1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)
3	2ND CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4	FOR ENGROSSEDSENATE BILL 1423By: Lerblance of the Senate
5	and
6	Adkins of the House
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9	2ND CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
10	An Act relating to the Corporation Commission; amending 17 O.S. 2001, Section 303, as last amended
11	by Section 1, Chapter 28, O.S.L. 2006 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 303), which relates to the Oklahoma
12	Storage Tank Regulation Act; modifying definition; amending 17 O.S. 2001, Section 306, as last amended
13	by Section 2, Chapter 435, O.S.L. 2005 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 306), which relates to powers and
14	duties of the Corporation Commission; authorizing the Petroleum Storage Tank Division to provide certain
15	remediation services; amending 17 O.S. 2001, Section 309, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 435, O.S.L.
16	2005 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 309), which relates to storage tank releases; modifying certain notice
17	procedures; updating statutory reference; amending 17 O.S. 2001, Section 352, as last amended by Section
18	19, Chapter 435, O.S.L. 2005 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 352), which relates to petroleum storage
19	tanks; modifying certain definition; amending 17 O.S. 2001, Section 354, as last amended by Section 1,
20	Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2006 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 354), which relates to certain motor fuel assessment;
21	modifying distribution of certain monies for certain purpose; stating limit; authorizing Commission to
22	develop and implement Underground Storage Tank Operator Training Program; authorizing contract for
23	training program; requiring certain participants; requiring demonstration of completion by required
24	participants; providing for payments from certain

1	revolving fund; stating limitation; authorizing Commission to set fees and promulgate rules; amending
2	17 O.S. 2001, Section 365, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 109, O.S.L. 2007 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
3	Section 365), which relates to the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund; modifying
4	name of fund; and amending 11 O.S. 2001, Section 43- 108, which relates to zoning; defining term;
5	providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.
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8	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
9	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2001, Section 303, as last
10	amended by Section 1, Chapter 28, O.S.L. 2006 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
11	Section 303), is amended to read as follows:
12	Section 303. As used in the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation
13	Act:
14	1. "Abandoned system" means a storage tank system which:
15	a. has been taken permanently out of service as a storage
16	vessel for any reason or is not intended to be
17	returned to service,
18	b. has been out of service for one (1) year or more prior
19	to April 21, 1989, or
20	c. has been rendered permanently unfit for use as
21	determined by the Commission;
22	2. "Action level" means that the regulated substances have
23	reached the level of contamination;
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3. "Active case" means a confirmed release notice has been
 issued by the Corporation Commission to the owner or operator for
 the specified location;

4 4. "Backfill" means only the material placed in the excavation5 zone to support the petroleum storage tank system;

6 5. "Chemicals of concern" means chemicals that may pose a7 threat to human health and the environment;

8 6. "Closed case" means a previously active case which had a 9 confirmed release and the Commission has issued a closure letter 10 advising that no further remediation action is necessary on the 11 site;

12 7. "Commission" means the Corporation Commission;

8. "Contaminants" or "contamination" means a level of
concentration of chemicals of concern that may be sufficient to
cause adverse effects upon human health or the environment or cause
a nuisance;

9. "Corrective action" means action taken to monitor,
investigate, minimize, eliminate or perform remediation of a release
from a storage tank system;

20 10. "Corrective action plan" means the plan submitted to the 21 regulatory program of the Corporation Commission detailing the 22 method and manner of corrective action to be taken for a release; 23 11. "Department" means the Department of Environmental Quality;

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1 12. "Director" means the Director of the Petroleum Storage Tank
 2 Division of the Corporation Commission;

3 13. "Division" means the Petroleum Storage Tank Division of the
4 Corporation Commission;

5 14. "Eligible person" means the party who has made application 6 to the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund and met applicable 7 criteria to receive Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund 8 reimbursement on a confirmed release;

9 15. "Eligible release" means a release of regulated substances
10 where the cost of cleanup is subject to reimbursement by the
11 Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund;

12 16. "Environment" means any water, water vapor, any land 13 including land surface or subsurface, atmosphere, fish, wildlife, 14 biota, domestic animals and all other natural resources;

15 17. "Environmental consultant" means an individual licensed by 16 the Commission or an environmental consulting company retaining or 17 employing a Commission-licensed remediation consultant;

18. "Facility" means any location or part thereof containing19 one or more storage tanks or systems;

19. "Hazardous substance" means any substance defined in
Section 101(14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response,
Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C., Section 9601, but
not including:

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- a. any substance regulated as a hazardous waste under
 Subtitle C of the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, 42
 U.S.C., Section 6903, or
- 4 b. any substance regulated as a hazardous waste under the
 5 Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act.

6 The term hazardous substance shall also include a mixture of
7 hazardous substances and petroleum, providing the amount of
8 petroleum is of a de minimus quantity;

9 20. "New system" means a storage tank system for which the
10 installation or upgrade of the system began on or after December 22,
11 1998;

12 21. "Operator" means any person in control of or having 13 responsibility for the daily operation of the storage tank system, 14 whether by lease, contract, or other form of agreement. The term 15 "operator" also includes a past operator at the time of a release, 16 tank closure, or a violation of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation 17 Act or of a rule promulgated thereunder;

18 22. "Owner" means:

a. in the case of a storage tank system in use on
November 8, 1984, or brought into use after that date,
any person who holds title to, controls, or possesses
an interest in a storage tank system used for the
storage, use, or dispensing of regulated substances,
or

1 b. in the case of a storage tank system in use before November 8, 1984, but no longer in service on that 2 date, any person who holds title to, controls, or 3 possesses an interest in a storage tank system 4 5 immediately before the discontinuation of its use. The term "owner" does not include a person who holds an interest in 6 a tank system solely for financial security, unless through 7 foreclosure or other related actions the holder of a security 8 9 interest has taken possession of the tank system;

