

PECFA UPDATE

DNR RR-046, August 2015

Tank cleanup reimbursement program sunsets

No new sites can enter the program. All claims must be submitted in a timely manner by June 30, 2020.

In Wisconsin, owners of petroleum storage tanks can receive reimbursement from the petroleum environmental cleanup fund award (PECFA) program for the costs of investigating and cleaning up environmental contamination.

The PECFA program reimburses responsible parties for expenses associated with discharges from aboveground and underground petroleum product storage systems (primarily gas station tanks) and home heating oil systems that are eligible to participate in the program.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) oversees the cleanup of contaminated sites and administers the PECFA program.

! PECFA Reimbursement Ending

2015 Wis. Act 55, declares that no claims for PECFA reimbursement will be accepted after June 30, 2020. The opportunity for PECFA reimbursement ends on this date, although legal responsibility for the cleanup continues until the site is approved for closure by DNR.

! New Claim Submittal Deadlines

Claims for PECFA reimbursement must be submitted to DNR within 180 days after incurring the eligible costs, or by Feb. 1, 2016, whichever is later. Claims submitted late will not be reimbursed.



Cleanup Financing Options

People responsible for the clean up of PECFA-eligible sites have options to help cover some costs that are not reimbursed by the program, as well as manage cash flow between the time that cleanup activities are paid for and PECFA reimbursement is received. These include:

Finance Cleanup Through an Agent

Some environmental consultants are willing to act as agents for responsible parties and cover the costs of investigation and cleanup at PECFA-eligible sites until PECFA pays the claim for completed work.

If a responsible party contracts with a consultant to be their agent, personal funds and loans are not needed for the investigation and cleanup, however the deductible amount and closure fees are still required to be paid. See the [PECFA webpage](#) for more information.

Waived or Reduced PECFA Deductibles

If financial hardship is documented, the PECFA program deductible amount can be reduced and/or deferred by DNR if the property owner accepts a lien on the property in the amount of the deductible.



QUESTIONS? Contact Tim Prosa, DNR, (608) 261-7715
or go to dnr.wi.gov, and search PECFA

