

PSTD “SUSPICION OF RELEASE” GUIDELINES

“Suspicions of Release” resulting in a system check are required under OAC 165:29-3-2. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) requires a regulated tank owner or operator, their agent and employees, or transporters to report within 24 hours any of the following conditions:

1. Groundwater observed in an underground fuel storage tank.
2. A fuel tank tightness test failure or line tightness test failure.
3. A sudden fuel inventory shortage.
4. A leak from a dispenser, leak detector, piping, or other part of the storage tank system that is not fully contained by a catch basin, sump, or pavement, and results in contact with soil and/or groundwater.
5. Any unusual operating conditions, such as erratic behavior of product dispensing equipment.
6. Leak detection well vapor readings exceeding 4,000 parts per million for two consecutive months.
7. Unexplained surface fuel vapors on storage tank property.
8. Unexplained fuel vapors off storage tank property.
9. Unexplained and recurring fuel observed on the surface of storage tank property or sheen on any surface water.
10. Unexplained free product or fuel sheen observed on any surface off of storage tank property.
11. Fuel sheen or free product observed in a vapor well or tank pit monitoring well.
12. If backfill material in the piping trenches or tank pit exceeds OCC action levels (concentrations) for the following: Benzene – **0.5** mg/Kg; Toluene – **40** mg/Kg; Ethylbenzene – **15** mg/Kg; Xylenes – **200** mg/Kg; TPH – **50** mg/Kg. Note: 2 feet of native soil may be over-excavated prior to sampling.
13. If tank pit water, or any groundwater, exceeds OCC action levels for the following: Benzene – **0.005** mg/L; Toluene – **1.0** mg/L; Ethylbenzene – **0.7** mg/L; Xylenes – **10** mg/L; TPH – **2** mg/L.

Any of the above conditions, when reported, may or may not result in some action being required by the OCC. Current and historic storage tank facility information will be reviewed by OCC personnel prior to determining whether any regulatory requirements are necessary. Some reported conditions warrant an inspection by the area OCC Fuel Inspector. Some of the conditions may also warrant a UST system check and/or a full suspicion of release investigation and submittal of the corresponding “Suspicion of Release” report.

Although aboveground fuel spills of less than 25 gallons need not be reported, they must be recorded by the owner or operator and cleaned up immediately.

If any of the above conditions above are observed, send an email to PSTReleaseReporting@occ.ok.gov or call (405) 521-4683. If it is an emergency and reporting outside of normal business hours, call the PSTD 24-hour emergency reporting number at (405) 823-0994.