



ROY COOPER
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TO: UST Tank Owners/Operators

FROM: UST Section

SUBJECT: Recommended ways to dispose of small quantities of petroleum and petroleum/water mixtures.

During our inspections, we often find petroleum and petroleum/water mixtures in spill prevention buckets and sumps at the UST and at dispensers. We require this liquid to be removed so those equipment items can perform their intended function, which is to temporarily contain liquids released. Since it is very likely the liquid is contaminated with petroleum constituents, it can not be disposed directly to the environment. Below are some suggested methods of disposing of small quantities of these liquids once you have collected them in a portable container (e.g. a 55 gallon drum).

- A. Go to the following website, <http://www.p2pays.org/DMRM/start.aspx>, and choose “Petroleum” in Step 1. In Step 2 choose the item in the drop list that closely matches your waste (e.g. “Combustible Petroleum”). The resulting list gives you companies which have listed themselves with NC DEQ’s Pollution Prevention Section as an outlet for this particular wastes disposal.
- B. If the liquid waste is a petroleum/water mixture you can contact your local Waste Water Treatment Plant and check to see if they will accept the liquid waste.
- C. For liquids that are mostly fuel you could ship them to a fuel blender as an off-spec fuel for re-use.
- D. Have the liquid sampled and tested using the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) to determine whether the liquid is hazardous. If the liquid is Hazardous contact a Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility for disposal in accordance with 15A NCAC 13A.

For additional information or if you have questions, you can call the Pollution Prevention Section at (919) 707-8100 or (800) 763-0136 or the Hazardous Waste Section at (919) 707-8200.

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