10 23. "Permit" means any registration, permit, license or other 11 authorization issued by the Commission to operate a storage tank 12 system;

24. "Person" means any individual, trust, firm, joint stock 13 company or corporation, limited liability company, partnership, 14 association, any representative appointed by order of a court, the 15 state, any municipality, county, school district or other political 16 subdivision or agency of the state, or any interstate body. 17 The term also includes a consortium, a joint venture, a commercial 18 entity, the United States Government, a federal agency, including a 19 government corporation, or any other legal entity; 20

21 25. "Petroleum" means ethylene glycol-based antifreeze, crude 22 oil, crude oil fractions, and refined petroleum fractions, including 23 motor fuel, motor fuel with the fuel additive Methyl Tertiary Butyl 24 Ether (MTBE), jet fuel, distillate fuel oils, residual fuel oils,

1	lubricants, petroleum solvents and used oil which are liquid at
2	standard conditions of temperature and pressure (60 degrees
3	Fahrenheit and 14.7 pounds per square inch absolute). "Petroleum"
4	also means a mixture of petroleum and hazardous substances if the
5	amount of the hazardous substances is of a de minimus quantity
6	antifreeze, new or used motor oil, gasoline, kerosene, diesel,
7	aviation fuel or blended fuel including, but not limited to,
8	gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel that is blended with biodiesel,
9	ethanol, Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) or other additive for
10	purposes of fueling a combustion engine;
11	26. "Pipeline facilities" means new and existing pipe rights-
12	of-way and any equipment, facilities or buildings regulated under:
13	a. the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 (49 U.S.C.
14	App., 1671, et seq.),
15	b. the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979 (49
16	U.S.C. 2001, et seq.),
17	c. the state Hazardous Liquid Transportation System
18	Safety Act, Section 47.1 et seq. of Title 52 of the
19	Oklahoma Statutes, or
20	d. intrastate pipeline facilities regulated under state
21	law;
22	27. "Pollution" means contamination or other alteration of the
23	physical, chemical or biological properties of any natural waters of
24	the state, land surfaces or subsurfaces, or atmosphere when such

1 contamination or alteration will or is likely to create a nuisance 2 or render the waters, land or atmosphere harmful or detrimental or 3 injurious to the public health, safety or welfare or the 4 environment;

5 28. "Regulated substances" means hazardous substances or
6 petroleum which are regulated pursuant to the Oklahoma Storage Tank
7 Regulation Act;

8 29. "Release" means any spilling, overfilling, or leaking from 9 a storage tank system that goes beyond the excavation zone, tankpit, 10 or secondary containment facility into the environment;

30. "Remediation" means a process or technique used to reduce concentration levels of chemicals of concern in the soil and groundwater, and/or to reduce the presence of free product in the environment to levels that are protective of human health, safety and the environment;

16 31. "Residual product" means petroleum that is absorbed or 17 otherwise bound to geological materials including, but not limited 18 to, sand, silt, or clay in any soil zone in such a manner that 19 groundwater in contact with the residual product or beneath the 20 residual product is not contaminated with regulated substances;

32. "Responsible person" means a person other than a petroleum storage tank system owner or operator, such as an adjacent property owner, impacted party, city or political subdivision, that is

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1 seeking corrective action of real property, and submits to the 2 jurisdiction of the Commission;

3 33. "Smear zone" means any soil zone containing petroleum that
4 may contaminate groundwater in contact with regulated substances;
5 34. "Soil zone" means and includes, but is not limited to,
6 vadose zone, capillary fringe, or saturated soil zone;

7 35. "Storage tank system" means a closed-plumbed system 8 including, but not limited to, the storage tank(s), the lines, the 9 dispenser for a given product, and a delivery truck that is 10 connected to the storage tank system;

11 36. "Suspicion of release" means preliminary investigative work 12 or assessment performed under a Petroleum Storage Tank Division 13 purchase order to determine if a confirmed release is warranted. 14 The Petroleum Storage Tank Division eligibility process is not 15 required for Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund reimbursement on 16 a suspicion of release;

37. "Storage tank" means a stationary vessel designed to
contain an accumulation of regulated substances which is constructed
of primarily non-earthen materials that provide structural support;

20 38. "Transporter" means any person who transports, delivers or 21 distributes any quantity of regulated substance from one point to 22 another for the purpose of wholesale or retail gain;

39. "Waters of the state" means all streams, lakes, ponds,
marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation

systems, drainage systems and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon the State of Oklahoma or any portion thereof; and

5 40. "Work plan" means scopes of work necessary to investigate6 and/or remediate a release from a storage tank system.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2001, Section 306, as last
amended by Section 2, Chapter 435, O.S.L. 2005 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
Section 306), is amended to read as follows:

Section 306. In addition to other powers and duties prescribed by law, the Corporation Commission shall have the power and duty to: 1. Issue, renew, deny, modify, suspend, refuse to renew and revoke permits for storage tank systems pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto;

16 2. Enter at any reasonable time upon any public or private 17 property for the purpose of inspecting and investigating storage 18 tank system monitoring or remediation equipment and taking such 19 samples as may be necessary to determine compliance with the 20 provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act, and rules 21 promulgated pursuant thereto;

3. Request issuance of an administrative warrant or search
warrant as may be necessary by Commission application after notice

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and hearing to allow entry, inspection, testing, sampling, or
 copying on public or private property;

4. Have access to and copy any records required to be
maintained pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank
Regulation Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto;

