



Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board

STATE OF MONTANA

P.O. Box 200902 • Helena, MT 59620-0902 • (406) 841-5090 • Website:
www.deq.mt.gov/pet/index.asp

May 25, 2007

To: Owners/operators of Petroleum Storage Tanks with Releases Eligible for the Fund,
Environmental Consultants, and subcontractors.

Subject: Reimbursement of corrective action by the Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board.

This communication is to advise Petroleum Storage Tank owners, operators, consultants and subcontractors about changes in the board staff review process of corrective action plans (CAPs) for eligible releases. At the May 21, 2007 Board meeting, the Board discussed a process for providing a review summary of proposed work for which the fund will reimburse owners and operators, and directed the Board staff to develop and implement such a process. The implementation of the process is an effort to ensure sufficient revenues are available to reimburse CAPs in a timely fashion. The Board staff will continue to provide review comments on CAPs to the owners/operators and the consultants. The monthly review of CAPs will be limited to the amount of monthly Fund income until further notice. Individual plans exceeding the monthly Fund income may require several months before costs are reviewed and funds are obligated.

Board staff will review the CAP in the order provided to the Board staff by DEQ-Petroleum Release Section until an adequate release priority methodology is available. Owners and operators who proceed with corrective action activities without board staff work plan review may experience significant adjustments and will experience delays in the reimbursement of claims.

This review process change has been implemented because claim reimbursement requests continue to exceed the available revenue. The review process will assist the Board in obligating available money for reimbursement of eligible costs of owners and operators while being most protective of public health and the environment. It is Board staff expectation that this procedural change will assist in the review, approval and reimbursement of claims for essential corrective action in a timely fashion.

If you or your consultant has concerns with the review process or with your proposed work plan, please call a Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board staff representative at 406-841-5090 or myself at 406-841-5092 to discuss your concerns. We appreciate your assistance with attaining a proper balance between available funding, necessary corrective action activities, and protection of human health and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Wadsworth".

Terry Wadsworth
Executive Director
Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board