# ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY



DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250 Alameda, CA 94502-6577 (510) 567-6700 FAX (510) 337-9335

July 9, 2008

Mr. Louis Whitmore II Whitmore Auto Service 1701 Buena Vista Avenue Alameda, CA 94501

Subject: Fuel Leak Case No. RO0002450, Whitmore's Auto Service, 1701 Buena Vista Ave, Alameda, CA

Dear Mr. Whitmore:

Alameda County Environmental Health (ACEH) staff has reviewed the case file for the above referenced site including the report entitled, "Removal of Underground Storage Tank," dated October 17, 2002 and prepared on your behalf by Geo Pacific Environmental. The report summarizes the removal of 3-8,000 gallon underground storage tanks (UST) used for the storage of gasoline and diesel fuel.

During the UST removal, Geo Pacific observed soil staining and a "distinct hydrocarbon odor" originating from the tank pit. Confirmation soil samples were collected from the excavation sidewalls and a grab groundwater sample was collected from the tank pit. High levels of petroleum hydrocarbons were detected in soil at concentrations of up to 6,000 parts per million (ppm) TPHg, 160,000 ppm TPHd and 9.3 ppm benzene. A grab groundwater sample collected from the tank pit detected 13,000 parts per billion (ppb) TPHg, 190 ppb benzene and 9.0 ppb MtBE. No additional site characterization has been completed at your site leaving the horizontal and vertical extent of contamination beneath you site is undefined. Therefore, additional soil and groundwater sampling is required beneath your site. This work typically involves the installation of soil borings and the collection of depth discrete soil and groundwater samples. In some cases the installation of groundwater monitoring wells may be necessary Please submit a **Work Plan for a Soil and Groundwater Investigation by September 7, 2008**.

#### TECHNICAL REPORT REQUEST

Please submit technical reports to Alameda County Environmental Health (Attention: Mr. Steven Plunkett), according to the following schedule:

• September 7, 2008 – Work Plan for Soil and Groundwater Investigation

These reports are being requested pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10. 23 CCR Sections 2652 through 2654, and 2721 through 2728 outline the responsibilities of a responsible party in response to an unauthorized release from a petroleum UST system, and require your compliance with this request.

## **ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL OF REPORTS**

ACEH's Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC) require submission of reports in electronic form. The electronic copy replaces paper copies and is expected to be used for all public information requests, regulatory review, and compliance/enforcement activities. Instructions for submission of electronic documents to the Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Program FTP site are provided on the attached "Electronic Report Upload Instructions." Submission of reports to the Alameda County FTP site is an addition to existing requirements for electronic submittal of information to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

Mr. Sean Svendson RO0002951 Page 2

Geotracker website. In September 2004, the SWRCB adopted regulations that require electronic submittal of information for all groundwater cleanup programs. For several years, responsible parties for cleanup of leaks from underground storage tanks (USTs) have been required to submit groundwater analytical data, surveyed locations of monitoring wells, and other data to the Geotracker database over the Internet. Beginning July 1, 2005, these same reporting requirements were added to Spills, Leaks, Investigations, and Cleanup (SLIC) sites. Beginning July 1, 2005, electronic submittal of a complete copy of all reports for all sites is required in Geotracker (in PDF format). Please visit the SWRCB website for more information these requirements (http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/electronic\_submittal/report\_rgmts.shtml.

#### **PERJURY STATEMENT**

All work plans, technical reports, or technical documents submitted to ACEH must be accompanied by a cover letter from the responsible party that states, at a minimum, the following: "I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the information and/or recommendations contained in the attached document or report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge." This letter must be signed by an officer or legally authorized representative of your company. Please include a cover letter satisfying these requirements with all future reports and technical documents submitted for this fuel leak case.

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION & CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

The California Business and Professions Code (Sections 6735, 6835, and 7835.1) requires that work plans and technical or implementation reports containing geologic or engineering evaluations and/or judgments be performed under the direction of an appropriately registered or certified professional. For your submittal to be considered a valid technical report, you are to present site specific data, data interpretations, and recommendations prepared by an appropriately licensed professional and include the professional registration stamp, signature, and statement of professional certification. Please ensure all that all technical reports submitted for this fuel leak case meet this requirement.

