

NEW MULTI-AGENCY UST REGISTRATION FORM

Many underground storage tank (UST) owners have expressed frustration over the fact that they must complete forms containing the same basic information for three separate agencies. This frustration may now be reduced by the completion and submission of a new multi-agency registration form. This form was recently mailed to small owners and marketers and will be sent to all other owners in mid-March by the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR). BUSTR will also make the registration form available on diskette for owners with a large number of USTs.

The new registration form was a joint endeavor of BUSTR, the Board and the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). Tank owners or operators may now meet state and federal UST system registration requirements for all three agencies by fully completing this multi-agency form and submitting it to BUSTR. BUSTR has been designated as the collection agency for this tank information and will supply the information to the other agencies. Although each agency may have specific information they must acquire by law, i.e., site maps for SERC, owners will no longer be required to send duplicated registration information to each agency regarding their underground storage tank systems.

This process will be phased in over the next year. For instance, the Board is required to notify tank owners of the annual fee by May 1 of each year, so the information generated from the new registration form will not be available in time for the upcoming year's annual fee assessment. Subsequent fee assessments would be based upon the information provided in the new registration form. The SERC registration process is ongoing at the present time so it is anticipated SERC will use the information for their 2002 registration that will be due in March of that year. BUSTR is anticipating sending invoices based upon information from the new form for this year's registration.

This will not be an annual registration form, rather a one-time registration that will be updated with information BUSTR receives from permitted activities, amended registrations, change in ownership registrations and new facility registrations. Owners are required to keep their information at BUSTR current regarding any changes in ownership or facility information.

Registration with each agency is the law. This simplified registration can only be accomplished with the cooperation of each individual tank owner. If owners fail to complete and return the new registration form to BUSTR, each agency will again be required to ask for the information needed for their registration process. Please complete the form properly and submit it to BUSTR within the time allotted. It should make it simpler for all of us. Please call BUSTR (614-752-7938) with any questions.