5. Inspect any equipment, practice or method prior to
implementation which is required by the provisions of the Oklahoma
Storage Tank Regulation Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto;

9 6. Have access to and inspect any monitoring stations, samples,
10 or conduct tests to identify any actual or suspected release of a
11 regulated substance;

12 7. Employ or designate personnel to conduct investigations and
13 inspections, to make reports of compliance with the provisions of
14 the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act and rules promulgated
15 pursuant thereto;

16 8. Within its discretion, report to the district attorney 17 having jurisdiction or to the Attorney General any act committed by 18 an owner, operator or employee of a facility which may constitute a 19 violation of the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation 20 Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto;

9. Advise, consult, assist, and cooperate with other agencies
 of this state, the federal government, other states and interstate
 agencies and with affected groups and political subdivisions to

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further the purposes of the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank
 Regulation Act;

3 10. Financially assist other agencies and political
4 subdivisions of the state where the Petroleum Storage Tank Division
5 has jurisdiction;

6 11. Administer the Storage Tank Program in lieu of the federal7 government upon approval by the Environmental Protection Agency;

8 12. Promulgate and enforce rules to implement the provisions of9 the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act;

10 13. Establish minimum standards and schedules for storage tank 11 system;

12 14. Require any owner or operator of a storage tank system13 within this state to:

14a.submit such reports and information concerning the15storage tank system as may be determined necessary by16the Commission pursuant to the provisions of the17Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act or rules18promulgated pursuant thereto,

- b. perform tests, install release detection devices, and
 where appropriate, monitor the environment to ensure
 that pollution is not occurring,
- c. make timely reports to the Commission of pollution,
 releases, or testing and sampling events at or above
 Commission action levels,

- 1 d. temporarily or permanently cease operation of a storage tank system, modify and immediately remove or 2 control any regulated substance that is found to be 3 causing pollution when such cessation, removal or 4 5 control is determined to be necessary by the Commission, 6
- provide an alternate or temporary drinking water 7 e. source to any person deprived of drinking water if it 8 9 is found that such owner or operator is responsible 10 for polluting the drinking water source beyond applicable drinking water standards, or where no such 11 standard exists, such standard as the Department of 12 Environmental Quality shall determine, 13
- f. take full corrective action if such owner or operator 14 is found to be responsible for the release, and 15 take appropriate action to temporarily relocate 16 q. residents affected by the release;

Establish and enforce administrative penalties for 15. 18 violations pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank 19 Regulation Act, including issuance of field citations by designated 20 personnel for violations of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation 21 Act, including but not limited to the authority to close a facility 2.2 found to pose an imminent threat to the health, safety or the 23 environment, to be operating a storage tank system for which permit 24

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1 fees have not been paid, or to be operating a storage tank system with an outstanding unpaid field citation or fine. Issuance or 2 payment of field citations shall in no way preclude other 3 enforcement proceedings, administrative penalties, fines or order of 4 5 the Commission if an owner or operator fails to correct a violation or abate a threat to health, safety or the environment in a 6 reasonable manner, as determined by the Commission. If a citation 7 is issued or a facility is closed under the provisions of the 8 9 Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act, the owner or operator of the 10 facility on application to the Commission shall be afforded a hearing within ten (10) days of filing an application. 11 Any penalties or fines assessed pursuant to this section shall be 12 13 established by the Commission by rules promulgated pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act; 14

15 16. Institute and maintain or intervene in any action or 16 proceeding where deemed necessary by the Commission pursuant to the 17 provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act to protect 18 the health, safety and welfare of any resident of this state or the 19 environment;

20 17. Prepare an emergency response plan for spills or releases 21 of regulated substances or review emergency response plans developed 22 outside the Commission;

18. Establish a schedule of fees for issuance of any permitrequired pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank

1 Regulation Act. The fees shall be in an amount to cover the costs 2 of the Commission in administering the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act. Payment of the permitting fees for any storage tank 3 system required pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Storage 4 5 Tank Regulation Act or to rules promulgated pursuant thereto shall prohibit the assessment of additional licensing or permitting fees 6 for such storage tank systems by any other agency or municipality of 7 this state; 8

9 19. Create and implement an internally coordinated management
10 system between the Storage Tank Regulation Program and the Oklahoma
11 Petroleum Storage Tank Release Indemnity Program;

When necessary, economically advantageous, reasonable and 12 20. integral to a remediation effort or to establish an alternative 13 water supply, the Petroleum Storage Tank Division may purchase real 14 property and easements, and if an owner/operator is unwilling, 15 unknown, unavailable or financially unable, the Petroleum Storage 16 Tank Division may arrange for the design, construction and operation 17 of an alternative water supply system conjunctive with a remediation 18 effort and/or the establishment of an alternative water supply with 19 funds from the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund. Provided, no 20 real property shall be purchased by the Commission pursuant to this 21 paragraph which will impose liability on the Petroleum Storage Tank 22 Indemnity Fund or on the state for environmental claims or hazards. 23 Disposition of property purchased by the Petroleum Storage Tank 24

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Indemnity Fund shall be made pursuant to the provisions of Section
 129.4 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Proceeds from any sale
 shall be deposited to the credit of the Petroleum Storage Tank
 Indemnity Fund; and

5 21. <u>Implement and coordinate an Underground Storage Tank</u>
6 <u>Operator Training Program pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of</u>
7 <u>this act</u>, issue annual permits related thereto and assess any fees
8 necessary for such training and permitting; and

9 <u>22.</u> Exercise all incidental powers as necessary and proper for
10 the administration of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act.
11 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2001, Section 309, as
12 amended by Section 6, Chapter 435, O.S.L. 2005 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
13 Section 309), is amended to read as follows:

14 Section 309. A. No owner or operator, employee or agent of 15 such owner or operator, or transporter shall knowingly allow a 16 release from a storage tank system to occur or continue to occur 17 without reporting the release to the Corporation Commission within 18 twenty-four (24) hours upon discovering such a release.

