

WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
KEN HECHLER
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #6

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OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

NOTICE OF FINAL FILING AND ADOPTION OF A LEGISLATIVE RULE AUTHORIZED BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

WV Department of Commerce, Labor and Environ-
AGENCY: mental Resources, Division of Natural Resources TITLE NUMBER: 47

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES , NO

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: 37

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: _____

"Underground Storage Tank Fee Assessments"

THE ABOVE RULE HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

AUTHORIZATION IS CITED IN (house or senate bill number) Senate Bill 243

SECTION 64-3-8(ff), PASSED ON March 10, 1990

THIS RULE IS FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THIS RULE BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON
THE FOLLOWING DATE: May 1, 1990


J. Edward Hamrick III
Director

TITLE 47
LEGISLATIVE RULES
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SERIES 37
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FEE ASSESSMENTS

§47-37-1. General.

1.1. Scope and Purpose - This legislative rule establishes procedures for the assessment and collection of fees for the Underground Storage Tank Administrative fund and the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Response Fund pursuant to W.Va. Code §§20-5H-20 and 20-5H-21.

1.2. Authority - W.Va. Code §20-5H-6.

1.3. Filing Date - March 29, 1990.

1.4. Effective Date - May 1, 1990

1.5. Incorporation by reference. Whenever federal statutes are incorporated by reference into these regulations, the reference is to the statute in effect on the date on which these regulations were proposed (September 28, 1988).

1.6. Tanks excluded from fee assessments. The following categories of underground storage tanks are excluded from the fee assessment provisions of Section 3 of these regulations:

1.6.1. Any underground storage tank holding hazardous wastes listed or identified under subtitle C of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended, or a mixture of such hazardous waste and other regulated substances;

1.6.2. Any wastewater treatment tank system that is part of a wastewater treatment facility regulated under Section 402 or 307(b) of the federal Clean Water Act;

1.6.3. Equipment or machinery that contains regulated substances for operational purposes such as hydraulic lift tanks and electrical equipment tanks;

1.6.4. Any underground storage tank with a capacity of one hundred and ten (110) gallons or less;

1.6.5. Any underground storage tank that contains a de minimis concentration of regulated substances; and

1.6.6. Any emergency spill or overflow containment underground storage tank that is expeditiously emptied after use.

§47-37-2. Definitions.

2.1. "Act" means the West Virginia Underground Storage Tank Act (W.Va. Code §20-5H, et seq.).

2.2. "Department" means the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

2.3. "Division" means the Division of Waste Management of the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

2.4. "Owner" means:

2.4.1. In the case of an underground storage tank in use on November 8, 1984, or brought into use after that date, a person who owns an underground storage tank used for the storage, use, or dispensing of a regulated substance.

2.4.2. In the case of an underground storage tank in use before November 8, 1984, but no longer in use on that date, a person who owned such a tank immediately before the discontinuation of its use.

2.5. "Person" means any individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, corporation (including government corporations), partnership, association, state, municipality, commission, political subdivision of a state, interstate body, consortium, joint venture, commercial entity, or the United States government.

2.6. "Presently In Use" means an underground storage tank that is being used or could be used for the storage, use, or dispensing of a regulated substance at any time during the current calendar year.

2.7. "Regulated Substance" means:

2.7.1. Any substance defined in Section 101(14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, but not including any substance regulated as a hazardous waste under Subtitle C of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended; or

2.7.2. Petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof which is liquid at a temperature of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit and a pressure of fourteen and seven-tenth pounds per square inch absolute (14.7 psia).

2.8. "Underground Storage Tank" means one tank or a combination of tanks, and the underground pipes connected thereto, that is used to contain an accumulation of regulated substances and the volume of which, including the volume of the underground pipes connected thereto, is ten percent (10%) or more beneath the surface of the ground. The term "underground storage tank" does not include:

2.8.1. Farm or residential tanks with a capacity of eleven hundred (1,100) gallons or less and used for storing motor fuel for noncommercial purposes;

2.8.2. Tanks used for storing heating oil for consumptive use on the premises where stored;

2.8.3. Septic tanks;

2.8.4. A pipeline facility, including gathering lines, regulated under the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 or the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979, or an intrastate pipeline facility regulated under state laws comparable to the provisions of either of those acts;

