

From the Compliance Corner:

by Bill Morris



Are You in Compliance with TCEQ?

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is doing more underground storage tank inspections and issuing fines for violations. The TCEQ has a program called the “Field Citation” which is kind of like getting a traffic ticket. For example, if you don’t have release detection - (A) capable of detecting a release from any portion of the UST system which contains regulated substances including the tanks, piping, and other underground ancillary equipment, **the fine could be as much as \$3,500.** You have 30 days to pay the fine and 45 days to show proof you corrected the violation(s). For more information about the Field Citation, go to this TCEQ website and click on the link for an example of a PST Field Citation form: http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/field_ops/citation/field_citation.html

How can you tell if you are in compliance?

The TCEQ has a section called the Small Business & Local Government Assistance (SBLGA). They have developed a checklist for petroleum storage tanks (PST) which covers the things that TCEQ inspectors look for. Go to the web link below for more information about the SBLGA and this checklist: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/assistance/sblga/checklists/pst.pdf>

If you are still not sure if you are in compliance, contact Bill Morris, at the Petroleum Solutions, Inc. office in McAllen at 1-800-880-9582. If you are near the McAllen area, a field visit can be arranged at your facility for a Compliance Survey explaining the UST system you have and TCEQ Regulations.