



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

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Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Brian C. Rockensuess
Commissioner

July 3, 2024

Fowler Property Investments LP
c/o Registered Agents Inc
5534 Sain Joe Rd
Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Mountain Express Oil Comany
c/o Vcorp Agent Services Inc
334 N Senate Ave
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Re: Violation Letter
Mex 228
4233 N Clinton St
Fort Wayne, Allen County
UST Facility ID # **25040**

Dear Mr. Patterson:

An inspector from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Underground Storage Tank (UST) Section, conducted an inspection of the site referenced above on June 25, 2024.

The inspection was conducted pursuant to Indiana Code (IC) 13-14-2-2 to determine compliance with the provisions of IC 13-23 and 329 IAC 9. In accordance with IC 13-14-5, a summary of the inspection is provided below:

Type of Inspection: Initial

Results of Inspection: Violations were discovered and require a submittal.

Within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter, documentation demonstrating compliance with each of the requirements listed in the attached Inspection Report and Description of Violations (DOV) must be submitted to IDEM. Failure to submit this documentation may lead to this facility being referred for enforcement.

An enforcement action may include civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per UST. Enforcement actions may also affect the owner's and/or operator's eligibility for reimbursement from the Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF). Additionally, IDEM may deem the USTs at this facility ineligible for delivery, deposit or acceptance of regulated substances pursuant to IC 13-23-1-4. Finally, federal and criminal penalties may apply for failure to provide required notification; or submitting false information pursuant to IC 13-23-14-2 and liable under IC 13-30-10.

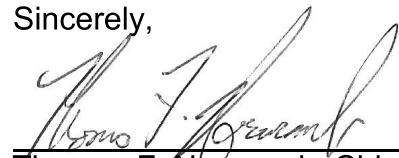
Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please submit the required documents to the UST Section via email at USTCompliance@idem.in.gov. Include in the subject line of the response the UST Facility ID # **25040**.

Inspector: Brandon Blystone
Phone: (463) 271-5699

Direct any questions regarding the inspection to:

Compliance Manager: Caitlin Shaffer
Phone: (317) 234-4112

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Newcomb, Chief
UST Compliance Section
Office of Land Quality

cc: Caitlin Shaffer
Brandon Blystone
UST Facility ID File # 25040
Mex 228
Attn: Brian Patterson
Via email: bp@spartan-tank.com

DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATIONS

This inspection or records review revealed that the owner and/or operator of this facility is in violation of Indiana UST Rule 329 IAC 9. 329 Indiana Administrative Code ("IAC") 9 incorporates certain federal underground storage tank requirements found in 40 Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR") Part 280, including those identified below. The Description of Violations (DOV) and corrective measures are as follows:

FACILITY NAME: Mex 228	UST FACILITY ID: 25040
ADDRESS: 4233 N Clinton St Fort Wayne, IN 46805 Allen County	INSPECTION DATE: 6/26/2024

VIOLATIONS NOTED IN THIS INSPECTION

IC 13-23-12-1 Failure to Pay UST Fees

Citation:

Pursuant to IC 13-23-12-1, each year, if an underground storage tank has not been closed before January 1 of the year under rules adopted under IC 13-23-1-2; or a requirement imposed by the commissioner before the adoption of rules under IC 13-23-1-2; the owner of the underground storage tank shall pay to the department an annual registration fee.

The annual registration fee required by this section is ninety dollars (\$90) for each underground petroleum storage tank or two hundred forty-five dollars (\$245) for each underground storage tank containing regulated substances other than petroleum.

If an underground storage tank consists of a single tank in which there are separate compartments, a separate fee shall be paid under subsection (b) for each compartment within the single tank. If an underground storage tank consists of a combination of tanks, a separate fee shall be paid under subsection (b) for each compartment within each tank in the combination of tanks.

For tanks that contain separate compartments and that were in use before July 1, 2014, the payment of a single annual fee of ninety dollars (\$90) for a tank containing separate compartments shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of subsection.

Violation Details:

The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because 2022 and 2023 tank fees were not paid.

Corrective Action:

The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall pay the required fees to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this notice.

§ 280.34 – Reporting and recordkeeping (general provisions)
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.34, as incorporated, owners and operators of UST systems must cooperate fully with inspections, monitoring and testing conducted by the implementing agency, as well as requests for document submission, testing, and monitoring by the owner or operator pursuant to section 9005 of Subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended.
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because compliance documentation was not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall immediately perform the monitoring or testing required by the rules and/or submit the requested documentation within seven (7) days of receipt of this notice.

§ 280.41(a)(1) – Failure to monitor tanks every 30 days if installed before 9/2/2009
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.41(a)(1), as incorporated, considering previous Indiana rule at 329 IAC 9-3-1.3 (repealed 2018), tanks installed on or before September 2, 2009 must be monitored for releases at least every 30 days using one of the methods listed in § 280.43(d) through (i).
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because twelve (12) months of release detection records were not provided for the tanks.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall have any UST or line that contains a regulated amount of product and found to not have been monitored every thirty (30) days tightness tested within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice and submit the results within forty five (45) days of receipt of this notice. The owner and/or operator shall continue to perform proper monthly release detection and submit the results monthly for a period of six (6) months after the receipt of this notice.