2.8.5. Surface impoundments, pits, ponds, or lagoons;

2.8.6. Storm water or wastewater collection systems;

2.8.7. Flow-through process tanks;

2.8.8. Liquid traps or associated gathering lines directly related to oil or gas production and gathering operations;

2.8.9. Storage tanks situated in an underground area such as a basement, cellar, mine working, drift, shaft, or tunnel if such storage tank is situated upon or above the surface of the floor; and

2.8.10. Any pipes connected to any tank which is described in Sections 2.8.1 through 2.8.9 of these regulations.

§47-37-3. Fee Assessment.

3.1. Registration Fees.

3.1.1. The Division will collect an annual registration fee from each owner of an underground storage tank presently in use in this State. This registration fee will not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per tank per year.

3.2. Response Fees.

3.2.1. The Division will collect an annual response fee from each owner of an underground petroleum storage tank presently in use in this State. This response fee will not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per tank per year.

3.3. Fee Calculation.

3.3.1. The Division will calculate the fees assessed pursuant to these regulations based upon the maximum assessment allowable under the Act divided by the number of tanks known to exist in West Virginia.

3.3.2. Owners of new tanks, the use of which commenced on or after January 1 of the current calendar year must pay the full annual fees assessed under Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of these regulations (i.e., fees assessed will not be prorated).

3.4. Fee Consolidation.

3.4.1. The fees assessed pursuant to these regulations will be consolidated so that no more than one payment shall be due from any tank owner in any one calendar year.

§47-37-4. Fee Collection.

4.1. An invoice for the fees assessed pursuant to these regulations will be provided by the Division to each tank owner upon whom a fee is assessed. Such invoice will include an itemized list of fees assessed and the date upon which such fees are due and payable. The invoice will be provided in the form and manner prescribed by the Division.

4.2. Fees assessed pursuant to these regulations must be paid by check, money order, or bank draft payable to the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. Payment of the entire amount of the fees assessed, as calculated on the assessment invoice, must be made in a single payment.

4.3. Fee payments must be sent to the address on the assessment invoice provided by the Division by the date specified on the invoice. If such fee payment is mailed, then the payment must be postmarked by the date specified on the invoice.

4.4. Undercharges that appear on the assessment invoices issued by the Division will be corrected on the assessment invoices issued for the next calendar year.

4.5. Overcharges that appear on the assessment invoices issued by the Division will be corrected on the assessment invoices issued for the next calendar year unless the tank owner submits a written request for a refund to the Division. Said request, along with documentation supporting the claim of erroneous assessment, must accompany the payment of the assessed fee. The Division shall investigate the tank owner's claim and issue a refund for the amount in excess of the proper assessment if the tank owner's claim proves to be valid.

4.6. A tank owner who does not make a full, timely payment of the fees assessed pursuant to these regulations, or who otherwise fails to comply with the provisions of these regulations, is subject to the penalties provided under W.Va. Code §20-5H-16(c).

§47-37-5. Fee Deposit.

5.1. Fees collected by the Department pursuant to these regulations will be deposited into the State treasury in accordance with W.Va. Code §§20-5H20 and 20-5H-21.

5.1.1. The deposit of a fee payment into the State treasury is not an admission by the Department of an assessment for the correct number of tanks. Each tank owner is obligated to notify the Division if the number of tanks

assessed is incorrect. Corrections will be made in accordance with Section 4.4 of these regulations.

5.1.2. Deposits into the Underground Storage Tank Administrative Fund will include:

5.1.2.a. All registration fees collected pursuant to Section 3.1 of these regulations;

5.1.2.b. The net proceeds of all fines, penalties, and forfeitures collected under the Act; and

5.1.2.c. All interest accruing on investments and deposits of this Fund.

5.1.3. Deposits into the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Response Fund will include:

5.1.3.a. All response fees collected pursuant to Section 3.2 of these regulations;

5.1.3.b. Any registration fee monies received by the Department that exceed the maximum annual balance for the Underground Storage Tank Administrative Fund as prescribed under W.Va. Code §20-5H-20(a).

5.1.3.c. All interest accruing on investments and deposits of this Fund.