B. The owner or operator of a storage tank system shall
immediately take all reasonable corrective actions necessary to
prevent a release or a threatened release of regulated substances
from a storage tank system and to abate and remove any such releases
subject to applicable federal and state requirements. The
Corporation Commission shall require that any corrective action

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1 taken by a storage tank system owner or operator or authorized by 2 the Commission shall be in compliance with all applicable state 3 statutes and rules and federal laws and regulations for the 4 protection of air quality and water quality and for the 5 transportation and disposal of any waste.

6 C. If there is a release from a storage tank system, the7 Commission may:

8 1. After notice and hearing pursuant to Section 310 of this
9 title, order the owner or operator to take reasonable and necessary
10 corrective actions;

2. Without notice and hearing pursuant to Section 310 of this 11 12 title, issue Issue an administrative order stating the existence of 13 an emergency and requiring that such action be taken as it the Commission deems necessary to meet the emergency. Such order shall 14 be effective immediately. Any person to whom such an order is 15 directed shall comply with said the order immediately but on 16 application to the Commission shall be afforded a hearing within ten 17 (10) days after receipt of the administrative order. On the basis 18 of such hearing, the Commission shall continue such order in effect, 19 revoke it, or modify it. Any person aggrieved by such order 20 continued after the hearing provided for in this subsection may 21 appeal to the Supreme Court as provided in Section 318 of Title 75 2.2 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Such appeal when docketed shall have 23 priority over all cases pending on said the docket; and 24

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3. <u>2.</u> Require an owner, operator, or responsible person to
 submit investigation, remediation or other corrective action plans
 to the Petroleum Storage Tank Division of the Corporation Commission
 for preapproval prior to initiating such investigation, remediation,
 or other corrective action.

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D. 1. The Commission may take corrective action if:

- a. an owner or operator of the storage tank system cannot be identified,
- 9 b. an identified owner or operator cannot or will not
 10 comply with the order issued pursuant to subsection C
 11 of this section,
- an administrative or judicial proceeding on an order 12 c. issued pursuant to subsection C of this section is 13 pending and the Commission determines corrective 14 action is necessary to protect the public health, 15 safety and welfare or the environment until the 16 administrative or judicial proceeding is resolved, or 17 the Commission determines that the release constitutes d. 18 a danger requiring immediate action to prevent, 19 minimize or mitigate damage to the public health and 20 welfare or the environment. Before taking an action 21 under this paragraph, the Commission shall make all 2.2 reasonable efforts, taking into consideration the 23 urgency of the situation, to afford an owner or 24

operator notice and hearing to take a corrective
 action and notify the owners or occupants of adjacent
 or affected real property as specified by Section 310
 of this title.

5 2. The owner or operator is liable for the cost of any 6 corrective action taken by the Commission pursuant to this 7 subsection, including the cost of investigating the release and 8 administrative and legal expenses, if:

- 9 a. the owner or operator has failed to take a corrective
 10 action ordered by the Commission and the Commission
 11 has taken the corrective action, or
- b. the Commission has taken corrective action in an
 emergency pursuant to subparagraph d of paragraph 1 of
 this subsection.

3. Reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the Commission 15 in taking a corrective action, including costs of investigating a 16 release and administrative and legal expenses, may be recovered by 17 application to the Commission with notice and hearing pursuant to 18 Section 311 of this title. The Commission's certification of costs 19 incurred is prima facie evidence that the costs incurred are 20 reasonable and necessary. The Commission shall be entitled to apply 21 for and receive payment from the Indemnity Fund Program on behalf of 2.2 an eligible person for an eligible release upon any site upon which 23 the Commission has taken corrective action. Such payments shall be 24

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deemed to be reimbursement of the eligible person. Costs incurred
 that are recovered under this subsection shall be deposited in the
 Corporation Commission Storage Tank Regulation Revolving Fund.

Any order issued by the Commission pursuant to this section 4 Ε. 5 shall not limit the liability of the owner or operator or both such owner or operator for any injury, damages, or costs incurred by any 6 person as a result of the release. The owner or operator shall not 7 avoid any liability, statutory environmental responsibility imposed 8 9 by this act Section 301 et seq. of this title; or as a result of 10 such release by means of a conveyance of any right, title or interest in real property; or by any indemnification, hold harmless 11 12 agreement, or similar agreement.

13 1. This subsection does not:

- a. prohibit a person who may be liable from entering an
 agreement by which the person is insured, held
 harmless, or indemnified for part or all of the
 liability,
- b. prohibit the enforcement of an insurance, hold
 harmless, or indemnification agreement, or
- c. bar a cause of action brought by a person who may be
 liable or by an insurer or guarantor, whether by right
 of subrogation or otherwise.
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2. Except as otherwise provided by law, if there is more than
 one person liable, such persons shall be jointly liable for any
 injury, damages, or costs.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2001, Section 352, as last
amended by Section 19, Chapter 435, O.S.L. 2005 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
Section 352), is amended to read as follows:

7 Section 352. As used in the Oklahoma Petroleum Storage Tank8 Release Indemnity Program:

9 1. "Administrator" means the person hired by the Director of
10 the Petroleum Storage Tank Division of the Corporation Commission to
11 administer the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund and the
12 Oklahoma Petroleum Storage Tank Release Indemnity Program;

2. "Administrative application" means an application for
 eligibility and reimbursement made to the Petroleum Storage Tank
 Indemnity Fund by the Director of the Petroleum Storage Tank
 Division on behalf of an unavailable or unwilling applicant;

