall perform all work in a manner that there is no release of the contents of the tank;

(4) shall report the discovery of any release caused by or encountered in the course of performing tank testing to the local health district, local public safety office and the Executive Secretary within twenty-four hours;

(5) shall assure that all operations of UST testing which are critical to the integrity of the system and to the protection of the environment shall be supervised by a certified person;

(6) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to any certificate application;

(7) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to performance of work for which certification is granted where the manner of the activity would increase the possibility of a release or suspected release from an underground storage tank or which would falsify UST testing results of the underground storage tank system;

(8) shall perform work in a manner that the integrity of the underground storage tank system is maintained; and,

(9) shall not participate in any other regulated certification program activities without meeting all requirements of that certification program.

(d) Groundwater and soil sampler. An individual who performs environmental sampling for compliance with Utah underground storage tank rules:

(1) shall display his certificate upon request;

(2) shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations regarding underground storage tank sampling in this state;

(3) shall report the discovery of any release caused by or encountered in the course of performing groundwater or soil sampling or report the results indicating that a release may have occurred to the local health district, local public safety office and the Executive Secretary within twenty-four hours;

(4) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to any certificate application;

(5) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to performance of work for which certification is granted; and,

(6) shall not participate in any other regulated certification program activities without meeting all requirements of that certification program.

(e) UST Installer. An individual who performs underground storage tank installation in the State of Utah:

(1) shall display his certificate upon request;

(2) shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations regarding underground storage tank installation in this state;

(3) shall perform all work in a manner that there is no release of the contents of the tank;

(4) shall report the discovery of any release caused by or encountered in the course of performing tank installation to the local health district, local public safety office and the Executive Secretary within twenty-four hours;

(5) shall assure that all operations of tank installation which are critical to the integrity of the system and to the protection of the environment which includes preinstallation tank testing, tank site preparation including anchoring, tank placement, backfilling, cathodic protection installation, service, or repair, vent and product piping assembly, fill tube attachment, installation of tank manholes, pump installation, secondary containment construction, and UST repair shall be supervised by a certified person;

(6) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to any certificate application;

(7) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to performance of work for which certification is granted where the manner of the activity would increase the possibility of a release from an underground storage tank; and

(8) shall not participate in any other regulated certification program activities without meeting all requirements of that certification program.

(9) shall notify the Executive Secretary as required by R311-203-3(a) before installing or upgrading an UST.

(f) UST Remover. An individual who performs underground storage tank removal in the State of Utah:

(1) shall display his certificate upon request;

(2) shall comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations regarding underground storage tank removal in this state;

(3) shall perform all work in a manner that there is no release of the contents of the tank;

(4) shall report the discovery of any release caused by or encountered in the course of performing tank removal to the local health district, local public safety office and the Executive Secretary within twenty-four hours;

(5) shall assure that all operations of tank removal which are critical to safety and to the protection of the environment which includes removal of soil adjacent to the tank, disassembly of pipe, final removal of product and sludges from the tank, cleaning of the tank, purging or inerting of the tank, removal of the tank from the ground, and removal of the tank from the site shall be supervised by a certified person;

(6) shall not proceed to close a regulated UST without an approved closure plan, except as outlined in Subsection R311-204-2(b);

(7) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to any certificate application;

(8) shall not participate in fraudulent, unethical, deceitful or dishonest activity with respect to performance of work for which certification is granted where the manner of the activity would increase the possibility of a release from an underground storage tank; and

(9) shall not participate in any other regulated certification program activities without meeting all requirements of that certification program, except as outlined in Subsection R311-204-5(b).

R311-201-12. UST Operator Training and Registration.

(a) To meet the Operator Training requirement (42 USC Section 6991i) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, each UST facility shall, by January 1, 2012, have UST facility operators that are trained and registered according to the requirements of this section. Each facility shall have three classes of operators: A, B, and C.

(1) A facility may have more than one person designated for each operator class.

(2) An individual acting as a Class A or B operator may do so for more than one facility.

(b) The UST owner or operator shall provide documentation to the Executive Secretary to identify the Class A, B, and C operators for each facility. If an owner or operator does not register and identify Class A, B, and C operators for a facility, the certificate of compliance for the facility may be revoked for failure to demonstrate substantial compliance with all state and federal statutes, rules and regulations.

(c) After January 1, 2012, new Class A and B operators shall be trained and registered within 30 days of assuming responsibility for an UST facility. New Class C operators shall be trained before assuming the responsibilities of a Class C operator.

(d) The Class A operator shall be an owner or employee who has primary responsibility for the broader aspects of the statutory and regulatory requirements and standards necessary to operate and maintain the UST system. The Class A operator shall:

(1) have a general knowledge of UST systems;

(2) ensure that UST records are properly maintained according to 40 CFR 280;

(3) ensure that yearly UST fees are paid;

(4) ensure proper response to and reporting of emergencies caused by releases or spills from USTs;

(5) make financial responsibility documents available to the Executive Secretary as required; and

(6) ensure that Class B and Class C operators are trained and registered.

