



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Compliance and Enforcement
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232-4100
(503) 229-5696
FAX (503) 229-5100
TTY 711

May 16, 2023

CERTIFIED MAIL: 7018 1830 0001 5906 2940

University of Oregon
c/o Steve Stuckmeyer, Environmental Health and Safety Director
1260 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403

Re: Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment and Order
Case No. LQ/UST-WR-2022-077

This letter is to inform you that DEQ has issued you a total civil penalty of \$14,757 for underground storage tank (UST) violations at your facility in Eugene, the University of Oregon Physical Plant. DEQ documented several violations during its inspection on April 19, 2022. DEQ has cited you for failing to initially test the spill prevention and overfill prevention equipment prior to October 1, 2020 and failing to have adequate release detection on the piping in the under-dispenser containment and the USTs for your emergency generators.

DEQ issued this penalty because having proper release detection equipment installed and performing testing of spill prevention and overfill prevention equipment is important to ensure that releases are discovered quickly before contamination spreads beyond the immediate area of the USTs and allows immediate response to any sign of a release. If a leak goes unnoticed due to unmaintained release detection equipment, the leaking fuel can have lasting harmful effects on the environment and human health.

Included in Section IV of the enclosed Notice is an order requiring you to perform the required testing and install release detection equipment. You are required to submit documentation demonstrating your compliance to DEQ within thirty (30) days of this Notice becoming final.

\$13,057 of the civil penalty represents the economic benefit you gained by failing to test the spill prevention equipment and install release detection equipment. If you complete these requirements, DEQ will consider recalculating the costs as delayed rather than avoided and will reduce the civil penalty accordingly.

If you wish to appeal this matter, DEQ must receive a request for a hearing within 20 calendar days from your receipt of this letter. The hearing request must be in writing. Send your request to DEQ Office of Compliance and Enforcement:

Via mail – 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232

Via email – DEQappeals@deq.oregon.gov

Via fax – 503-229-5100

Once DEQ receives your request, we will arrange to meet with you to discuss this matter. If DEQ does not receive a timely written hearing request, the penalty will become due. Alternatively, you can pay the penalty by sending a check or money order to the above address.

The attached Notice further details DEQ's reasons for issuing the penalty and provides further instructions for appealing the penalty. Please review and refer to it when discussing this case with DEQ.

DEQ may allow you to resolve part of your penalty through the completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP). SEPs are environmental improvement projects that you sponsor instead of paying a penalty. Further information is available by calling the number below or at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/Regulations/Pages/SEP.aspx>.

DEQ's rules are available at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/Regulations/Pages/Statutes.aspx> or by calling the number below.

If you have any questions, please contact Esther Westbrook at 503-229-5374 or toll free in Oregon at 800-452-4011, extension 5374.

Sincerely,



Kieran O'Donnell, Manager
Office of Compliance and Enforcement

Enclosures

cc: Adam Jones, Environmental Services Manager, University of Oregon: asjones@uoregon.edu
Kevin Reed, General Counsel, University of Oregon: gcounsel@uoregon.edu
Dylan Eckert, Eugene Office, DEQ
Mike Korten Hof, Portland Office, DEQ

BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF:) NOTICE OF CIVIL PENALTY
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON,) ASSESSMENT AND ORDER
Respondent.) CASE NO. LQ/UST-WR-2022-077

I. AUTHORITY

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issues this Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment and Order (Notice) pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468.100, ORS 468.126 through 468.140, ORS 466.706 through 466.882, ORS 466.994, ORS Chapter 183 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 340, Divisions 011, 012, and 150.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all materials times, Respondent owned and was the permittee of an underground storage tank (UST) system located at 1295 Franklin Boulevard in Eugene, Lane County, Oregon (the Facility).

2. Respondent operates the UST system under Certificate to Operate #11305.

3. The UST system consists of five USTs and connected piping. The UST system has a total capacity of approximately 101,000 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel, which are regulated substances. There are three 30,000-gallon tanks that store diesel fuel to power emergency generators and boilers (Tanks 1, 2, and 3).

