INSTRUCTION SHEET
FOR A
POST-TANK REMOVAL INVESTIGATION

A Post-Tank Removal Investigation generally involves the use of a backhoe to conduct a subsurface site investigation of petroleum hydrocarbon contamination within 72 hours of underground storage tank (UST) removal. Department of Environmental Health (DEH) considers the Post-Tank Removal Investigation to be an effective method of subsurface investigation only in situations where the volume of excavated contaminated soil is limited (approximately 50 cubic yards or a volume that can be properly managed as per Section 7.VI of the Site Assessment & Mitigation (SAM) Manual and not cause a nuisance). A DEH guideline for conducting an acceptable post-tank removal investigation is attached for your reference.

Complete in detail the attached Workplan for Post-Tank Removal Investigation if you plan to commence a subsurface site investigation immediately after removal of the UST(s). Please note the following conditions.

- The Workplan must be submitted with the UST closure application. The field investigation cannot be started until the UST closure permit and Workplan are approved by DEH.

- The Workplan must be implemented under the direction of the project's Registered Geologist, Certified Engineering Geologist or Registered Civil Engineer.

- The Workplan must provide assurance that the public (neighbors, pedestrians, etc.) is protected from contact with the contaminated soil, fugitive vapors, and from risk of accidents resulting from the site investigation activities.
- A complete site assessment report, signed by the above referenced registered professional, must be submitted to DEH within 60 days of the investigation.

- The investigation must be implemented in accordance with the SAM Manual.

Completion of the attached Workplan is **not required** by DEH under the following circumstances:

- The contractor's plan for site excavation is limited to the removal of the UST and surrounding backfill material and the contractor has no plans to excavate into and/or remove native soil for site investigation closure purposes.

- The DEH inspector directs the excavation of native soil to obtain representative soil samples in support of the UST closure requirements.

- An "Unauthorized Release" of hydrocarbons has previously occurred at the UST removal site and a Workplan has been pre-approved by the DEH caseworker.

- Activities associated with immediate removal of free product from an open tank excavation. Reference Sections 3.II.A of the SAM Manual to review free product abatement and reporting requirements.

**** Office Use Only ****
Unified Program Facility Permit #_____
Plan Check #
DEH Inspector

WORKPLAN FOR POST-TANK REMOVAL INVESTIGATION

Complete this Workplan only if you intend to utilize a backhoe to investigate the extent of hydrocarbon contamination within 72 hours of the removal of an underground storage tank (UST). This site investigation work must be implemented in accordance with the DEH-SAM Manual and under the direction of an appropriately Registered Geologist (RG), Certified Engineering Geologist (CEG) or Registered Civil Engineer (RCE). A complete site assessment report, signed by the above referenced registered professional, must be submitted to DEH within 60 days of the date of the field investigation. This workplan must be signed by the above referenced registered professional.

1. Establishment Name/Address

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2. Contractor, Contact & Phone No.

   _____

   Environmental Consultant, Contact & Phone No.

   _____

   Registered Professional (defined above) & Phone No.

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3. Describe how the backhoe will be utilized to conduct the site investigation (ie. potholing, trenching, etc.) and estimate the maximum quantity of soil to be excavated.

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4. Describe the soil sample collection methods and laboratory to be used (reference Section 5.III of the SAM Manual). Soil analysis must be performed by a California DTSC Certified Laboratory.

5. Attach a site drawing (to scale) which includes at a minimum: site structures, subsurface utility lines and fuel lines, UST(s) location, site investigation area, stockpiled soil area, prevailing wind direction, adjacent street and property uses, surface water and wells.

6. Describe methods to monitor and control hydrocarbon vapor emissions at the excavation site.

7. Describe the procedures for the management of excavated soil, i.e. soil, segregation, engineering controls for the stockpile soil (reference Section 7.VI of the SAM Manual), soil characterization, on-site soil management, off-site disposal, on-site treatment, etc. Describe the Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be used in the event of rainfall to control erosion from stockpiled soil.

8. A Public Notification Program must be implemented prior to commencing the site investigation. Attach a copy of the public notice and provide a written description of the program (reference Section 4.IV of the SAM Manual). Identify the targeted population and the method of public notice distribution.

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Please Note:

- The investigation trench or excavation must be logged under the direction of a RG, CEG or RCE and include a complete description of the subsurface soil and/or rock.

- All contaminated soil should either be removed from the site or be treated on-site (with agency approval) within 45 days of site excavation.

- The site excavation must be secured with fencing, site security and other methods as required to ensure public safety. DEH recommends backfilling the excavation site for safety reasons within 72 hours of the post-tank removal investigation.

Prepared by:

_____

(Name, print or type) (Company) (Signature) (date)

Approved by Tank/Property Owner:

_____

(Name, print or type) (Signature) (date)

Approved by DEH, SAM Program:

_____

(Name, print or type) (Signature) (date)