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PADEP Storage Tank Program Amendments

Effective November 10, 2007, the PADEP has instigated its first set of comprehensive changes in over ten years to the state Storage Tank Program (25 PA Code, Chapter 245).

Revisions to program regulations include:

- New and revised definitional terms;
- New comprehensive tank registration provisions;
- Simplified permit applications for installation of some above-ground storage tanks;
- Re-regulation of previously de-regulated large, aboveground stor-

age tanks storing heating oil for on-site consumptive use;

- Greater emphasis on training and additional standards of performance provisions for certified tank installers, inspectors, and companies;
- Requirements for total secondary containment systems and monitoring for new and replacement underground storage tank systems; and
- Phase-in provisions of technical requirements for newly regulated tanks.

Underground storage tank facility inspection frequency has been increased from every five or ten years to once every three years. The new amendments also prohibit deliveries

being made to storage tanks with suspended or revoked operating permits. These inspection frequency and delivery prohibitions correlate with the Underground Storage Tank Compliance provisions contained in the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Aboveground heating oil storage tanks, for on-site use, greater than 30,000 gallons in capacity are once again regulated. Additionally, bio-diesel, synthetic motor oils and fluids, and pure ethanol intended for blending with motor fuel have been added to the list of regulated substances; and storage of these products is now regulated. (cont'd on pg 2)

EPA Grant for Philadelphia Daycares

In November, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded to the Southeast Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center in West Chester, Pa. a \$24,550 environmental education grant to teach janitors, parents and teachers from a dozen Philadelphia area daycare centers about indoor air pollution.

The focus of the education center will be on teaching adults how to minimize environmental toxins in homes and daycare facilities.

"By teaching parents, guardians and educators essential information about indoor air pollution, we can help maintain safe and environmentally-friendly schools and homes," said Donald S. Welsh, administrator for EPA's mid-Atlantic region.

Faculty and staff awareness of health hazards associated with

indoor air pollution caused by commonly used cleaning products and pesticides will be expanded by the project, which will also be used to promote the increased use of environmentally-friendly cleaning products and pesticides in child care facilities.

To learn more about this program, please visit the [EPA's environmental education grants and online resources](#) for communities, educators, and children. (November 5, 2007)





EPA Grant to Combat Childhood Lead Poisoning

In Philadelphia, lead poisoning remains one of the most dangerous environmental threats to children, despite its complete preventability. Children from low-income families, living in old, poorly maintained housing, are at risk for lead poisoning.

Nearly 95 percent of Philadelphia's housing units built prior to 1950 are occupied by low-income residents. The number of births in Philadelphia between 1999 and 2002 was greater than 20,000; however, only 2,000 newborn caregivers

received lead prevention outreach each year.

In December, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's mid-Atlantic region awarded a \$63,572 grant to the National Nursing Centers Consortium (NNCC) to help fund the development of a newborn referral database, and to create an outreach for newborn babies, in the Philadelphia area.

The EPA's Targeted Lead Grant Program funds projects in areas with high incidences of

children with elevated blood-lead levels. In 2007, the agency awarded more than \$5 million in grants under this program.

The grant will help the NNCC to develop a referral database, and to implement a referral and follow-up strategy. The NNCC will also provide language and cultural method outreach to specific ethnic groups.

Please visit the [EPA's lead program website](#) for more information; or call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD. (Posted to the EPA website December 18, 2007)

Updated regulations for Storage Tanks in Pennsylvania



PADEP Storage Tank Amendments (Cont'd from pg 1)

The large, aboveground heating oil storage tanks and storage tanks containing the newly regulated substances are required to be registered with PADEP within 60 days.

All new and replacement underground storage tank systems are now required to have total secondary containment, including: double-wall tank, double-wall piping, and sumps

under product dispensers and all piping junctures.

In addition, routine monthly monitoring of the secondary containment is now required, and line-leak-detectors on pressurized piping must be equipped with an automatic pump shutoff device. The new total secondary containment requirements, coupled with the increased inspection frequency,

are expected to result in a decrease in the number of releases from underground storage tanks, and a decrease in the magnitude of releases when they do occur.

To view the amendments to Chapter 245, please visit the [PADEP website](#); keywords: Storage Tanks.

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React Environmental Professional Services Group's Environmental Newsletter

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