

# UTAH TANK NEWS

SPRING 2002

UST Branch



## USTFields: Solving Environmental Problems and Redeveloping Properties

by Dale T. Urban

Abandoned gasoline service stations are a common sight in almost every city throughout the country. Redevelopment of these properties can be complicated because of environmental contamination, where questions still remain on liability issues and cleanup costs. The goal of the USTFields Pilot Program is to clean up and redevelop abandoned Underground Storage Tank (UST) sites. The USTFields Program utilizes risk-based decision making as a tool to facilitate site cleanup and closure to minimize future liability for all stakeholders involved.

The Utah USTFields Pilot Program, administered by the Utah Department of Environmental

Quality, Division of Environmental Response and Remediation (DERR), was awarded a grant by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to help investigate, cleanup, and redevelop properties that have been contaminated with petroleum products from leaking underground storage tanks.

A recent example of how the *Utah USTFields Pilot* Program can work took place at the future site of *The Living Planet Aquarium*. *The Living Planet Aquarium* is a non-profit organization that had selected a site near the "Gateway Project" in Salt Lake City to build a large public aquarium complex. An environmental investigation conducted at the site revealed subsurface soil and groundwater contamination from leaking USTs that had been previously removed.

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Unless the contamination could be cleaned up to meet cleanup standards, *The Living Planet Aquarium* was in jeopardy of having to find another site. The USTFields Pilot Program and the property owner provided personnel and resources to expedite site assessment and cleanup activities, which facilitated site closure.

In April 2002, a subsurface investigation was performed to determine the extent of contamination. Information from the investigation was used to determine the best cleanup option and estimate cleanup costs. It was determined that overexcavation of contaminated soil and removal of contaminated groundwater would be the most cost-effective and timely cleanup option for the site. In May 2002, site cleanup work was initiated and completed. Following the analysis and evaluation of confirmation soil and groundwater samples, the DERR issued a closure letter in May 2002.

Because the site has been cleaned up and regulatory closure granted, *The Living Planet Aquarium* can now proceed with fund raising for the construction of Salt Lake City's first world-class public aquarium. This Utah USTFields Project is just one example of how public and private partnerships can solve environmental problems and redevelop under-utilized properties. If you know of a property at which environmental contamination is hindering redevelopment, please contact Dale Urban, the DERR project manager, at (801) ■ 536-4145.

## Cathodic Protection Systems

by Bill Moore

There are two types of Cathodic Protection Systems, also known as Corrosion Protection. The first method is "Galvanic", which uses a dissimilar metal such as Zinc or Magnesium to protect the steel components from corrosion. The other method is "Impressed Current", where a DC voltage is applied to the steel components to protect them from corrosion.

Whether the "Galvanic" or "Impressed Current" method

is utilized, the steel components of the tank system must be tested every three years and it must also be tested within 6 months after any repair or construction that could have cut any of the underground wiring.

The "Impressed Current" system has an additional requirement that a log or journal of the proper operation of the rectifier be maintained every 60 days. The log should include: the date, voltage, amperage and hour meter readings, and be initialed by the reader. To ensure proper protection of the tank system, the rectifier must run continuously 24 hours a day. Maintaining this log provides critical data that may be used to determine where problems have occurred and when repairs are

**Corrosion test  
every 3 years**

needed. Maintaining this log could save the owner money in the long run.

During compliance inspections the inspector will ask for the last two corrosion tests and the last three checks of the rectifier readings (if applicable). The inspector will document the voltage reading and test dates for compliance tracking.

When having your system tested, ensure the tester tests all steel components of the tanks and piping that are in contact with the soil or water. This includes flex connectors, elbows, and other steel sections of piping that routinely contain product. Many of these items are commonly missing in the test documents, and can cost extra "trip charges" to have the tester return and test these components again.

If you have question concerning your cathodic protection system, please contact the UST office at (801) 536-4100. ■

## Utah's Underground Storage Tank (UST) Website

by David Wilson

The most efficient way to get information concerning any aspect of the Utah's Underground Storage Tank program 24/7 is to log on to our web site at <http://undergroundtanks.utah.gov/>. The site includes:

**Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA):** Information on how to make a request to review and make copies of the UST/LUST files.

**Interactive Maps:** Two interactive maps are currently available on line. The first is the DERR interactive map, which contains information on all sites regulated by the DERR. This includes UST facilities, Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) sites and sites regulated under Utah's Superfund program. The second is a newer, more user-friendly, UST interactive map. This map contains information exclusively concerning sites that have or at one time had Underground Storage Tanks.

**UST Contacts:** Click on the map in the region of Utah where the USTs are located to find out whom to contact with your UST questions.

**What you need to know about:** installing or permanently closing USTs in Utah, surviving an UST Compliance Inspection, getting a Certificate of Compliance and Utah's Petroleum Storage Tank (PST) Trust Fund.

**UST Forms:** Any form you may need regarding UST regulations. Forms for UST Notification, Installation, Closure, Certification, and for getting a Certificate of Compliance are available.

**UST Certification:** Lists of those certified to do UST work in the State of Utah and information on how to become certified.

**UST and LUST Lists:** Lists of Underground Storage Tanks and Leaking Underground Storage Tank sites in Utah.

**Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) program:** reporting spills, remediation and abatement information and how to access Utah's PST Trust Fund.

Take some time to visit and explore Utah's UST website. If you need help or have any suggestion concerning the website, please contact David Wilson or the DERR at (801) 536-4100. ■

## Inventory Control

by Paul Harding

Inventory Control and Tank Tightness Testing as a form of leak detection for Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) may only be used for a maximum of 10-years. Owners and operators of USTs who use Inventory Control as their primary form of leak detection must switch to a monthly form of leak detection such as Automatic Tank Gauging (ATG), Statistical Inventory Reconciliation (SIR), Interstitial Monitoring or another approved method. For newly installed USTs, Inventory Control must be replaced with a monthly form of leak detection within 10-years of the date of install. Tanks upgraded for corrosion protection may use Inventory Control for 10-years after the date of the upgrade. Some tanks which required an internal inspection prior to a corrosion protection upgrade are not eligible to use Inventory Control as outlined in their internal inspection protocols.

Owners and operators who are currently using Inventory Control and Tank Tightness Testing should be investigating permanent leak detection options in preparation for the required change. Owners and operators are encouraged to consider methods that not only meet their regulatory needs but also are the most reliable in identifying leaks. The investment in effective leak detection equipment is insignificant in comparison to a costly cleanup that could result from a failure to detect a problem early. If you have questions regarding either the permanent forms of monthly leak detection or the effective date of your inventory control please contact the UST staff at (801)536-4100. ■

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## CERTIFICATION CORNER

### **PETCON**

www.petconinc.com

1-800-852-8374

July 17,18,19

Nov 20,21,22

Installer, Remover, Sampler

### **UVSC**

(801) 863-8117/8677

June 18

Aug 6

Oct 8

Dec 17

Sampler only

### **ECI**

(801) 491-3455

by appointment

sampler only

### **Re-certification**

Tests are given the first Tuesday of each month. For more info, contact David Wilson at (801) 536-4138

### **Environmental Consultants**

Contact Hilary Mason at (801) 536-4162

Course and Exam Dates

June 14

Sept 13

Dec 13

<http://www.deq.state.ut.us>

**DEQ**