4. On April 19, 2022, DEQ conducted an inspection of the UST system and reviewed Respondent's records for the UST system.

5. As of April 19, 2022, Respondent had not tested the containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring.

6. On April 19, 2022, the piping for Tanks 1, 2, and 3 did not have leak detection equipment installed.

7. On April 19, 2022, the under-dispenser containment did not have leak detection equipment installed.

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1 8. The equipment described in Section II, Paragraphs 6 and 7 above regularly contains diesel
2 fuel or gasoline, which are regulated substances.

3 9. On or about December 20, 2022, Respondent installed leak detection equipment in the
4 under-dispenser containment.

5 III. CONCLUSIONS

6 1. Respondent has violated OAR 340-150-0310(10) by failing to initially test its spill
7 prevention and overfill prevention equipment, specifically containment sumps, prior to October 1,
8 2020, as alleged in Section II, Paragraph 5 above. This is a Class I violation according to OAR 340-012-
9 0067(1)(j). DEQ hereby assesses a civil penalty of \$1,887 for this violation.

10 2. Respondent has violated OAR 340-150-0400(1)(a) by failing to provide a method of release
11 detection that can detect a release from any portion of the UST and the underground piping that routinely
12 contains a regulated substance, as alleged in Section II, Paragraphs 6 – 8 above. This is a Class I violation
13 according to OAR 340-012-0067(1)(e). DEQ hereby assesses a civil penalty of \$12,870 for this violation.

14 IV. ORDER TO PAY CIVIL PENALTY AND TO COMPLY

15 Based upon the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS, Respondent is
16 hereby ORDERED TO:

17 1. Pay a total civil penalty of \$14,757. The determination of the civil penalties is attached as
18 Exhibits 1 and 2, which are incorporated as part of this Notice.

19 If you do not file a request for hearing as set forth in Section V below, your check or money
20 order must be made payable to "**State Treasurer, State of Oregon**" and sent to: **DEQ - Business**
21 **Office, 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232.**

22 2. Comply with Oregon law by taking the following actions within thirty (30) days of this
23 Notice becoming final by operation of law or on appeal:

24 a. Complete hydrostatic testing of the containment sumps and submit the results to
25 UST Inspector Dylan Eckert via email to: Dylan.Eckert@deq.oregon.gov; and

26 b. Complete installation of automatic line leak detectors to monitor the pressurized
27 piping for Tanks 1, 2, and 3. Submit a completed Modification Checklist to Dylan Eckert via email.

1 V. NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING

2 You have a right to a contested case hearing on this Notice, if you request one in writing. DEQ
3 must receive your request for hearing **within 20 calendar days** from the date you receive this Notice. If
4 you have any affirmative defenses or wish to dispute any allegations of fact in this Notice or attached
5 exhibits, you must do so in your request for hearing, as factual matters not denied will be considered
6 admitted, and failure to raise a defense will be a waiver of the defense. (See OAR 340-011-0530 for
7 further information about requests for hearing.) You must send your request to: **DEQ, Office of**
8 **Compliance and Enforcement, 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232**, fax
9 it to **503-229-6762** or email it to DEQappeals@deq.oregon.gov. An administrative law judge
10 employed by the Office of Administrative Hearings will conduct the hearing, according to ORS
11 Chapter 183, OAR Chapter 340, Division 011, and OAR 137-003-0501 to 0700. You have a right to be
12 represented by an attorney at the hearing, however you are not required to be. If you are an individual,
13 you may represent yourself. If you are a corporation, partnership, limited liability company,
14 unincorporated association, trust, or government body, you must be represented by an attorney or a
15 duly authorized representative, as set forth in OAR 137-003-0555.

16 Active-duty Service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service
17 Members Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 1-800-
18 452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571, or the nearest United States Armed
19 Forces Legal Assistance Office through <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil>. The Oregon Military
20 Department does not have a toll-free telephone number.