§ 280.41(b)(1)(i)(B) – Failure to perform annual piping LTT or monthly monitoring

Citation:

Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.41(b)(1)(i)(B), as incorporated, pressurized underground piping installed on or before April 11, 2016 (previously cited as September 2, 2009 under 329 IAC 9-2-1(2)(D)) that routinely contains regulated substances must have an annual line tightness test conducted in accordance with § 280.44(b) or have monthly monitoring conducted in accordance with § 280.44(c).

Violation Details:

The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because line tightness testing was not provided.

Corrective Action:

The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall have any piping that contains a regulated amount of product and found to not have had appropriate monthly monitoring or an annual line tightness test within the 12 months prior to inspection tightness tested within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice and submit the results within forty five (45) days of receipt of this notice.

§ 280.35(a)(1) – Failure to perform periodic testing of spill prevention equipment and containment sumps used for IM

Citation:

Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.35(a)(1), as incorporated, owners and operators of UST systems with spill and overflow prevention equipment and containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring of piping must meet these requirements to ensure the equipment is operating properly and will prevent releases to the environment:
(1) Spill prevention equipment (such as a catchment basin, spill bucket, or other spill containment device) and containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring of piping must prevent releases to the environment.

Violation Details:

The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because spill bucket testing was not provided.

Corrective Action:

The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, contract with a certified contractor to inspect, repair and test all spill prevention equipment and containment sumps. Documentation, to include photographs, inspection, repair and testing results, showing the spill prevention equipment and containment sumps are liquid tight must be submitted within forty five (45) days of the receipt of this notice.

§ 280.35(a)(2) – Failure to perform periodic testing of overfill prevention equipment
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.35(a)(2), as incorporated, overfill prevention equipment must be inspected at least once every three years. At a minimum, the inspection must ensure that overfill prevention equipment is set to activate at the correct level specified in § 280.20(c) and will activate when regulated substance reaches that level. Inspections must be conducted in accordance with one of the criteria in paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) through (C) of this section.
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because overfill testing was not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, contract with a certified contractor to inspect, repair and test all overfill prevention equipment. Documentation, to include photographs, inspection, repair, measurements and testing results, showing the overfill prevention equipment is fully functional and set at the correct level must be submitted within forty five (45) days of the receipt of this notice.

§ 280.40(a)(3)(i) – Failure to perform annual tests of ATG
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.40(a)(3)(i), as incorporated, owners and operators of UST systems must provide a method, or combination of methods, of release detection that beginning on October 13, 2018, is operated and maintained, and electronic and mechanical components are tested for proper operation, in accordance with one of the following: manufacturer's instructions; a code of practice developed by a nationally recognized association or independent testing laboratory; or requirements determined by the implementing agency to be no less protective of human health and the environment than the two options listed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section. A test of the proper operation must be performed at least annually and, at a minimum, as applicable to the facility, cover the following components and criteria: (i) Automatic tank gauge and other controllers: test alarm; verify system configuration; test battery backup.
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because ATG functionality testing was not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall have all components of the automatic tank gauge or other controllers tested for proper operation within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice and submit the results within forty five (45) days of receipt of this notice.

§ 280.40(a)(3)(ii) – Failure to perform annual tests of probes & sensors
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.40(a)(3)(ii), as incorporated, owners and operators of UST systems must provide a method, or combination of methods, of release detection that beginning on October 13, 2018, is operated and maintained, and electronic and mechanical components are tested for proper operation, in accordance with one of the following: manufacturer's instructions; a code of practice developed by a nationally recognized association or independent testing laboratory; or requirements determined by the implementing agency to be no less protective of human health and the environment than the two options listed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section. A test of the proper operation must be performed at least annually and, at a minimum, as applicable to the facility, cover the following components and criteria: (ii) Probes and sensors: inspect for residual buildup; ensure floats move freely; ensure shaft is not damaged; ensure cables are free of kinks and breaks; test alarm operability and communication with controller.
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because ATG probe testing was not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall have all components of the automatic tank gauging probes and sensors tested for proper operation within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice and submit the results within forty five (45) days of receipt of this notice.

§ 280.40(a)(3)(iii) – Failure to perform annual tests of ALLD
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.40(a)(3)(iii), as incorporated, owners and operators of UST systems must provide a method, or combination of methods, of release detection that beginning on October 13, 2018, is operated and maintained, and electronic and mechanical components are tested for proper operation, in accordance with one of the following: manufacturer's instructions; a code of practice developed by a nationally recognized association or independent testing laboratory; or requirements determined by the implementing agency to be no less protective of human health and the environment than the two options listed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section. A test of the proper operation must be performed at least annually and, at a minimum, as applicable to the facility, cover the following components and criteria: (iii) Automatic line leak detector: test operation to meet criteria in § 280.44(a) by simulating a leak.
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because leak detector testing was not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall have the automatic line leak detectors tested for proper operation by simulating a leak within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice and submit the results within forty five (45) days of receipt of this notice.

