

“(8) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means the State of Alaska.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a grant program to be known as the ‘Aboveground Storage Tank Grant Program’

“(2) GRANTS.—Under the program, the Administrator shall award a grant to—

“(A) the State, on behalf of a Native village; or

“(B) the Denali Commission.

“(c) USE OF GRANTS.—The State or the Denali Commission shall use the funds of a grant under subsection (b) to repair, upgrade, or replace one or more aboveground storage tanks that—

“(1) leaks or poses an imminent threat of leaking, as certified by the Administrator, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, or any other appropriate Federal or State agency (as determined by the Administrator); and

“(2) is located in a Native village—

“(A) the median household income of which is less than 80 percent of the median household income in the State;

“(B) that is located—

“(i) within the boundaries of—

“(I) a unit of the National Park System;

“(II) a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System; or

“(III) a National Forest; or

“(ii) on public land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management; or

“(C) that receives payments from the Federal Government under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as ‘payments in lieu of taxes’).

“(d) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the State or the Denali Commission receives a grant under subsection (c), and annually thereafter, the State or the Denali Commission, as the case may be, shall submit a report describing each project completed with grant funds and any projects planned for the following year, to—

“(1) the Administrator;

“(2) the Committee on Resources [now Committee on Natural Resources] of the House of Representatives;

“(3) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

“(4) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

“(5) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act [probably means this section], to remain available until expended—

“(1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2001; and

“(2) such sums as are necessary for each fiscal year thereafter.”

[For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.]

### § 6991a. Notification

#### (a) Underground storage tanks

(1) Within 18 months after November 8, 1984, each owner of an underground storage tank shall notify the State or local agency or department designated pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of this section of the existence of such tank, specifying the age, size, type, location, and uses of such tank.

(2)(A) For each underground storage tank taken out of operation after January 1, 1974, the owner of such tank shall, within eighteen months after November 8, 1984, notify the State or local agency, or department designated pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of this section of the existence of such tanks (unless the owner knows the tank subsequently was removed from the ground). The owner of a tank taken out of operation on or before January 1, 1974, shall not be required to notify the State or local agency under this subsection.

(B) Notice under subparagraph (A) shall specify, to the extent known to the owner—

(i) the date the tank was taken out of operation,

(ii) the age of the tank on the date taken out of operation,

(iii) the size, type and location of the tank, and

(iv) the type and quantity of substances left stored in such tank on the date taken out of operation.

(3) Any owner which brings into use an underground storage tank after the initial notification period specified under paragraph (1), shall notify the designated State or local agency or department within thirty days of the existence of such tank, specifying the age, size, type, location and uses of such tank.

(4) Paragraphs (1) through (3) of this subsection shall not apply to tanks for which notice was given pursuant to section 9603(c) of this title.

(5) Beginning thirty days after the Administrator prescribes the form of notice pursuant to subsection (b)(2) of this section and for eighteen months thereafter, any person who deposits regulated substances in an underground storage tank shall reasonably notify the owner or operator of such tank of the owner’s notification requirements pursuant to this subsection.

(6) Beginning thirty days after the Administrator issues new tank performance standards pursuant to section 6991b(c) of this title, any person who sells a tank intended to be used as an underground storage tank shall notify the purchaser of such tank of the owner’s notification requirements pursuant to this subsection.

#### (b) Agency designation

(1) Within one hundred and eighty days after November 8, 1984, the Governors of each State shall designate the appropriate State agency or department or local agencies or departments to receive the notifications under subsection (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section.

(2) Within twelve months after November 8, 1984, the Administrator, in consultation with State and local officials designated pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of this section, and after notice and opportunity for public comment, shall prescribe the form of the notice and the information to be included in the notifications under subsection (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section. In prescribing the form of such notice, the Administrator shall take into account the effect on small businesses and other owners and operators.

#### (c) State inventories

Each State shall make 2 separate inventories of all underground storage tanks in such State

containing regulated substances. One inventory shall be made with respect to petroleum and one with respect to other regulated substances. In making such inventories, the State shall utilize and aggregate the data in the notification forms submitted pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section. Each State shall submit such aggregated data to the Administrator not later than 270 days after October 17, 1986.