21 If you fail to file a timely request for hearing, the Notice will become a final order by default
22 without further action by DEQ, as per OAR 340-011-0535(1). If you do request a hearing but later
23 withdraw your request, fail to attend the hearing, or notify DEQ that you will not be attending the
24 hearing, DEQ will issue a final order by default pursuant to OAR 340-011-0535(3). DEQ designates

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1 the relevant portions of its files, including information submitted by you, as the record for purposes of
2 proving a prima facie case.

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5/16/2023
Date



Kieran O'Donnell, Manager
Office of Compliance and Enforcement

EXHIBIT 1

FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF RESPONDENT'S CIVIL PENALTY
PURSUANT TO OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULE (OAR) 340-012-0045

- VIOLATION NO. 1 Failing to initially test spill prevention and overfill prevention equipment by October 1, 2020, in violation of OAR 340-150-0310(10).
- CLASSIFICATION: This is a Class I violation pursuant to OAR 340-012-0067(1)(j).
- MAGNITUDE: The magnitude of the violation is moderate, pursuant to OAR 340-012-0130(1), as there is no selected magnitude specified in OAR 340-012-0135 for this violation, and the information reasonably available to DEQ does not indicate a minor or major magnitude.
- CIVIL PENALTY FORMULA: The formula for determining the amount of penalty of each violation is: $BP + [(0.1 \times BP) \times (P + H + O + M + C)] + EB$
- "BP" is the base penalty, which is \$500 for a Class I, moderate magnitude violation in the matrix listed in OAR 340-012-0140(5)(b)(A)(ii) and applicable pursuant to OAR 340-012-0140(5)(a)(E). Respondent is the owner or permittee of one UST facility.
- "P" is whether Respondent has any prior significant actions, as defined in OAR 340-012-0030(19), in the same media as the violation at issue that occurred at a facility owned or operated by the same Respondent, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(2)(a)(A), because there are no prior significant actions.
- "H" is whether Respondent has any prior significant actions, as defined in OAR 340-012-0030(19), in the same media as the violation at issue that occurred at a facility owned or operated by the same Respondent, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(2)(a)(A), because there are no prior significant actions.
- "O" is whether the violation was repeated or ongoing, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(4)(a) because there was only one occurrence of the violation. Respondent failed to conduct testing by a specific date, October 1, 2020.
- "M" is the mental state of the Respondent and receives a value of 2 according to OAR 340-012-0145(5)(b) because Respondent had constructive knowledge (reasonably should have known) of the requirement. In 2018, DEQ adopted the regulation requiring that the testing be completed prior to October 1, 2020, and provided extensive outreach to the regulated community on the requirement to conduct the testing prior to that date. Respondent reasonably should have known of the requirement to conduct the testing prior to October 1, 2020.

"C" is Respondent's efforts to correct or mitigate the violation and receives a value of 2 according to OAR 340-012-0145(6)(g) because Respondent did not address the violation as described in paragraphs (6)(a) through (6)(e) and the facts do not support a finding under paragraph (6)(f). As of the date of this Notice, Respondent has not completed the testing.

"EB" is the approximate dollar value of the benefit gained and the costs avoided or delayed as a result of Respondent's noncompliance. It is designed to "level the playing field" by taking away any economic advantage the entity gained and to deter potential violators from deciding it is cheaper to violate and pay the penalty than to pay the costs of compliance. In this case, "EB" receives a value of \$1,187. This is the amount Respondent gained by avoiding spending \$1,500 to conduct hydrostatic testing on the containment sumps. This "EB" was calculated pursuant to OAR 340-012-0150(1) using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's BEN computer model.

