

AZ Leaking UST Release Closure Options

Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 49-152 and Arizona Administrative Code Title 18, Chapter 7, Article 2 – Soil Remediation Standards A.A.C. R18-7-201 through R18-7-210, commonly known as the “Soil Rules”, establishes standards and methodologies for soil remediation standards. The latest revision to the soil rules became effective on May 5, 2007. The soil rules allow remediation of contaminated site soils to background, the predetermined remediation standards (SRLs), or site-specific remediation standards.

ADEQ's Underground Storage Tank Program has promulgated the corrective action and release reporting rules. These rules include a tiered, risk-based corrective actions (RBCA) approach to decision making for determining current or potential risk at a site and the corrective action process needed to demonstrate remediation of contaminated media to an acceptable level of risk.

- **Tier 1 Corrective Action Standards**

Contamination present meets pre-determined cleanup standards: residential Soil Remediation Levels [Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R18-7-203], Groundwater Protection Levels, Aquifer Water Quality Standards [A.A.C. R18-11-406], or Surface Water Quality Standards [A.A.C. R18-11-112].

For releases that do not meet Tier 1 Standards, there are alternative closure options (described below).

- **Declaration of Environmental Use Restrictions**

When soil contamination concentrations exceed residential Soil Remediation Levels, engineering or institutional (legal or administrative tool or action) controls may be used to reduce the potential for exposure to the contaminants left in place. A deed restriction is placed on that part of the property to prevent future residential use, but still allows for nonresidential use of the property. [A.A.C. R18-7-208]

- **Risk Assessments**

A.A.C. R18-12-263.01 allows for site specific risk assessments to show that contamination left in place does not pose unacceptable risk for any identified exposure routes like inhalation, ingestion or dermal contact.

.For groundwater contamination left in place that exceeds Aquifer Water Quality Standards, A.A.C. R18-12-263.04, effective February 2, 2008, outlines the requirements that need to be met to close the release. This closure option may allow for LUST case closure without the need to place deed restrictions on properties affected by the groundwater contamination.