3. "Assignment of benefits" means a written directive from the applicant of record instructing the Commission to pay reimbursement directly to the named assignee including, but not limited to, an environmental contractor;

4. "Assignment of rights" or "limited power of attorney" means
a transfer of authority granting the assignee the legal right to act
on grantor's behalf on specified matters;

24 5. "Distributor" means:

1 every person importing or causing to be imported into a. this state any motor fuel, diesel fuel or blending 2 material for use, distribution, or sale and 3 distribution, or sale and delivery after the same 4 5 reaches this state. "Distributor" does not mean persons importing motor fuel only in the supply tank 6 of a vehicle originally provided by the manufacturer 7 of the motor vehicle as a container for motor fuel or 8 9 diesel fuel to propel such motor vehicle, nor does "distributor" mean persons only importing motor fuel, 10 diesel fuel or blending material into the state under 11 circumstances requiring that they be licensed as 12 "Motor Fuel/Diesel Fuel Importers for Use" as defined 13 in subsection (g) paragraph 7 of Section 601 of Title 14 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes and who are actually so 15 licensed, 16

- b. any person producing, refining, preparing, distilling,
 blending, manufacturing, or compounding motor fuel or
 blending material in this state for use, distribution
 or sale and delivery in this state,
- c. any person within this state producing or collecting
 what is commonly known as drip, casinghead or natural
 gasoline,
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- d. any person who has in his or her possession or buys
 for sale or use motor fuel, diesel fuel or blending
 material from any person other than a licensed
 distributor, retailer or dealer,
- e. any person other than a retailer or dealer who sells
 motor fuel, diesel fuel or blending material to anyone
 except a licensed distributor,
- f. any person who makes bulk sales of motor fuel, diesel
 fuel or blending material, and
- 10g. any other person, including a retailer or dealer, who11has filed an application for and has procured a12distributor's license in the manner provided by the13Oklahoma Motor Fuel/Diesel Fuel Importers for Use Tax14Code, Section 601 et seq. of Title 68 of the Oklahoma15Statutes;
- 16 6. "Eligible person" means any:
- a. owner or operator of a storage tank system who has
 incurred liability as a result of an eligible release,
 and who meets the requirements specified in Section
 356 of this title, or
- b. person who on or after November 8, 1984, purchases
 property on which a storage tank system is located if:
 (1) the storage tank system was located on the
 property on November 8, 1984,

1 (2) such person could not have known that such 2 storage tank system existed. The burden shall be upon such purchaser to show that such purchaser 3 did not know or should not have known of the 4 5 existence of such storage tank system, the owner or operator of the storage tank system 6 (3) 7 responsible for the system cannot be determined by the Corporation Commission or the 8 9 Administrator, or the owner or operator of the 10 storage tank system responsible for the system is incapable, in the judgment of the Corporation 11 Commission, of properly carrying out any 12 necessary corrective action, and 13 either funds are unavailable from the Oklahoma (4) 14

Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund or the storage tank system is not eligible for corrective action taken pursuant to Section 365 of this title,

19 c. person who acquired ownership of a tank through 20 inheritance as denoted in an Order Allowing Final 21 Account and Determination of Heirship and Decree of 22 Final Distribution or is responsible for a release by 23 reason of owning the real property through inheritance 24 within which a tank or a release is or was located if:

- 1 (1)the storage tank system of the release was 2 located on the real property on November 8, 1984, the operator of the storage tank system 3 (2) responsible for the system or responsible for a 4 5 release cannot be determined or found by the Corporation Commission, or the operator of the 6 7 storage tank system responsible for the system or responsible for the release is incapable, in the 8 9 judgment of the Corporation Commission, of 10 properly carrying out any necessary corrective action, 11 12
 - (3) either funds are unavailable from the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund or the storage tank system or release is not eligible for corrective action taken pursuant to Section 365 of this title,
- 17 (4) the person did not participate or was not
 18 responsible in any manner, directly or
 19 indirectly, in the management of the storage tank
 20 system or for the release and otherwise is not
 21 engaged in petroleum production, refining or
 22 marketing, and
 - (5) the person meets the requirements specified in Section 356 of this title, or

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1 d. person who is an impacted party, adjacent owner or town, city or political subdivision as determined by 2 the Commission and who willingly submits to the 3 regulations of the Commission governing petroleum 4 5 storage tank system owners, operators or agents; "Disbursements" means funds expended or encumbered which are 6 7. attributable to a particular petroleum storage tank system release 7 8 or case;

9 8. "Eligible release" means a release for which allowable
10 costs, as determined by the Administrator, are reimbursable to or on
11 behalf of an eligible person;

12 9. "Impacted party" means an owner whose property has been impacted by a release from an on-site or off-site petroleum storage 13 tank which the impacted person did not own or operate and for which 14 the impacted person has had no responsibility under Commission 15 rules. An impacted party may apply for an eligibility determination 16 on reimbursement from the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund. An 17 impacted party is not subject to the Petroleum Storage Tank 18 Indemnity Fund deductible; 19

20 10. "Indemnity Fund" means the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity 21 Fund;

11. "Indemnity Fund Program" means the Oklahoma Petroleum
Storage Tank Release Indemnity Program established to administer the
Indemnity Fund;

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1 12. "Investigation" means activities taken to identify, 2 confirm, monitor or delineate the physical extent of a release and 3 which result in the selection of an appropriate means to remediate a 4 release and specific design criteria for such remediation upon which 5 competitive bids may be reasonably based;

13. "Maintenance level" means the minimum balance of the
Indemnity Fund to be maintained and below which the Indemnity Fund
balance will fall when the balance of the Indemnity Fund is below
the dollar amount of disbursements from the Indemnity Fund for the
payment of claims during the preceding six (6) months plus Five
Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00);

12 14. "Owner" means:

a. in the case of a storage tank system in use on
November 8, 1984, or brought into use after that date,
any person who holds title to, controls, or possesses
an interest in a storage tank system used for the
storage, use, or dispensing of regulated substances,
or

b. in the case of a storage tank system in use before
November 8, 1984, but no longer in service on that
date, any person who holds title to, controls, or
possesses an interest in a storage tank system
immediately before the discontinuation of its use.