PENALTY CALCULATION: $\text{Penalty} = \text{BP} + [(0.1 \times \text{BP}) \times (\text{P} + \text{H} + \text{O} + \text{M} + \text{C})] + \text{EB}$
 $= \$500 + [(0.1 \times \$500) \times (0 + 0 + 0 + 2 + 2)] + \$1,187$
 $= \$500 + (\$50 \times 4) + \$1,187$
 $= \$500 + \$200 + \$1,187$
 $= \$1,887$

EXHIBIT 2

FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF RESPONDENT'S CIVIL PENALTY PURSUANT TO OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULE (OAR) 340-012-0045

VIOLATION NO. 2 Failing to provide a method of release detection that can detect a release from any portion of the UST and the underground piping that routinely contains a regulated substance, specifically the piping for the USTs serving the generators and the under-dispenser containment, in violation of OAR 340-150-0400(1)(a).

CLASSIFICATION: This is a Class I violation pursuant to OAR 340-012-0067(1)(e).

MAGNITUDE: The magnitude of the violation is moderate, pursuant to OAR 340-012-0130(1), as there is no selected magnitude specified in OAR 340-012-0135 for this violation, and the information reasonably available to DEQ does not indicate a minor or major magnitude.

CIVIL PENALTY FORMULA: The formula for determining the amount of penalty of each violation is: $BP + [(0.1 \times BP) \times (P + H + O + M + C)] + EB$

"BP" is the base penalty, which is \$500 for a Class I, moderate magnitude violation in the matrix listed in OAR 340-012-0140(5)(b)(A)(ii) and applicable pursuant to OAR 340-012-0140(5)(a)(E). Respondent is the owner or permittee of one UST facility.

"P" is whether Respondent has any prior significant actions, as defined in OAR 340-012-0030(19), in the same media as the violation at issue that occurred at a facility owned or operated by the same Respondent, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(2)(a)(A), because there are no prior significant actions.

"H" is Respondent's history of correcting prior significant actions and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(3)(c), because there is no prior history.

"O" is whether the violation was repeated or ongoing, and receives a value of 4 according to OAR 340-012-0145(4)(d) because the violation has been ongoing for more than 28 days. Two USTs installed in 1993 did not have leak detection installed in the under-dispenser containment until December of 2022. Respondent was required to install release detection for the USTs serving its emergency generators by October 1, 2020. As of the date of this Notice, Respondent has not completed installation of this equipment, which is a duration of more than two years.

"M" is the mental state of Respondent, and receives a value of 4 according to OAR 340-012-0145(5)(c) because Respondent's conduct was negligent. In May 2018, DEQ informed Respondent of the new requirement to install release detection for emergency generator tanks by October 1, 2020. By failing to install this equipment by the deadline or even before DEQ's inspection on April 19, 2022, Respondent take reasonable care to avoid a foreseeable risk that it would violate UST requirements.

"C" is Respondent's efforts to correct or mitigate the violation, and receives a value of 2 according to OAR 340-012-0145(6)(g) because Respondent did not address the violation as described in paragraphs (6)(a) through (6)(e) and the facts do not support a finding under paragraph (6)(f). As of the date of this Notice, Respondent has not completed installation of leak detection equipment.

"EB" is the approximate dollar value of the benefit gained and the costs avoided or delayed as a result of Respondent's noncompliance. It is designed to "level the playing field" by taking away any economic advantage the entity gained and to deter potential violators from deciding it is cheaper to violate and pay the penalty than to pay the costs of compliance. In this case, "EB" receives a value of \$11,870. This is the amount Respondent gained by avoiding spending \$15,000 to install line leak detectors for the piping for the boiler and emergency generator tanks. This "EB" was calculated pursuant to OAR 340-012-0150(1) using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's BEN computer model.

PENALTY CALCULATION: $Penalty = BP + [(0.1 \times BP) \times (P + H + O + M + C)] + EB$
= \$500 + [(0.1 x \$500) x (0 + 0 + 4 + 4 + 2)] + \$11,870
= \$500 + (\$50 x 10) + \$11,870
= \$500 + \$500 + \$11,870
= \$12,870