

The banner features a scenic landscape with a large body of water in the foreground, rolling hills in the middle ground, and a person walking on a path to the right. The sky is blue with light clouds.

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2016-17

Underground Storage Tank (UST)

Overview

The UST program protects public health and safety and the environment from releases of petroleum and other hazardous substances from UST systems. The program is administered by the State Water Board and consists of four program elements: leak prevention, cleanup, enforcement, and tank tester licensing. The Region received approximately 3.0 PYs for FY 16/17 to oversee the cleanup element of the UST program. Approximately 85% of the funding is provided through the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund and the remaining 15% is provided by the federal government. Since July 1, 2016, we have closed 11 cases, leaving 67 open Water Board lead UST cleanup cases in the region as of February 1, 2017.

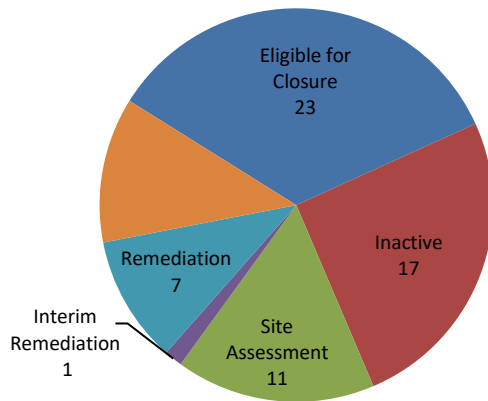
Key Efforts

Due to the maturity of the program and State Board's 2012 approval of the "Plan for Implementation of Low Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy and Additional Program Improvements", the caseload is primarily made up of mature cases and is shrinking. Of the 67 open cases, 23 were identified as "Open- Eligible for Closure" and 17 did not have responsive or willing responsible parties.

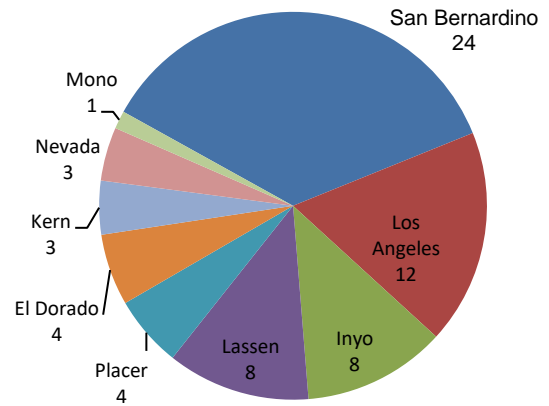
Staff's primary focus has been to ensure high threat cases are being adequately addressed, close eligible cases, participate in the UST Cleanup Fund's new "Project Execution Plan" process, and coordinate with the Emergency, Abandoned, and Recalcitrant (EAR) program to address select "Inactive" cases, in addition to:

- Providing review and comment of technical work plans and reports within 60 days of receipt
- Reviewing all cases annually and filling out "Policy" checklists and "Paths to Closure" for each case
- Directing consistent investigation and remedial actions to resolve "Impediments to Closure" identified during the annual "Policy" checklist reviews
- Coordinating and collaborating with responsible parties and UST Cleanup Fund staff to develop "Project Execution Plans"
- Conducting public participation for all proposed closures
- Providing technical and contract assistance to the EAR program
- Ensuring information in Geotracker is up to date and available for public review

Case Status



Cases by County



Accomplishments (March 2016 to Present)

- Completed Policy checklists in Geotracker for all open cases
- Completed Path to Closure Plans in Geotracker for all open cases
- Responded to work plans and case closure requests within 60 days over 90% of the time
- Evaluated impediments to closure identified in Path to Closure Plans and prioritized cases where drinking water wells are threatened, sources of free product are still in place, and where corrective action is necessary to protect human health and the environment
- Worked cooperatively with responsible parties and UST Cleanup Fund staff to identify paths to closure and ensure funding will be available for the identified work

Performance Targets and Measures

Summary of Performance targets for FY 15-16

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| • Number of cases closed: 25 | Completed: 26 |
| • Number of cases into active remediation*: 0 | Completed: 6 |

Performance targets for FY 16-17 and progress to date

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|---|-----------------------|
| • Number of cases closed: 24 | Completed to date: 11 |
| • Number of cases into active remediation*: 0 | Completed to date: 0 |

**(This target reflects the number of cases that have progressed from investigation to active remediation during the year)*

Unaddressed Work

Investigation and cleanup at approximately six EAR sites will likely take years and require significant staff resources. Water Board staff develops and provides contract assistance, overseeing all aspects of investigation, property access and cleanup since there are no responsible parties. Significant contamination, including free product, has been identified and currently remains at two of the six EAR sites.

“Inactive” cases that have not been nominated to the EAR program will likely continue to languish due to a lack of willing or responsive responsible parties.