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The term "owner" does not include a person who holds an interest in a tank system solely for financial security unless through foreclosure or other related actions the holder of a security interest has taken possession of the tank system;

15. "Motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials" have has
the same meaning as those terms are the term is defined by Section
501 500.3 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

"Pay-for-performance" means a process by which an 8 16. 9 environmental consultant guarantees, by executing a contract 10 pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, that a release of a regulated substance will be remediated to levels agreed to by the 11 12 Commission, the eligible person and the consultant. Such levels must be protective of human health, safety and the environment. 13 The performance-based process encompasses several steps including, but 14 not limited to, the development of a contract signed by an 15 officer/owner of the environmental consultant, the eligible person 16 and the Administrator of the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund. 17 The contract shall contain any agreed upon reasonable price for the 18 work to be performed. Scheduled payments shall be distributed only 19 as performance-based goals are attained; 20

17. "Person" means any individual, trust, firm, joint stock
company or corporation, corporation, limited liability company,
partnership, association, any representative appointed by order of
the court, municipality, county, school district, or other political

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subdivision of the state, or any interstate body. The term also includes a consortium, a joint venture, a commercial entity, or any other legal entity. The term also refers to any agency of the State of Oklahoma which purchases property containing storage tanks from an owner or operator qualified to access the Indemnity Fund and upon which an eligible release has occurred prior to the agency acquiring the property;

8 18. "Purchase order" means a performance-based agreement
9 negotiated between an environmental consultant and the Petroleum
10 Storage Tank Division stipulating a scope of work to be performed by
11 a target date, for which the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund
12 will reimburse a specified amount;

13 19. "Reimbursement" means either:

- a. repayment of an approved claim to an eligible person
 for allowable costs resulting from an eligible
 release, or
- b. payment of an approved claim submitted on behalf of an
 eligible person for incurred allowable costs resulting
 from an eligible release;

20 20. "Release" means any spilling, overfilling, leaching, 21 emitting, discharging, escaping, or unintentional disposing of the 22 petroleum from a storage tank system into the environment of the 23 state. The term release includes but is not limited to suspected 24 releases of regulated substance from a storage tank system,

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identified as a result of sampling, testing or monitoring results,
 or identified in any similarly reliable manner;

"Sale" means every gallon of motor fuel, diesel fuel, or 3 21. blending materials sold, or stored and distributed, or withdrawn 4 5 from storage, within the state, for sale or use. No gallon of motor fuel, diesel fuel, or blending materials shall be the basis more 6 than once of the assessment imposed by Section 354 of this title; 7 "Storage tank" or "storage tank system" means a storage 8 22. 9 system as such term is defined by the Oklahoma Storage Tank 10 Regulation Act; and

11 23. "Tax Commission" means the Oklahoma Tax Commission.
12 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2001, Section 354, as last
13 amended by Section 1, Chapter 175, O.S.L. 2006 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
14 Section 354), is amended to read as follows:

Section 354. A. Except as otherwise provided by this section, there shall be an assessment of one cent (\$0.01) per gallon upon the sale of each gallon of motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used or consumed in this state. The assessment imposed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be for the purposes of providing revenue to:

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission Revolving Fund pursuant
 to paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section;

23 2. The Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund pursuant to24 paragraphs 3 and 4 of subsection C of this section;

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3. The State Transportation Fund pursuant to subparagraph b of
 paragraph 5 of subsection C of this section;

4. The Corporation Commission Storage Tank Regulation Revolving
Fund pursuant to subparagraph a of paragraph 5 of subsection C of
this section;

5. The Department of Environmental Quality Revolving Fundpursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section; and

8 6. The Higher Education Facilities Revolving Fund pursuant to9 paragraph 3 of subsection C of this section.

The assessment shall be imposed at the time of the sale of the motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials and shall be precollected and remitted to the Oklahoma Tax Commission in accordance with Section 500.1 et seq. of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes and as provided by Section 355 of this title.

B. 1. Exempt from the assessment imposed pursuant to
subsection A of this section are:

- 17 a. the state government,
- 18 b. the federal government,
- 19 c. class I and class II railroads, and

20 d. sales for exportation outside of this state by a21 licensed exporter.

