

424.6 Exemption certificates for receivers of petroleum underground storage tanks not subject to financial responsibility rules.

1. *a.* The department of natural resources shall issue an exemption certificate in the form prescribed by the director of the department of natural resources to an applicant who is an owner or operator of a petroleum underground storage tank which is exempt, deferred, or excluded from regulation under chapter 455G, for that tank. The director of the department of natural resources shall revoke and require the return of an exemption certificate if the petroleum underground storage tank later becomes subject to chapter 455G pursuant to section 455G.1. A tank is subject to chapter 455G when the federal regulation subjecting that tank to financial responsibility becomes effective and not upon the effective compliance date unless the effective compliance date is the effective date of the regulation.

b. The department shall permit a credit against the charge due from a person operating an eligible underground bulk storage facility equal to the total volume of petroleum transferred or sold from a tank in bulk quantities and delivered to a person for deposit in a tank which is exempt, deferred, or excluded pursuant to this subsection, multiplied by the diminution rate multiplied by the cost factor, subject to rules adopted by the board. “*Bulk quantities*” as used in this paragraph means at least a portion of a standard tanker truck load. “*Eligible underground bulk storage facility*” means an underground bulk storage facility in operation on or before January 1, 1990.

2. Liability for the charge is upon the depositor and the receiver unless the depositor takes in good faith from the receiver a valid exemption certificate and records the exemption certificate number and related transaction information required by the director and submits such information as part of the environmental protection charge return. If petroleum is deposited into a tank, pursuant to a valid exemption certificate which is taken in good faith by the depositor, and the receiver is liable for the charge, the receiver is solely liable for the charge and shall remit the charge directly to the department and this chapter applies to that receiver as if the receiver were a depositor.

3. A valid exemption certificate is an exemption certificate which is complete and correct according to the requirements of the director of the department of natural resources.

4. A valid exemption certificate is taken in good faith by the depositor when the depositor has exercised that caution and diligence which honest persons of ordinary prudence would exercise in handling their own business affairs, and includes an honesty of intention and freedom from knowledge of circumstances which ought to put one upon inquiry as to the facts. A depositor has constructive notice of the classes of exempt, deferred, or excluded tanks. In order for a depositor to take a valid exemption certificate in good faith, the depositor must exercise reasonable prudence to determine the facts supporting the valid exemption certificate, and if any facts upon such certificate would lead a reasonable person to further inquiry, then such inquiry must be made with an honest intent to discover the facts.

5. If the circumstances change and the tank becomes subject to financial responsibility regulations, the tank owner or operator is liable solely for the charges and shall remit the charges directly to the department of revenue pursuant to this chapter.

6. The board may waive the requirement for an exemption certificate for one or more classes of exempt, deferred, or excluded tanks, if in the board’s judgment an exemption certificate is not required for effective and efficient collection of the charge. If an exemption certificate is not required for a class pursuant to this subsection, the depositor shall maintain and file such records and information as may be required by the director regarding deposits into a tank subject to the waiver.

89 Acts, ch 131, §18; 90 Acts, ch 1235, §12; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2011 Acts, ch 25, §143

[T] Code editor directive applied