



Welcome to the 2011 Summer Edition of The Courier

The Courier keeps you connected to pertinent issues and developments in our industry as well as the latest improvements and happenings here at Kiff Analytical, LLC.

In this edition of The Courier Rich Premzic gives a brief overview of the UST Fund.

Ask the Expert



Question: *What is the status of the petroleum Underground Storage Tank (UST) program in California?*

Answer: Director of Operations, Rich Premzic responds:

Prior to 2008, the State Water Resources Control Board's UST Cleanup Fund ("the Fund" - the primary financial instrument funding cleanup of UST petroleum sites) was financially solvent, receiving more money than was being spent on UST cleanup. By late 2008, many factors combined to reverse this trend, resulting in reimbursements by the Fund exceeding the amount of revenue being generated. Since late 2008 these economic pressures have brought about significant changes to the regulations and financing governing the cleanup of sites impacted by petroleum USTs in California. The following chronological order of events summarizes what changes have occurred:

October 23, 2008 A letter from the Fund program announces an extreme shortfall between revenue and demand on the available reimbursement monies. The Fund takes immediate action by restricting reimbursement payment in an attempt to balance reimbursements to fees being collected. Additionally, the Fund suspends payments indefinitely to 1300 of the approximately 2000 active "C" Priority claimants, and requires "B" and "C" Priority claimants to submit 18 month budgets.

January 5, 2009 - The Fund issues letters suspending certain "C" and "D" Priority claimants based on their Letter of Commitment (LOC) issuance dates. NOTE: Receiving a LOC means a site can begin to receive reimbursement for eligible expenses from the Fund.

What's New

Every year we expand our laboratory services to give you even more reasons to choose Kiff Analytical for all of your environmental testing needs.

Testing Methods Update

New Methods for 2011

NELAC Certification

TPH-Gas by EPA 8015 for Soil matrix
(Previously only aqueous matrices)

BTEX by EPA 8021 for Soil matrix
(Previously only aqueous matrices)

ORELAP Certification

HCID by NWTPH

Spectrophotometer Methods

Ferrous Iron by SM3500-Fe B, Hach 8146

Sulfate by EPA 375.4, Hach 8051

New 8260 Compounds

Isobutyl alcohol by EPA 8260B

sec-Butyl alcohol by EPA 8260B

Meet Jennifer Worsley,
our newest Account Manager

As an Account Manager, Jennifer is available to assist clients with all of their project and testing needs. She has been with Kiff Analytical since December 2010. Jennifer understands where clients are coming from because she has more than 8 years experience in the environmental consulting field which makes her the ideal Account Manager.



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January 9 and 26, 2009 - The Fund issues letters stating that they do not plan on approving any new LOCs for the 2008-09 fiscal year, and that remaining eligible reimbursements will be delayed.

May 19, 2009 - The State Water Resources Control Board [issues Resolution 2009-42](#). Some of the highlights from this resolution are detailed below:

a) Requested regulatory agencies to reduce quarterly monitoring requirements to semi-annual or less frequent monitoring at all sites unless site-specific needs warrant otherwise. This action was put in place in an attempt to reduce demand on the Fund without significantly affecting site cleanups.

b) Created two task forces: one to make recommendations for improvements to Fund administrative procedures, and respond to the current cash shortage; and, a second to make recommendations to improve the UST Cleanup regulatory program, including additional approaches to risk-based cleanup.

c) Re-energized the Fund's 5-year review program for closing applicable sites that have had a LOC for 5 years or more.

November 2009 - State legislature passes AB1188 increasing the UST fee on each gallon of gasoline pumped from 1.4 to 2.0 cents per gallon for calendar years 2010 and 2011.

December 2009 - With the passage of AB 1188, the UST Cleanup Fund lifts the suspension previously placed on select LOCs.

February 2010 - The Fund issues their Audit report based on recommendations from the task force and Fund staff directed by Resolution 2009-42.

February 2011 - Assembly Bills 291 and 358 are introduced. AB 291 would extend the 0.6 cent per gallon fee increase provided by AB 1188 for another two years, from January 1, 2012 through January 1, 2014. This bill is joined with AB 358 and can only go into effect if AB 358 becomes effective on or before January 1, 2012, and viceversa. AB 358 would provide the State Water Resources Control Board final authority over local implementing agencies (LIAs). Currently, LIAs do not have to abide by State Water Board decisions. It also authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt electronic reporting regulations.

Outside of work Jennifer is very active in a community handbell choir that has traveled to several countries in Europe and Canada. They also play for social events, especially at Christmas time and occasionally at weddings. Jennifer likes hiking and backpacking, especially in the Marble Mountains and walking her dog around the neighborhood. Jennifer has a 2' h year old daughter who keeps her busy and on her toes.

If you have any questions, or would like to know when Jennifer's next handbell choir performance is, you can reach her at 530-297-4800 ext. 126 or jworsley@kiffanalytical.com.

Comments Welcome

We would love to hear from you!

Let us know if you have any feedback—email us at thecourier@kiffanalytical.com.

Service Highlights

Kiff Courier Services



We offer a free premium courier service for sample pick-ups in the field or at your office. We cover the greater Sacramento, SF Bay, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles and San Diego Areas. We are happy to accommodate your specific project needs by arranging before and after hour pick-ups, in addition to pre-staged sample cooler and container drop off, with adequate notice. Please contact any of our client service representatives for more information on this service; you may reach them at 530.297.4800.

Lab Tours

If you are interested in taking a tour of our laboratory please contact our Client Services Supervisor, Troy Turpen, by phone at (530) 297-4800 ext.111 or by email, tturpen@kiffanalytical.com, and we will be happy to schedule a tour date.

July 1, 2011 - The Fund implements a new budgeting program. For Fiscal Year July 2011 through June 2012, all projects requesting reimbursement will be funded based on Fund pre-approved budgets using estimates of revenue based on the sunset of the fee increase (AB 1188).

July 19, 2011 - A draft Low-Threat UST Closure Policy is presented to the State Water Resources Control Board. If this policy is accepted as-is, estimates range from 25% to 60%+ of the existing petroleum UST sites could be "closed," receiving a No Further Action letter. [This draft policy](#) will be undergoing legal and scientific review, along with public hearings over the next six months. If passed, the anticipated implementation of this policy is early 2012. The Low Threat Closure Stakeholder Group was encouraged to hold Outreach Meetings to discuss the technical and practical aspects of this policy. The schedule and location of these meetings may be found here: [UST Low-Threat Policy Flyer](#).

For further reading visit the [California State Water Resources Control Board](#).



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[Click here](#) (and scroll to the bottom of the page) to learn more about our Laboratory Services and to view a pictorial table following a sample from receipt through final storage and disposal.

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