§ 280.36(a)(1)(i) – Failure to perform 30 day walkthrough inspections
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.36(a)(1)(i), as incorporated, to properly operate and maintain UST systems, not later than June 28, 2021, owners and operators must conduct a walkthrough inspection every 30 days that, at a minimum, checks spill prevention equipment and release detection equipment (Exception: spill prevention equipment at UST systems receiving deliveries at intervals greater than every 30 days may be checked prior to each delivery).
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because monthly walkthrough inspections were not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall, within seven (7) days of receipt of this notice, perform the 30 day walkthrough inspection for all UST systems at the site in accordance with a standard of practice referenced in the rule. Documentation, to include photographs, inspection forms, repair documents, and waste disposal records, showing the walkthrough inspection has been completed must be submitted within forty five (45) days of the receipt of this notice.

§ 280.36(a)(1)(ii) – Failure to perform annual walkthrough inspections
Citation:
Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.36(a)(1)(ii), as incorporated, to properly operate and maintain UST systems, not later than June 28, 2021 owners and operators must conduct a walkthrough inspection annually that, at a minimum, checks containment sumps and hand held release detection equipment.
Violation Details:
<i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because a current annual walkthrough inspection was not provided.</i>
Corrective Action:
The owner and/or operator of the UST systems at this site shall, within seven (7) days of receipt of this notice, perform the annual walkthrough inspection for all UST systems at the site in accordance with a standard of practice referenced in the rule. Documentation, to include photographs, inspection forms, repair documents, and waste disposal records, showing the walkthrough inspection has been completed must be submitted within forty five (45) days of the receipt of this notice.

§ 280.240 – Failure to designate Class A, Class B or Class C operators that meet requirements
Citation: Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.240, as incorporated, not later than October 13, 2018, all owners and operators of UST systems must ensure they have designated Class A, Class B, and Class C operators who meet the requirements of this subpart.
Violation Details: <i>The owner and/or operator of the UST system(s) at this site are in violation of this rule because Class A, B and C operator certificates were not provided.</i>
Corrective Action: The owner or operator of the UST systems at this site shall submit a list of those employees designated to be Class A, Class B and Class C operators. Those so designated must be trained and certification of that training submitted within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice.

The information contained on this page is based upon a review of files related to this site and/or observations from an underground storage tank inspector. This page may contain information not specifically related to possible violations found during the review or inspection and is meant to give the owners and/or operator specific information to assist them.

Site Maintains:

Three (3) fiberglass USTs installed 2/25/2008 (Containment Solutions)

- One (1) 15k GSL
- One (1) 7k GSL
- One (1) 6k DSL

Piping is DW flex and pressurized (APT)

RD UST = ATG

RD Piping = MLLD, LTT

Overfill/Spill = Spill Buckets + Auto Shutoff

CP = N/A

ATG Certification = No

Overfill Protection Test = On File 10/6/2022

Spill Bucket Test = On File 5/31/2022

Containment Sumps Test = N/A

Site History:

- The PREM tank had a hole at the top of the tank. Documentation of repair and a passing tank tightness test was submitted to PRS (VFC# 83236668)
- New spill buckets and auto shutoff devices installed. ASDs were set to 90% but there is a note that all ball floats are gone
- The last (2) Notifications state the REG piping was installed 2/15/2018 this appears to be a typo based on the original date of 2/15/2008, and no other documentation indicates a piping replacement has occurred
- REG and DSL had new STPs and STP sumps installed, along with (2) UDCs and spill buckets in 2022

Documentation provided at the time of the file review:

- Notification Form approved 1/25/2021
- NONE

Inspection Notes:

1. Compliance documentation was requested, but none was provided. The station attendant called the owner or store manager and they stated they would submit the documents as soon as possible.

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The following are AREAS OF CONCERN found during the inspection that will need to be addressed by the owner and/or operator:

1. 2024 tank fees will be due by November 15, 2024.
2. All spill buckets contained liquid in them. Please monitor remove as needed.
3. The RUL and PUL STP sumps contained water in them. Please monitor and remove as needed.

The following are VIOLATIONS discovered during the inspection that will need to be corrected within 30 days of receipt of this inspection report to avoid further action and achieve compliance with the state underground storage tank program:

1. 2022 and 2023 tank fees were not paid.
2. Compliance documentation was not provided.
3. Twelve (12) months of release detection records were not provided for the tanks.
4. Line tightness testing was not provided.
5. Spill bucket testing was not provided.
6. Overfill testing was not provided.
7. ATG functionality testing was not provided.
8. ATG probe testing was not provided.
9. Leak detector testing was not provided.
10. Monthly walkthrough inspections were not provided.
11. A current annual walkthrough inspection was not provided.
12. Class A, B and C operator certificates were not provided.

The following are RECORDS to be submitted to the inspector within 30 days of receipt of this inspection report to avoid further action and achieve compliance with the state underground storage tank program:

1. Pay 2022 and 2023 tank fees
2. 12 months of RD for tanks
4. Line tightness test
5. Spill bucket test
6. Overfill test
7. ATG functionality test
8. ATG probe test
9. Leak detector test
10. Monthly walkthrough inspections
11. Annual walkthrough inspection
12. Class A, B and C operator certificates