west virginia department of environmental protection

Division of Water & Waste Management
Office of Environmental Enforcement
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Telephone: 304-926-0470; Fax: 304-926-0457

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor
Randy C. Huffman, Cabinet Secretary
www.wvdep.wv.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: West Virginia Certified Workers

FROM: West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP)
Division of Water & Waste Management
Office of Waste Management
Underground Storage Tank (UST) Unit

SUBJECT: Documentation of Tightness Test Results

DATE: June 1, 1996; Revised February 4, 2013

The following guidance is being provided to ensure that tightness test results performed by WVDEP UST Certified Workers are consistently reported to the Agency.

A. TEST METHOD

Upon request by WVDEP, a copy of the manufacturer's full testing protocol shall be submitted to the Agency for each brand of test equipment utilized by the tester. Any subsequent updates or modifications to the original equipment manufacturer's testing protocol must be adhered to by the tester. It is incumbent upon the tester to ensure that they are utilizing the most current acceptable testing protocol by the equipment manufacturer for each brand of equipment utilized by the tester. These protocols will be used as a standard against which to evaluate how individual tests are conducted and will serve as the basis for enforcement actions if manufacturer protocols are not followed.

B. TIGHTNESS TEST DOCUMENTATION

Documentation for each tightness test performed will include, at a minimum, all of the following information. This information will be provided to the owner and/or operator of each storage system tested.

- Test equipment manufacturer's certification that the individual conducting the test is qualified to use the equipment. This documentation should include the original date of certification and the expiration date of the certification.
- Make and model of test equipment
- Facility identifiers (including ID number, Name, Location, Owner/Operator Names)

- Sketch of the site showing the USTs, piping, and on-site buildings with sufficient labeling to identify the tanks and piping referred to in the report.
- Lists of tanks, piping, and/or line leak detectors tested
- Date and time of the beginning and ending of each test conducted
- Information on all data gathered during the test (for example: temperature, liquid levels, pressure, etc.). This information can be provided in a list or graph format.
- The test manufacturer's certification of equipment performance.
- The threshold used as the criteria for pass/fail.
- The results of the test ("pass or fail"). Results of volumetric tests must also include the volume change measured during the test.
- Any other information required or recommended by the testing protocol for the equipment be used.
- A statement signed the by the tester certifying that all tests were conducted exactly according to the equipment manufacturer's protocol and within limitations of the certification of equipment performance.

1. FOR EACH TANK TEST PERFORMED

Documentation for each tank tested will also include the following:

- Tank construction, capacity, and type of product stored
- Date and amount of most recent product delivery
- Level of product in the tank
- Description of the method used to determine if the water table was above the bottom of the tank.
- If the water table is above the tank bottom, the height of the water table above the tank bottom and a calculation of the net hydrostatic pressure at the bottom of the tank (in or out) for the test conditions. Description of any impacts the presence of water may have on the test results.

2. FOR EACH PIPING TEST PERFORMED

Documentation for each piping tested will also include the following:

- Piping construction, approximate length of piping, and type of product contained in piping.
- The time of the last dispensing of product from the piping.

3. FOR EACH LINE LEAK DETECTOR TESTED

Documentation for each line leak detector tested will also include the following:

- Manufacturer, type of line leak detector, and product being monitored.
- The size of the simulated leak used to determine the performance of the line leak detector.