**(d) Public record**

**(1) In general**

The Administrator shall require each State that receives Federal funds to carry out this subchapter to maintain, update at least annually, and make available to the public, in such manner and form as the Administrator shall prescribe (after consultation with States), a record of underground storage tanks regulated under this subchapter.

**(2) Considerations**

To the maximum extent practicable, the public record of a State, respectively, shall include, for each year—

- (A) the number, sources, and causes of underground storage tank releases in the State;
- (B) the record of compliance by underground storage tanks in the State with—
  - (i) this subchapter; or
  - (ii) an applicable State program approved under section 6991c of this title; and
- (C) data on the number of underground storage tank equipment failures in the State.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §9002, as added Pub. L. 98-616, title VI, §601(a), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3278; amended Pub. L. 99-499, title II, §205(b), Oct. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 1696; Pub. L. 109-58, title XV, §1526(c), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1098.)

AMENDMENTS

- 2005—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 109-58 added subsec. (d).
- 1986—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 99-499 added subsec. (c).

**§ 6991b. Release detection, prevention, and correction regulations**

**(a) Regulations**

The Administrator, after notice and opportunity for public comment, and at least three months before the effective dates specified in subsection (f) of this section, shall promulgate release detection, prevention, and correction regulations applicable to all owners and operators of underground storage tanks, as may be necessary to protect human health and the environment.

**(b) Distinctions in regulations**

In promulgating regulations under this section, the Administrator may distinguish between types, classes, and ages of underground storage tanks. In making such distinctions, the Administrator may take into consideration factors, including, but not limited to: location of the tanks, soil and climate conditions, uses of the tanks, history of maintenance, age of the tanks, current industry recommended practices, national consensus codes, hydrogeology, water

table, size of the tanks, quantity of regulated substances periodically deposited in or dispensed from the tank, the technical capability of the owners and operators, and the compatibility of the regulated substance and the materials of which the tank is fabricated.

**(c) Requirements**

The regulations promulgated pursuant to this section shall include, but need not be limited to, the following requirements respecting all underground storage tanks—

- (1) requirements for maintaining a leak detection system, an inventory control system together with tank testing, or a comparable system or method designed to identify releases in a manner consistent with the protection of human health and the environment;
- (2) requirements for maintaining records of any monitoring or leak detection system or inventory control system or tank testing or comparable system;
- (3) requirements for reporting of releases and corrective action taken in response to a release from an underground storage tank;
- (4) requirements for taking corrective action in response to a release from an underground storage tank;
- (5) requirements for the closure of tanks to prevent future releases of regulated substances into the environment; and
- (6) requirements for maintaining evidence of financial responsibility for taking corrective action and compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by sudden and nonsudden accidental releases arising from operating an underground storage tank.

**(d) Financial responsibility**

(1) Financial responsibility required by this subsection may be established in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Administrator by any one, or any combination, of the following: insurance, guarantee, surety bond, letter of credit, qualification as a self-insurer or any other method satisfactory to the Administrator. In promulgating requirements under this subsection, the Administrator is authorized to specify policy or other contractual terms, conditions, or defenses which are necessary or are unacceptable in establishing such evidence of financial responsibility in order to effectuate the purposes of this subchapter.

(2) In any case where the owner or operator is in bankruptcy, reorganization, or arrangement pursuant to the Federal Bankruptcy Code or where with reasonable diligence jurisdiction in any State court of the Federal courts cannot be obtained over an owner or operator likely to be solvent at the time of judgment, any claim arising from conduct for which evidence of financial responsibility must be provided under this subsection may be asserted directly against the guarantor providing such evidence of financial responsibility. In the case of any action pursuant to this paragraph such guarantor shall be entitled to invoke all rights and defenses which would have been available to the owner or operator if any action had been brought against the owner or operator by the claimant and which would have been available to the guarantor if an action had been brought against the guarantor by the owner or operator.