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JUN 16 2005

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

NOKOMIS TIRE & AUTO REPAIR  
(FORMERLY NOKOMIS OIL CO.)  
100 S. HICKORY ST.  
NOKOMIS, IL 62075  
(217) 563-2614

PC#41

June 13, 2005

Marie E. Tipsord  
Hearing Officer  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 West Randolph, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

RE: Proposed Revisions to Leaking Underground Storage Tank Regulations R04-22 and R04-23

Dear Ms. Tipsord:

I am writing to express my concerns in regard to revisions proposed by the Illinois Environmental protection Agency (IEPA) to regulations governing leaking underground storage tanks (USTs).

As an owner of a small business that is in the process of cleaning a leaking underground storage site (LUST), I am well aware of the cost associated with trying to comply with the IEPA regulations required to clean up a LUST site. The Lust Fund is a very important part of being able to meet the financial requirements it takes to clean a LUST site to meet the cleanup objectives. Without the Lust fund, that I have paid into, the cost that exceeded the deductible would bankrupt me and most businesses that are in the same situation. I also believe that any revisions the IEPA makes that would increase the amount of non-recoverable costs from the LUST Fund could severely affect me and other small businesses that are trying to comply with the IEPA and cleaning up their properties.

I must rely on environmental professionals to assist me in my efforts to comply with LUST regulations. I must also rely on the Illinois LUST Fund to ensure the cost of professional assistance is recovered in full. Being able to do so is critical to my financial stability. I will not support proposed revisions that could potentially result in my ability to recover only a portion of the costs I incur as a result of seeking professional assistance to comply with LUST regulations. This is not a financial risk I am willing to take. I recognize the need for cost containment. However, this is an extremely important issue

that must be evaluated thoroughly and addresses responsibly. I feel it is the Illinois Pollution Control Boards responsibility to make sure the proposed revisions are backed up by sound statistical or scientific data. I urge you to consider the negative impact these proposed revisions could have on me and other Illinois UST Owners and Operators. In addition , this information must be fully disclosed and available to the public.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael R. Oltmann  
Nokomis Tire & Auto Repair

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Oltmann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.