



PSTD NEWS

Director's Corner

Welcome to the most recent addition of PSTD News. My hope is that this newsletter will serve as another way to communicate with you. If you have suggestions on how to improve this newsletter or you want different content, please call or e-mail Cara Parent at (405) 522-2529 or c.parent@occemail.com.

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OCC WILL BE CLOSED DURING EMPLOYEE FURLOUGH DAYS

As everyone is probably aware by now, the OCC has determined that involuntary employee furlough is necessary to reduce agency expenditures. To that end, OCC employees will be furloughed and the building closed, on the following days for the remainder of this fiscal year:

- April 9
- April 30
- May 14
- May 28
- June 1
- June 25

INDEMNITY FUND ELIGIBILITY/REQUIRED REGULATORY

As of November 1, 2009, PSTD will not approve purchase order requests for initial corrective action work at Confirmed Release or Suspicion of Release sites until they have been deemed eligible for Indemnity Fund reimbursement. However, the case owner/operator, or responsible party, is ultimately responsible for all required regulatory corrective action work and for meeting regulatory time frames established by PSTD.

Until an active case becomes Fund eligible and in lieu of purchase order requests, work plan proposals for required corrective actions must be submitted for PSTD review and approval. Remember, Indemnity Fund issues are not excusable reasons for not performing required tasks or submitting regulatory reports within the time frame prescribed by PSTD. A form for proposed work plan submittals, titled "**Request for Approval of Corrective Action Work Plan Proposal**", has been posted on PSTD's website at "Forms and Guidance", under both Accounting Forms and Technical Forms. This new form **MUST** be used for all work plan proposal submittals.

Operator Training

The Operator Training program is in full operation. Letters were mailed to all tank owners in October 2009 providing them with Usernames and Passwords to access the system. So far, 3% of facilities have certified operators. All facilities must have certified operators by July 2011.

Installation Problems

Recently, our Inspectors have observed Installers not adhering to manufacturers requirements when installing underground product piping. The correct glues, pipe tapering tools, etc. used when installing piping systems to ensure a long “leak free” life for fueling systems is important.

Indemnity Fund Applications

PSTD staff periodically receives complaints regarding the time it takes for Indemnity Fund Applications to be made eligible. Incomplete applications which do not include leak detection records, are the primary reason application processing times are extended. Consultants must complete the Leak Detection Data Sheet and submit compliance records when an Indemnity Fund Application is submitted for a confirmed case.

