

Redmond Quick Stop fined for alleged DEQ violation

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has issued a \$5,580 penalty to Redmond Quick Stop LLC for violating state regulations for underground storage tank systems.

As permittee of the underground storage tank system at 1846 S. Highway 97 in Redmond, Redmond Quick Stop is responsible for maintaining the facility.

Specifically, Redmond Quick Stop failed to conduct the past two 3-year inspections of the facility's corrosion protection system and failed to maintain records for the three most recent 60-day inspections of the facility's current corrosion protection system. Additionally, Redmond Quick Stop failed to maintain release detection for the underground storage tank system by not keeping the automatic tank gauge in good working order, not maintaining adequate product volumes for valid tank testing results and not conducting line tightness and line leak detector tests. It also failed to employ a trained system operator for the facility.

Improper corrosion protection can lead to leaks from an underground storage tank system and petroleum releases into the environment. Properly functioning release detection equipment and properly completed release detection testing ensures the discovery of releases before contamination spreads beyond the immediate area of the underground storage tank and allows immediate response to any sign of a release. In addition, having a trained operator is imperative to properly maintaining an underground storage tank system by ensuring that the facility is aware of all required testing and monitoring.

In addition to the penalty, DEQ has ordered Redmond Quick Stop to have the corrosion protection system for the underground storage tanks inspected and tested in addition to maintaining a record of results of 60-day inspections of the impressed current corrosion protection system. It must conduct line tightness testing and line leak detector operational tests, repair or replace the automatic tank gauge for release detection monitoring and maintain adequate records of product volumes in the underground storage tanks. Additionally, it must designate an underground storage tank system operator who has completed underground storage tank system operator training.

Of the \$5,580 penalty total, \$1,555 represents the economic benefit Redmond Quick Stop gained by failing to test the corrosion protection system, test the line leak detectors, conduct line tightness testing, replace the automatic tank gauge probe and train a designated systems operator for the facility. If it completes these requirements, DEQ will consider recalculating the costs as delayed rather than avoided and will reduce the civil penalty accordingly.

Redmond Quick Stop has appealed the penalty.

DEQ previously issued a \$1,224 civil penalty to Redmond Quick Stop in October 2007 for failing to conduct line tightness and line leak detector tests.

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