

Underground Storage Tank Indemnification Fund Bulletin 7: Incomplete Work Plan

In 2008, the Pennsylvania Underground Storage Tank Indemnification Fund (USTIF) instituted the requirement to submit an Initial Characterization Work Plan (see USTIF Bulletin 6) in the early stage of the remediation process. The USTIF, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Counsel of Professional Geologists (PCPG) held a round of seminars introducing and explaining the Work Plan requirement. The objective of the Work Plan is to foster the generation and use of basic information by the consulting firm at the outset of characterization work in order to improve the quality of site characterization for which USTIF makes reimbursements. The information requested in the Work Plan is consistent with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations and constitutes good professional practice.

Most consultants are complying with this requirement and hopefully are benefiting from the comments offered by the USTIF's reviewers. However, there are a few consultants whose Work Plan submittals are substantially incomplete and demonstrate a lack of understanding of the requirements and application of Chapter 245.

The USTIF will request that the claimant competitively bid the site characterization at these sites.

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