#### **UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLEANUP FUND**

Please note that delays in investigation, later reports, or enforcement actions may result in your becoming ineligible to receive grant money from the state's Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (Senate Bill 2004) to reimburse you for the cost of cleanup.

#### **AGENCY OVERSIGHT**

If it appears as though significant delays are occurring or reports are not submitted as requested, we will consider referring your case to the Regional Board or other appropriate agency, including the County District Attorney, for possible enforcement actions. California Health and Safety Code, Section 25299.76 authorizes enforcement including administrative action or monetary penalties of up to \$10,000 per day for each day of violation.

If you have any questions, please call me at (510) 3831761 or send me an electronic mail message at steven.plunkett@acgov.org.

Sincerely,

Steven Plunkett

Hazardous Materials Specialist

Donna Drogos, PE

LOP Program Manager

Mr. Sean Svendson RO0002951 Page 2

Enclosure: ACEH Electronic Report Upload (ftp) Instructions

CC:

David Dixon

Treadwell & Rollo

555 Montgomery Street, Suite 1300

San Francisco, CA 94111

Donna Drogos, ACEH (sent via electronic mail), Steven Plunkett ACEH (sent via electronic mail), File

# Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC)

**ISSUE DATE:** July 5, 2005

REVISION DATE: December 16, 2005

PREVIOUS REVISIONS: October 31, 2005

**SECTION:** Miscellaneous Administrative Topics & Procedures

SUBJECT: Electronic Report Upload (ftp) Instructions

Effective **January 31**, **2006**, the Alameda County Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs (LOP and SLIC) require submission of all reports in electronic form to the county's ftp site. Paper copies of reports will no longer be accepted. The electronic copy replaces the paper copy and will be used for all public information requests, regulatory review, and compliance/enforcement activities.

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Entire report including cover letter must be submitted to the ftp site as a single portable document format (PDF) with no password protection. (Please do not submit reports as attachments to electronic mail.)
- It is preferable that reports be converted to PDF format from their original format, (e.g., Microsoft Word) rather than scanned.
- Signature pages and perjury statements must be included and have either original or electronic signature.
- Do not password protect the document. Once indexed and inserted into the correct electronic case file, the
  document will be secured in compliance with the County's current security standards and a password.
   Documents with password protection will not be accepted.
- Each page in the PDF document should be rotated in the direction that will make it easiest to read on a computer monitor.
- Reports must be named and saved using the following naming convention:

RO#\_Report Name\_Year-Month-Date (e.g., RO#5555\_WorkPlan\_2005-06-14)

#### **Additional Recommendations**

A separate copy of the tables in the document should be submitted by e-mail to your Caseworker in Excel format.
 These are for use by assigned Caseworker only.

#### **Submission Instructions**

- Obtain User Name and Password:
  - a) Contact the Alameda County Environmental Health Department to obtain a User Name and Password to upload files to the ftp site.
    - i) Send an e-mail to dehloptoxic@acgov.org

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- ii) Send a fax on company letterhead to (510) 337-9335, to the attention of Alicia Lam-Finneke.
- b) In the subject line of your request, be sure to include "ftp PASSWORD REQUEST" and in the body of your request, include the Contact Information, Site Addresses, and the Case Numbers (RO# available in Geotracker) you will be posting for.
- 2) Upload Files to the ftp Site
  - a) Using Internet Explorer (IE4+), go to ftp://alcoftp1.acgov.org
    - (i) Note: Netscape and Firefox browsers will not open the FTP site.
  - b) Click on File, then on Login As.
  - c) Enter your User Name and Password. (Note: Both are Case Sensitive.)
  - d) Open "My Computer" on your computer and navigate to the file(s) you wish to upload to the ftp site.
  - e) With both "My Computer" and the ftp site open in separate windows, drag and drop the file(s) from "My Computer" to the ftp window.
- 3) Send E-mail Notifications to the Environmental Cleanup Oversight Programs
  - a) Send email to <a href="mailto:dehloptoxic@acgov.org">dehloptoxic@acgov.org</a> notify us that you have placed a report on our ftp site.
  - b) Copy your Caseworker on the e-mail. Your Caseworker's e-mail address is the entire first name then a period and entire last name at acgov.org. (e.g., firstname.lastname@acgov.org)
  - c) The subject line of the e-mail must start with the RO# followed by **Report Upload**. (e.g., Subject: RO1234 Report Upload)