

ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



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MtBE Remediation Bureau Underground Storage Tank Removal Program

Overview

One of the goals of the MtBE Remediation Bureau is to prevent future releases of MtBE into the environment. Release prevention reduces long term cleanup liabilities and protects our aquifers. To address unidentified and existing gasoline releases at underground storage tank (UST) facilities and facilitate more effective site characterization and remediation, the MtBE Remediation Bureau has developed a UST Removal Program.

Program Objectives

Removal of certain UST systems will allow the program to meet the following objectives:

1. **Prevention:** Tanks that were last filled before the ban of MtBE on January 1, 2007 and have been placed in temporary closure or abandoned pose a risk of potential release of MtBE to the environment. Therefore, removal of these old USTs will significantly reduce the risk of future MtBE releases.
2. **Investigation:** There are currently tank systems in service throughout New Hampshire that pose a greater risk for gasoline releases (e.g. single-walled tanks or single-walled piping). Removal of these leak-prone systems will allow for soil and groundwater sampling to determine if MtBE had been released. It should be noted that, in accordance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rule Env-Or 408.05 (c), with the exception of vent piping, any part of an existing single wall UST system without secondary containment and leak monitoring that routinely contains a regulated substance shall be permanently closed by December 22, 2015.
3. **Remediation:** In many cases at sites where there is an existing petroleum release, the tank system is located in the contaminant source area inhibiting effective remediation and site characterization. By removing the tank system, the areas of highest impact can be addressed and dramatically increase the likelihood of successful site remediation.

Funding assistance is available from the MtBE Remediation Bureau for removal of certain UST systems.

Types of Projects Include:

Prevention: Removal of Abandoned or Temporarily Closed USTs.

Investigation: Removal of leak-prone UST systems to determine if MtBE has been released.

Remediation: Removal of UST systems to allow access for source area remediation.

Project Identification

If a facility owner or consultant believes that removal of their tank system will meet one of the objectives outlined above, they can complete a MtBE Remediation Fund Assistance Application and submit it to NHDES for review. NHDES typically responds within 30 days with an eligibility determination. A copy of the application can be found on our website at:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/mtbe/documents/assist-fund-app.pdf>.

The MtBE Remediation Bureau reviews the application and any other information that may be in our files to determine if the project is eligible for funding assistance. A summary of our eligibility criteria is presented on the attached flow chart. In order for a project to be considered, there must be a component related to the investigation, remediation, or prevention of an MtBE release. If the project is determined to be eligible, an MtBE Remediation Bureau Manager will approve the project application and return a signed copy to the applicant.

NHDES staff may also identify eligible UST removal projects upon review of information in our UST and/or Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) project files. The NHDES project manager will discuss the potential project with the facility owner and consultant and complete an internally prepared MtBE Remediation Fund Eligibility Determination Form. A signed form approving the eligible project will be emailed to the owner and consultant and placed in the NHDES project file.



Project Funding

Similar to the existing Petroleum Fund Reimbursement Program, all work must be pre-approved by NHDES in order to be eligible for reimbursement. Work Scope Authorization and Change Order forms shall be submitted for NHDES approval before the project is started. The forms are slightly different than those used in the Petroleum Fund Reimbursement Program and do not refer to the Oil Discharge and Disbursement Board and associated rules Odb 100-600. Copies of the Work Scope Authorization and Change Order forms can be found at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/mtbe/documents/work-scope-auth.pdf> & <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/mtbe/documents/change-order.pdf>.

The reimbursement claim submittal and payment process is also very similar to the Petroleum Fund Reimbursement Program that is detailed in the Fund Guidance Manual. Reimbursement claims for MtBE Remediation Project do not need an insurance determination and there is no deductible at this time. Unit rates for labor and equipment are also detailed in Table 1 of the Fund Guidance Manual. A copy of the manual can be found on our website at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/mtbe/documents/change-order.pdf>.