22 2. Exempt from the assessment imposed for purposes specified in23 paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section are sales of:

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- 1a. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used2solely and exclusively in district-owned or leased3public school buses, FFA and 4-H club trucks for the4purposes of legally transporting public school5children, or in the operation of vehicles used in6driver training,
- b. motor fuels, diesel fuels and blending materials used 7 solely and exclusively to propel motor vehicles on the 8 9 public roads and highways of this state when leased or 10 owned and being operated for the sole benefit of a county, city, town, volunteer fire department with a 11 state certification and rating, rural electric 12 13 cooperative, rural water and sewer district, rural ambulance service district, or federally recognized 14 Indian tribe as specified by Section 500.10 of Title 15 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 16
- c. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials to
 counties and cities and towns,
- 19d.diesel fuel for off-road purposes specified by Section20500.10 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- e. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used
 for agricultural purposes specified by Section 500.10
 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and
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1f. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used in2aircraft or in aircraft engines pursuant to Section3500.10 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

4 C. The assessment imposed by subsection A of this section shall5 be distributed in the following manner:

The first One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) collected
 during each fiscal year shall be deposited into the Oklahoma
 Corporation Commission Revolving Fund created in Section 180.7 of
 this title;

After deduction of the amount required pursuant to paragraph
 of this subsection, eight percent (8%) of the remainder of the
 revenue collected during each fiscal year shall be deposited into
 the Department of Environmental Quality Revolving Fund created in
 Section 2-3-401 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3. Until the total amount deposited since July 1, 2002 2008, in 15 the Higher Education Facilities Revolving State Transportation Fund 16 17 totals Thirty-eight Million Dollars (\$38,000,000.00) twenty-five percent (25%) Fifty-one Million Dollars (\$51,000,000.00), Five 18 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) per month of all revenue from 19 the assessment received over the amount required by paragraphs 1 and 20 2 of this subsection shall be deposited in the Higher Education 21 Facilities Weigh Station Improvement Revolving Fund, created in 22 Section 1167 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes and seventy-five 23 percent (75%) of all revenue from the assessment received over the 24

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1 amount required by paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection shall be 2 deposited in the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund created in 3 Section 353 of this title used solely for the purpose of

4 | constructing weigh stations;

5 4. After the total amount deposited in the Higher Education Facilities Weigh Station Improvement Revolving Fund totals Thirty 6 7 eight Million Dollars (\$38,000,000.00) Fifty-one Million Dollars (\$51,000,000.00), any revenue from the assessment received over the 8 9 amounts required in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection, shall be deposited in the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund created in 10 Section 353 of this title in amounts necessary to maintain the 11 maintenance level of the Indemnity Fund pursuant to subsection D of 12 13 this section; and

5. The balance of any revenue from the assessment remaining
above the amount required in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this
subsection shall be deposited as follows:

the first One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) 17 a. collected during each fiscal year shall be deposited 18 in the Corporation Commission Storage Tank Regulation 19 Revolving Fund for the purpose of implementing the 20 provisions of the Oklahoma Storage Tank Regulation Act 21 and the rules promulgated thereunder, and 2.2 the balance of the monies collected during each fiscal b. 23 year shall be deposited in the State Transportation 24

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Fund and shall be used solely for the purpose of matching Federal-Aid funds for the construction of highways and roads in this state.

If at any time the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund 4 D. 1. 5 falls below the required maintenance level on or before December 31, 2012, the Administrator shall notify the Tax Commission that the 6 Indemnity Fund has fallen below the required maintenance level and 7 that the assessment is to be deposited into the Indemnity Fund for 8 9 at least three (3) calendar months pursuant to the provisions of 10 paragraph 2 of this subsection.

2. At least fifteen (15) days prior to the calendar month in 11 which the assessment is to be collected for credit to the Indemnity 12 13 Fund, the Tax Commission, upon notification by the Administrator that the Indemnity Fund has fallen below the required maintenance 14 level, shall notify the suppliers, licensed importers or other 15 appropriate persons that the assessment is being imposed for 16 purposes of maintaining the Indemnity Fund. The notice shall 17 include a date certain upon which to begin collecting the assessment 18 for credit to the Indemnity Fund and a date certain for ending the 19 assessment for credit to the Indemnity Fund. Upon notice by the Tax 20 Commission that the assessment imposed is for credit to the 21 Indemnity Fund, the supplier, licensed importer or other appropriate 22 person shall also assess, for the specified period required by the 23 Tax Commission, the sales of: 24

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- 1a. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used2solely and exclusively in district-owned or leased3public school buses, FFA and 4-H Club trucks for the4purposes of legally transporting public school5children or in the operation of vehicles used in6driver's training,
- b. motor fuels, diesel fuels and blending materials used 7 solely and exclusively to propel motor vehicles on the 8 9 public roads and highways of the state when leased or 10 owned and being operated for the sole benefit of a county, city or town, volunteer fire department with a 11 state certification and rating, rural electric 12 13 cooperative, rural water and sewer district, rural ambulance service district, or federally recognized 14 Indian tribe as specified by Section 500.10 of Title 15 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 16
- c. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials to
 counties and cities and towns,
- 19d.diesel fuel for off-road purposes specified by Section20500.10 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- e. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used
 for agricultural purposes specified by Section 500.10
 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and
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f. motor fuel, diesel fuel and blending materials used in aircraft and aircraft engines pursuant to Section 500.10 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

After the collection period required by this subsection has
 expired, the revenue collected from the assessment shall be again
 deposited in the Corporation Commission Storage Tank Regulation
 Revolving Fund and the State Transportation Fund as provided in
 paragraph 5 of subsection C of this section.

9 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 10 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 319 of Title 17, unless there is 11 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Corporation Commission is authorized to implement, or
contract for, an Underground Storage Tank Operator Training Program
as required to comply with the provisions of the federal Energy
Policy Act of 2005.

B. The Commission may develop a training program within their agency or contract with an associated industry group or any other qualified entity it deems appropriate to fulfill the requirements of federal law or the provisions of this section.

C. Operators of underground storage tanks shall complete a
training program commensurate with their responsibility for the
operation of underground storage tanks. The training program shall
be approved by the Commission and encompass training for persons

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1 with three levels of responsibility for storage tank operation as 2 follows:

Persons having primary responsibility for on-site operation
 and maintenance of underground storage tank systems;

5 2. Persons having daily on-site responsibility for the
6 operation and maintenance of underground storage tank systems; and

3. Persons with daily, on-site primary responsibility for
addressing emergencies presented by a spill or release from an
underground storage tank.