(e) The Class B operator shall implement routine daily aspects of operation, maintenance, and recordkeeping for UST systems. The Class B operator shall be an owner, employee, or contractor working for the UST owner or operator. The Class B operator shall:

(1) ensure that on-site UST operator inspections are conducted according to the requirements of Subsection R311-201-12(h);

(2) ensure that UST release detection is performed according to 40 CFR 280 subpart D;

(3) ensure that the status of the UST system is monitored every seven days for alarms and unusual operating conditions that may indicate a release;

(4) document the reason for an alarm or unusual operating condition identified in Subsection R311-201-12(e)(3), if it is not reported as a suspected release according to 40 CFR 280.50;

(5) ensure that appropriate release detection and other records are kept according to 40 CFR 280.34 and 280.45, and are made available for inspection;

(6) ensure that spill prevention, overfill prevention, and corrosion protection requirements are met;

(7) be on site for facility compliance inspections, or designate another individual to be on site for inspections;

(8) ensure that suspected releases are reported according to the requirements of 40 CFR 280.50; and

(9) ensure that Class C operators are trained and registered, and are on-site during operating hours.

(f) An individual who contracts to act as a Class B operator for an UST owner or operator, or performs UST operator inspections according to Subsection R311-201-12(h), and is not the owner or operator, or an employee of the owner or operator, shall be certified as an UST inspector according to Section R311-201-2, and shall meet all requirements of an UST inspector.

(g) The Class C operator is an employee and is generally the first line of response to events indicating emergency conditions. A Class C operator shall:

(1) be present at the facility at all times during normal operating hours;

(2) monitor product transfer operations according to 40 CFR 280.30(a), to ensure that spills and overfills do not occur;

(3) properly respond to alarms, spills, and overfills;

(4) notify Class A and/or Class B operators and appropriate emergency responders when necessary; and

(5) act in response to emergencies and other situations caused by spills or releases from an UST system that pose an immediate danger or threat to the public or to the environment, and that require immediate action.

(h) UST Operator Inspections.

(1) Each UST facility shall have an on-site operator inspection conducted every 30 days, or as approved under Subsection R311-201-12(h)(4) or (5). The inspection shall be performed by or under the direction of the designated Class B operator. The Class B operator shall ensure that documentation of each inspection is kept and made available for review by the Executive Secretary.

(2) The UST operator inspection shall document that:

(A) release detection systems are properly operating and maintained;

(B) spill, overfill, vapor recovery, and corrosion protection systems are in place and operational;

(C) tank top manways, tank and dispenser sumps, secondary containment sumps, and under-dispenser containment are intact, and are properly maintained to be free of water, product, and debris;

(D) the tag or other identifying method issued under Subsection 19-6-411(7) is properly in place on each tank;

(E) alarm conditions that could indicate a release are properly investigated and corrected, and are reported as suspected releases according to 40 CFR 280.50 or documented to show that no release has occurred; and

(F) unusual operating conditions and other indications of a release or suspected release indicated in 40 CFR 280.50 are properly reported.

(3) The individual conducting the inspection shall use the form "UST Operator Inspection- Utah" to conduct on-site operator inspections. The form, dated April 30, 2009, and including information required to be completed during the inspection, is hereby incorporated by reference.

(4) The Executive Secretary may allow operator inspections to be performed less frequently in situations where it is impractical to conduct an inspection every 30 days. The owner or operator shall request the exemption, justify the reason for the exemption, and submit a plan for conducting operator inspections at the facility.

(5) An UST facility whose tanks are properly temporarily closed according to 40 CFR 280.70 and R311-204-4 shall have an operator inspection every 90 days.

(i) A facility that normally has no employee or other responsible person on site, or is open to dispense fuel at times when no employee or responsible person is on site, shall have:

(1) a sign posted in a conspicuous place, giving the name and telephone number of the facility owner, operator, or local emergency responders, and

(2) an emergency shutoff device, if the facility dispenses fuel.

(j) Operator Training and Registration

(1) Training and testing.

(A) Applicants for Class A and B operator registration shall successfully complete an approved operator training course within the six-month period prior to application.

(B) The training course shall be approved by the Executive Secretary, and shall include instruction in the following: notification, temporary and permanent closure, installation permitting, underground tank requirements of the 2005 Energy Policy Act, Class A, B, and C operator responsibilities, spill prevention, overfill prevention, UST release detection, corrosion protection, record-keeping requirements, emergency response, product compatibility, Utah UST rules and regulations, UST financial responsibility, and delivery prohibition.

(C) Applicants for Class A and B operator registration shall successfully pass a registration examination authorized by the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall determine the content of the examination.

(D) An individual applying for Class A or B operator registration may be exempted from meeting the requirements of Subsections R311-201-12(j)(1)(A) and (C) by completing the following within the six-month period prior to application:

(i) successfully passing a nationally recognized UST operator examination approved by the Executive Secretary, and

(ii) successfully passing a Utah UST rules and regulations examination authorized by the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall determine the content of the examination.

(E) Class C operators shall receive instruction in product transfer procedures, emergency response, and initial response to alarms and releases.

(2) Registration application.