**For any questions and more details on the UST Removal Program,
please contact MtBE Remediation Bureau staff:**

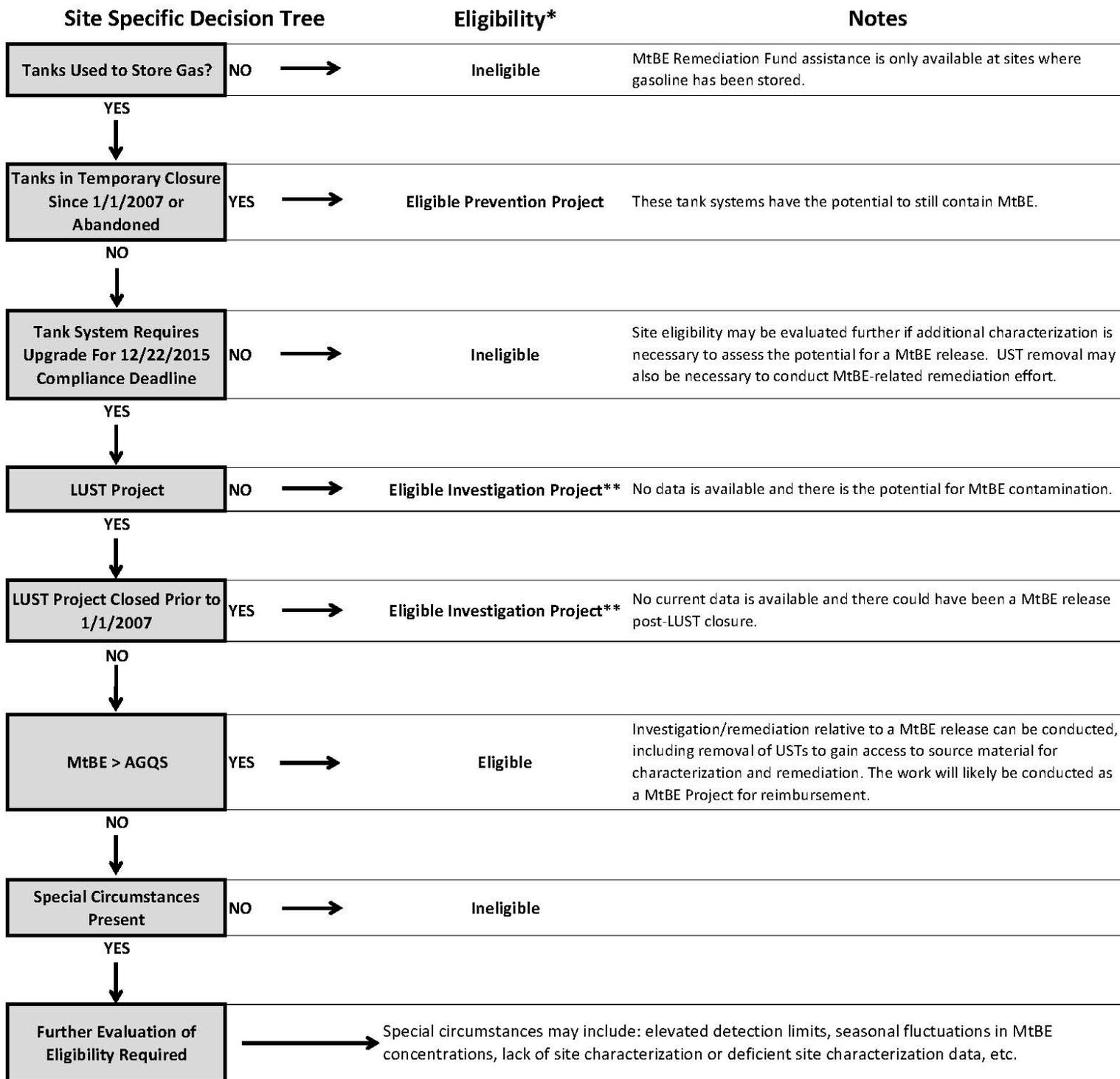
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DISCLAIMER: Information contained in this fact sheet is current as of April 27, 2015. Statutory, regulatory, or policy changes that may occur after that date may cause part or all of the information to become invalid. If there are any questions concerning the current status of this information, please contact us.

MtBE REMEDIATION BUREAU FUNDING DETERMINATION FOR UST REMOVAL



Notes:

*This flow chart is used to determine whether a tank removal project is potentially eligible for MtBE Remediation Bureau assistance (i.e. removal is related to MtBE remediation or release prevention). Selection of a site for assistance will depend on several factors some of which include the availability of funding, site risks, owner's need for assistance, and/or the time critical nature of the project.

**Eligible investigation projects will be prioritized based on compliance issues (i.e. single wall tank, minor leak detection upgrade, etc.). Projects will also be given higher priority if the facility is being permanently closed.