D. Storage tank operators shall be required to complete the training program required by the Commission to obtain an annual permit for the operation of underground storage tanks.

E. Operators of underground storage tank systems shall repeat the applicable training if the tank for which they have primary daily on-site management responsibilities is determined to be out of compliance with a requirement or order of the Commission.

F. Payments for administrative, technical and legal costs 17 incurred in carrying out the provisions of this section shall not 18 exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) annually and 19 may only be paid from monies in the Corporation Commission Storage 20 Tank Regulation Revolving Fund created in Section 315 of Title 17 of 21 the Oklahoma Statutes or from the Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity 2.2 Fund created in Section 353 of Title 17 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 23 including the costs of any additional employees, contracting or 24

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increased general operating costs of the Commission which are
 attributable to the requirements of this section. The Commission
 may assess any fees necessary to implement the provisions of this
 section.

G. The Commission is authorized to promulgate any rulesnecessary to comply with the provisions of this section.

SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2001, Section 365, as last
amended by Section 3, Chapter 109, O.S.L. 2007 (17 O.S. Supp. 2007,
Section 365), is amended to read as follows:

Section 365. A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund for the Corporation Commission to be designated the "Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of loans and grants from the federal government and any state matching funds required by the federal government with regard to underground storage tanks.

B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Corporation Commission to be designated the "Oklahoma Leaking <u>Underground</u> Storage Tank Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of monies from public or private sources, and any monies collected pursuant to the provisions of this section.

C. All monies accruing to the credit of the Oklahoma LeakingUnderground Storage Tank Trust Fund and the Oklahoma Leaking

<u>Underground</u> Storage Tank Revolving Fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Corporation Commission only for the purpose provided in this section, to best protect human health and the environment. Expenditures from said the funds shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

The Corporation Commission is hereby given the power and 8 D. 9 authority to receive, administer and authorize payments from the 10 Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund and the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund. 11 The Commission shall establish separate accounts and subaccounts within 12 the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund and the 13 Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund deemed 14 necessary to implement the provisions of this section. 15

E. The Corporation Commission may make expenditures from the
Oklahoma Leaking Storage Tank Revolving Fund for payment of costs
incurred by any appropriate state agency for corrective actions,
enforcement actions and cost recovery actions undertaken as
necessary to protect human health and the environment as set out in
Subchapter IX of Title 42 of the United States Code.

F. For the purpose of immediately responding to emergency situations created by leaking <u>underground</u> storage tanks having potentially critical environmental or public health or safety

impact, the Corporation Commission may take whatever action it deems necessary without notice or hearing, including the expenditure of monies from either the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund or the Oklahoma Leaking <u>Underground</u> Storage Tank Revolving Fund or from both such funds to promptly respond to the emergency.

7 The Corporation Commission shall seek reimbursement G. F. 1. from the responsible person, firm or corporation for all 8 9 expenditures made from either the Oklahoma Leaking Underground 10 Storage Tank Trust Fund or the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund or from both such funds. All monies received by 11 12 the Corporation Commission as reimbursement or penalties relating to 13 expenditures made from the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund or Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank Revolving 14 Fund shall be transferred for deposit to the credit of the Oklahoma 15 Leaking Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund. All monies 16 17 received by the Corporation Commission as reimbursement or penalties relating to expenditures made from the Oklahoma Corporation 18 Commission Storage Tank Regulation Revolving Fund shall be 19 transferred for deposit to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission 20 Storage Tank Regulation Revolving Fund. 21

22 2. The owner or operator is liable for the cost of the23 corrective action taken by the Corporation Commission pursuant to

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1 this subsection, including the cost of investigating the release and 2 administrative and legal expenses, if:

- a. the owner or operator has failed to take a corrective
 action ordered by the Commission and the Commission
 has taken the corrective action, or
 - b. the Administrator has taken corrective action in an emergency.

3. Reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the Commission 8 9 in taking a corrective action, including costs of investigating a 10 release and administrative and legal expenses, may be recovered in an administrative proceeding. The Commission's certification of 11 12 expenses is prima facie evidence that the expenses are reasonable and necessary. Expenses that are recovered under this subsection 13 shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Leaking Underground Storage Tank 14 Revolving Fund. 15

H. G. Any owner or operator of an <u>underground</u> storage tank who fails to comply with any order issued by the Corporation Commission for corrective or enforcement actions may be subject to an administrative penalty not to exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for each underground tank for each day of violation.

The administrative penalties assessed and collected by the Corporation Commission shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Leaking <u>Underground</u> Storage Tank Revolving Fund to be disbursed by the Commission in support of relevant agency activities.

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1SECTION 8.AMENDATORY11 O.S. 2001, Section 43-108, is2amended to read as follows:

Section 43-108. Whenever the provisions of a statute, local 3 ordinance or regulation require a greater width or size of yards, 4 5 courts or other open spaces, or require a lower height of building or less number of stories, or require a greater percentage of lot to 6 be left unoccupied, or impose higher standards than any other 7 applicable statute, local ordinance or regulation, then the 8 9 provisions of the statute, local ordinance or regulation which 10 impose higher standards or greater restrictions shall govern. In no event shall any provision of this article apply to any property of 11 12 any railway company or terminal company. As used in this section, 13 "terminal company" shall include a qualified terminal as defined in Section 500.3 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes. 14 SECTION 9. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008. 15 SECTION 10. It being immediately necessary for the preservation 16 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby 17 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and 18 be in full force from and after its passage and approval. 19 20 51-2-3949 MJM 5/21/2008 11:53:40 AM 21 2.2 23 24