



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM

On-Line Petroleum Release Reporting
Revised Guidance – October 2011

General Guidance

Releases Discovered At Closure

Some releases are discovered when an UST system is being closed. You should only report a known source and cause if you can determine the release came from that component. For example, if you remove a tank and find a large corrosion hole in the tank and regulated substance in the soil near the hole, you can assume the release came from the tank. However, if you remove a tank and find regulated substance in the backfill, but don't see any obvious evidence of the source, report that release source as unknown.

Unknown Sources

Please do not place sources that are not known in any of the known source categories. For example, do not place unknown sources in the "other" category. If the source is unknown, do not report a source for this release.

Determining if an UST is Regulated or Non-Regulated

Regulated USTs are tanks, including connected underground piping that contain or used to contain a regulated substance such as petroleum or listed hazardous substances. The volume of a regulated UST must be 10% or more beneath the surface of the ground or otherwise covered by earthen materials. Certain tanks are exempt from this definition. These are the non-regulated tanks. Tanks smaller than 110 gallons in size, farm and residential tanks smaller than 1,100 gallons and heating oil tanks are exempt and therefore considered to be non-regulated. Please refer to OAR 340-150-0008 for a complete list of exemptions.

Source of Release Guidance

The values assigned to the **source of release** category appear on the OLPRR data entry screen as a drop down list that looks like this:

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Site Assessment". It contains several dropdown menus: "Discover Date" (set to 2007), "Confirmation" (set to Contractor), "Discovery", "Cause", and "Source". The "Source" dropdown is open, showing a list of options: Tank, Piping, Dispenser, Turbine Pump, Delivery Problem, Other, and Unknown. Below the dropdowns is a "Contaminants" section with a heading "R: Select One Or More." and a grid of checkboxes for various substances: Heating Oil, Diesel (Motor Fuel), Other Pet. Dist., Unleaded Gasoline, Waste Oil, Chemical, Leaded Gasoline, Lubricant, MTBE, and Unknown.

Tank: This term means the tank that stores the product and is part of the underground storage tank system. Use this source if regulated substance were released directly from the tank. **NOTE: If a spill or overfill occurred at the tank, report this as a "delivery problem".**

Piping: Means the piping and connectors running from the tank or submersible turbine pump to the dispenser or other end-use equipment. It does not include vent, vapor recovery or fill lines. Use this source if regulated substances were released directly from the piping. **NOTE: Spills and overfills typically do not occur at piping.**

Dispenser: Includes the dispenser and equipment used to connect the dispenser to the piping. For example, a release from a suction pump or components above the shear valve would be considered a release from the dispenser. **NOTE: This source would include any reportable spills and overfills associated with vehicle refueling.**

Turbine Pump (STP): This term includes the submersible turbine pump head (typically located in the tank sump), the line leak detector, and the piping that connects the submersible turbine pump to the tank.

Delivery Problem: Releases that occur during product delivery to the tank. **NOTE: Typical causes associated with this source are spills and overfills.**

Other: Use this option when the release source does not fit into one of the above categories. For example, releases from vent lines, vapor recovery lines and fill lines would be included in this category.

Cause of Release Guidance:

The values EPA assigned to the **cause of release** category appear on the OLPRR data entry screen as a drop down list that looks like this:

The screenshot shows the 'Site Assessment' data entry screen. At the top, there are five dropdown menus: 'Discover Date' (set to 2007), 'Confirmation' (set to Contractor), 'Discovery', 'Cause', and 'Source'. Below these is a 'Contaminants' section with a checkbox for 'Select One Or More'. The 'Cause' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of options: Overfill, Spill, Corrosion, Install Problem, Physical/Mechanical Damage, Other, and Unknown. To the right of the 'Cause' dropdown, there are labels for 'Misc. Gasoline', 'Solvent', and 'Unknown'.

Overfill: Use this cause when an overfill occurs. For example, overfills may occur from the fill pipe at the tank or when the nozzle fails to shut off at the dispenser.

Spill: Use this cause when a spill occurs. For example, spills may occur when the delivery hose is disconnected from the tank fill pipe and the spill bucket is not liquid tight or when the nozzle is removed from the vehicle at the dispenser.

Corrosion: Use this cause when a metal tank, piping or other component has a release due to corrosion (for steel, corrosion takes the form of rust). This is a specific type of physical or mechanical damage.

Installation Problem: Use this cause when the problem is determined to have occurred specifically because the underground storage tank system was not installed properly. **NOTE: these problems may be difficult to determine.**

Physical or Mechanical Damage: Use this cause for all types of physical or mechanical damage except corrosion as described above. Some examples of physical or mechanical damage include a puncture of the tank or piping, loose fittings, broken components and components that have changed dimension (for example, elongation or swelling).

Other: Use this option when the cause is known but does not fit into one of the above categories. For example, accidentally or intentionally putting regulated substances into a monitoring well would be included in this category.

Unknown: Use this option when the cause of the release cannot be determined.