



JOHN ENGLER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

"Better Service for a Better Environment"

HOLLISTER BUILDING, PO BOX 30473, LANSING MI 48909-7973

INTERNET: www.deq.state.mi.us

RUSSELL J. HARDING, Director

REPLY TO:

STORAGE TANK DIVISION
TOWN CENTER
PO BOX 30157
LANSING MI 48909-7657

IM-18

April 23, 1999

TO: Qualified Underground Storage Tank Consultants (QCs) and Interested Parties

FROM: Mohammad Yusaf, P.E., Chief, Field Operations Section
Storage Tank Division

SUBJECT: Reporting Releases

This informational memorandum will provide guidance for reporting releases when there are multiple underground storage tanks (UTs) at a facility. Releases must be reported pursuant to the Michigan Underground Storage Tank Rules (MUSTR), 1999 AACS, R 29.2101 et. seq., Part 211, Underground Storage Tank Regulations, and Part 213, Leaking Underground Storage Tanks, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451).

Release is defined in Part 211, of Act 451, as "...any spilling, leaking, emitting, discharging, escaping, leaching, or disposing from an underground storage tank system. . ." According to this definition, a release is specific to each UST system. When there are multiple USTs at a facility, then the release must be attributed to a specific UST. Each new or subsequent release (suspected or confirmed) that is attributable to a UST must be reported to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) within 24 hours of discovery. The owner/operator may elect to note all USTs in an excavation as having a release, when there is data on only one UST or when it is difficult to assess which UST resulted in the release. The multiple releases may be remediated by an owner/operator's QC as one corrective action activity. However, each release must be specifically identified in the Initial Assessment, Final Assessment and Closure Reports.