

APA-1  
07/04

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No. 335 Department or Agency Environmental Management  
Rule No. 335-6-15-.22  
Rule Title: Release Investigation and Confirmation Steps

         New      X   Amend             Repeal             Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety?          YES

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare?          YES

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public?          NO

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree?          NO

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule?          NO

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public?          YES

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Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?          NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer Mandy Elliott

Date July 20, 2017



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
LAND DIVISION

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Department of Environmental Management

RULE NO. & TITLE: 335-6-15-.02 Definitions  
335-6-15-.03 Applicability  
335-6-15-.04 Installation Requirements for Partially Excluded Systems  
335-6-15-.05 Notification Requirements  
335-6-15-.06 Performance Standards for New UST Systems and Dispensers  
335-6-15-.07 Upgrading of Existing UST Systems  
335-6-15-.08 Plans and Specifications  
335-6-15-.09 Operation, Maintenance, and Testing or Inspection of Spill and Overfill  
Prevention Equipment and Containment Systems; and Walkthrough Inspections  
335-6-15-.10 Operation and Maintenance of Corrosion Protection  
335-6-15-.11 Compatibility  
335-6-15-.12 Repairs Allowed  
335-6-15-.13 Reporting and Recordkeeping  
335-6-15-.14 General Release Detection Requirements for All UST Systems  
335-6-15-.15 Release Detection Requirements for Petroleum UST Systems  
335-6-15-.16 Release Detection Requirements for Hazardous Substance UST  
Systems  
335-6-15-.17 Methods of Release Detection for Underground Storage Tanks  
335-6-15-.18 Methods of Release Detection for Underground Piping  
335-6-15-.19 Release Detection Recordkeeping  
335-6-15-.20 Reporting of Suspected Releases  
335-6-15-.22 Release Investigation and Confirmation Steps  
335-6-15-.24 Initial Release Response  
335-6-15-.25 Initial Abatement Measures and Preliminary Investigation  
335-6-15-.26 Preliminary Investigation Requirements  
335-6-15-.27 Free Product Removal  
335-6-15-.28 Secondary Investigation Requirements  
335-6-15-.29 Corrective Action Plan  
335-6-15-.30 Corrective Action Requirements  
335-6-15-.31 Public Participation  
335-6-15-.32 Analytical Requirements  
335-6-15-.33 Temporary Closure  
335-6-15-.35 Site Closure or Change-In-Service Assessment  
335-6-15-.37 Closure Records  
335\*6-15-.39 Availability to Public of Records, Reports or Information  
335-6-15-.42 Underground Storage Tank Regulation Fee  
335-6-15-.43 Financial Responsibility for Petroleum UST Owners and Operators  
335-6-15-.45 Delivery Prohibition  
335-6-15-.46 Operator Training

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
LAND DIVISION

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

RULE NO. & TITLE:

335-6-15-.47 Certification Requirements for Individuals Who Supervise Installation,  
Closure, and Repair of UST Systems  
335-6-15-.48 UST Systems with Field-Constructed Tanks and Airport Hydrant Fuel  
Distribution Systems  
335-6-15-.49 Severability

INTENDED ACTION: Amend Chapter 335-6-15 of the ADEM Administrative Code

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Department of Environmental Management proposes to amend portions of the Division 6 Underground Storage Tanks Program Regulations to make typographical and grammatical corrections, to make clarifications necessary to maintain consistency with analogous federal rules, and to adopt new amendments required by the USEPA which are necessary to maintain the programs fully authorized status.

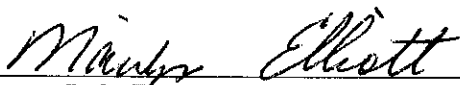
TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

Comments may be submitted in writing or orally at a public hearing to be held Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Main Hearing Room at the ADEM Central Office located at 1400 Coliseum Blvd, Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

September 6, 2017

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Sonja Massey, Chief of the Groundwater Branch, ADEM Land Division, (334) 271-7832.

  
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Lance R. LePieur  
Director

**335-6-15-.22 Release Investigation and Confirmation Steps.** Unless corrective action is initiated in accordance with rules 335-6-15-.24 through 335-6-15-.31, owners and operators must immediately investigate and confirm all suspected releases of regulated substances requiring reporting under rule 335-6-15-.20 within 7 days and submit the results to the Department within 10 days, or another reasonable time period specified by the Department, using either the following steps or another procedure approved by the Department:

(a) System test. Owners and operators must conduct tests (according to the requirements for tightness testing in rules 335-6-15-.17(c) and 335-6-15-.18(b)-~~that~~ or as appropriate, secondary containment testing described in rule 335-6-15-.12(f).

1. The test must determine whether:

(i) -a leak exists in that portion of the underground storage tank, or the attached underground delivery piping; or ~~both.~~

(ii) A breach of either wall of the secondary containment has occurred.

~~2.~~ 2. If the UST system test confirms a leak into the interstice or a release, owners and operators must immediately temporarily close the UST system in accordance with rule 335-6-15-.33(1)(c), repair the UST system in accordance with rule 335-6-15-.12, replace or upgrade permanently close the UST system; in accordance with rules 335-6-15-.34 through 335-6-15-.37. In addition, owners and operators must begin corrective action if the test results for the system; (underground storage tank, and/or underground delivery piping) indicate that a leak/release exists.

~~3.~~ 3. The Department may release an owner or operator from any further investigation requirements if the underground storage tank tests tight after minor repairs to that portion of the underground storage tank that does not routinely contain product.

~~4.~~ 4. Further investigation is not required if the test results for the system; (underground storage tank, and/or underground delivery piping) do not indicate that a leak/release exists and if environmental contamination is not the basis for suspecting a release.

~~5.~~ 5. Owners and operators must conduct a preliminary investigation as described in subparagraph (b) of this rule if the test results for the system; (underground storage tank, and/or underground delivery piping) do not indicate that a leak/release exists but environmental contamination is the basis for suspecting a release.

(b) Preliminary investigation. Owners and operators must measure for the presence of a release where contamination is most likely to be present at the UST system site. In selecting sample types, sample locations, and measurement methods, owners and operators must consider the nature of the stored substance, the type of initial alarm or cause for suspicion, the type of backfill,

the depth of groundwater, and other factors appropriate for identifying the presence and source of the release. Specific requirements for a preliminary investigation are included in rule 335-6-15-.26.

1. If in the determination of the Department the results of the preliminary investigation indicate that a release has occurred, owners and operators must ~~and~~ initiate corrective action in accordance with rules 335-6-15-.24 through 335-6-15-.31. The Department may require a secondary investigation to be performed.

2. If in the determination of the Department the results of the preliminary investigation do not indicate that a release has occurred, further investigation is not required.

**Author:** Sonja Massey, Curt Johnson, Lee Davis.

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Alabama 1975, § 22-36-3.

**History:** April 5, 1989.

**Amended:** October 2, 2003; April 1, 2014; XXXXXX, 2017.