Vapor Monitoring
(For Tanks and Piping)

Description of Release Detection:

Vapor Monitoring (VM) uses vapor detection equipment to sample vapors in permanent monitoring wells to detect the presence of product vapors in the soil at an underground storage tank (UST) facility. Detection devices may be permanently installed in wells, manual detection devices are also acceptable. A site assessment by a trained professional should be conducted before the wells are installed. The site assessment determines the soil type, groundwater depth, direction of groundwater flow, the general geology of the site and verifies there is no contamination present. Vapor monitors will not work with substances that do not easily vaporize (such as diesel fuel).

Operating and Maintaining a VM System:

- Use the VM system to check for leaks at least once every 30 days.
- Periodically have a qualified UST contractor service the VM system components according to the manufacturer's service instructions.
- Use the owner's manual for operation and maintenance procedures.
- Make sure employees who run, monitor, or maintain the VM system know exactly what they have to do and to whom to report problems.
- Keep your VM wells clearly marked and secured.

Record Keeping:

- Keep results of the vapor monitoring activity for at least one year. At a minimum, a written log must be kept indicating monitoring results at least once every 30 days.
- Keep all records of calibration, maintenance, and repair of release detection equipment for at least one year.

If the VM system result indicates a release may have occurred, call the Division of UST Management within 72 hours at (803) 896-7957.

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