State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

UST Service Provider E-Mail Bulletin

On-Line Petroleum Release Reporting

June 2007

www.deq.state.or.us/lq/tanks/ust/index.htm

A BULLETIN OF THE OREGON UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM

Federal Requirements Require Changes to DEQ's Petroleum Release Reporting

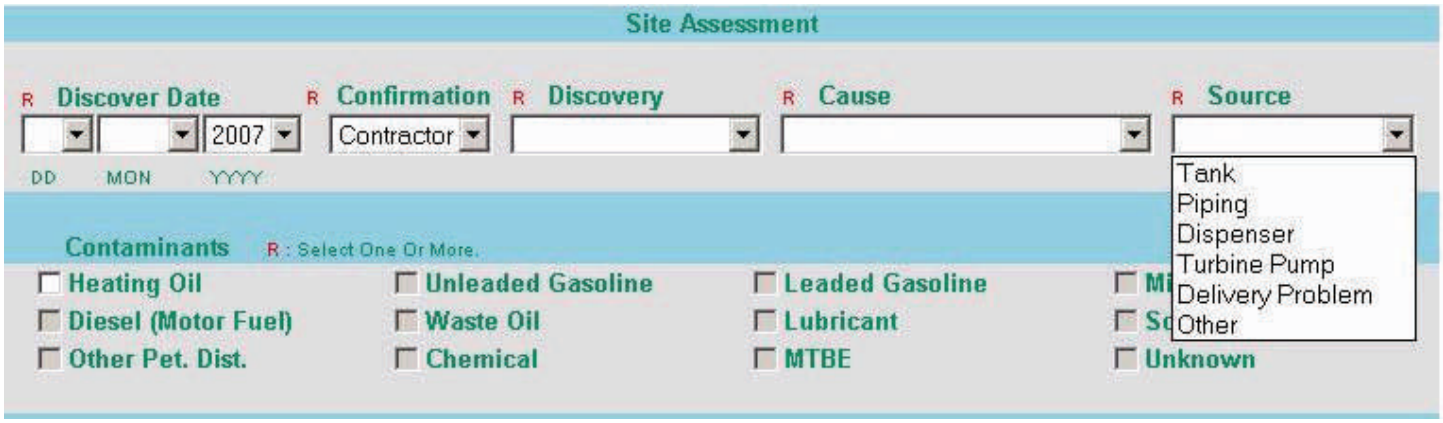
One of the requirements for states that receive funding to implement the Underground Storage Tank Compliance Act of 2005 is to annually report to the public:

- The number, *sources* and *causes* of underground storage tank (UST) releases,
- The record of compliance by USTs, and
- Data on UST equipment failures.

It is expected that the first public report will be available from DEQ by no later than Dec. 31, 2008.

EPA recently provided states with guidance on reporting *source* and *cause* of release data. In order to collect *source* and *cause* data, DEQ has updated the On-Line Petroleum Release Reporting (OLPRR) data entry screen and the UST Petroleum Release Form. For consistency, DEQ will also be collecting *source* and *cause* data for heating oil tank releases and those forms have been revised accordingly. When you use the on-line reporting system you will be required to select both a *source* and *cause* when reporting a release. The on-line data entry screen is in the process of being updated.

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



Source of release descriptions provided by EPA are:

Tank: The tank that stores the product and is part of the underground storage tank system.

Piping: 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.

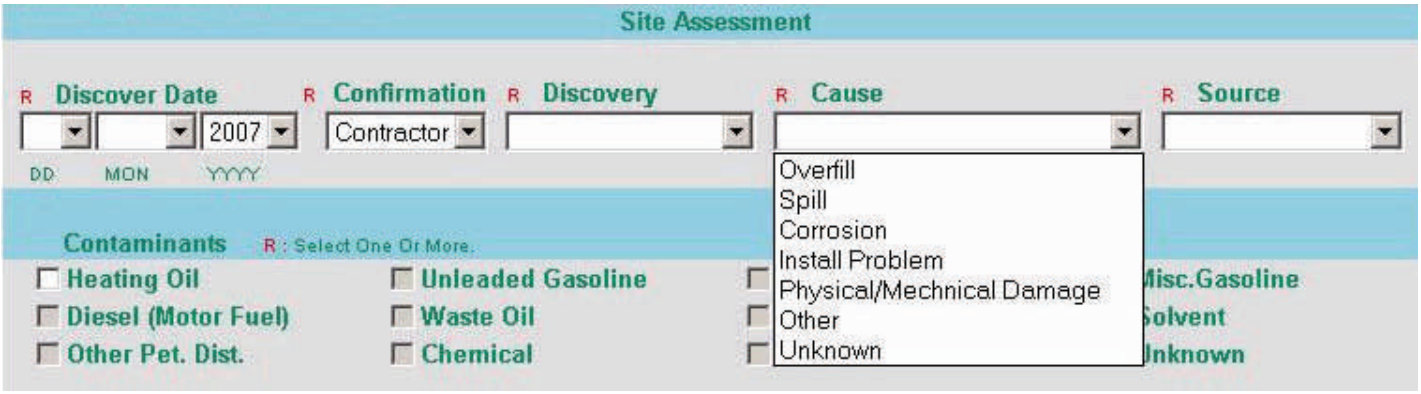
Dispenser: The dispenser and equipment used to connect the dispenser to the piping. For example, a release from a suction pump or components above the shear valve would be considered a release from the dispenser.

Turbine Pump (STP): 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. 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.

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



Cause of release descriptions provided by EPA:

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 fill pipe of the tank 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 that 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 only when the cause is not known.

Guidance on 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.