To Whom it May Concern:

There has been some confusion among underground storage tank repair contractors regarding procedures for notification and testing of monitoring systems after monitoring panel power failure. San Mateo County previously sent out this guidance in August 2012, so this is merely a reminder. In San Mateo County the following is required when a Veeder-Root monitoring panel must undergo an emergency cold start.

1. Notify the district inspector as soon as possible. If the inspector is not available, and their voicemail message does not indicate an extended absence, you may leave a message. If you do not know who the district inspector is or they are on an extended absence, you must contact Environmental Health’s main line (650) 372-6200 and request the inspector covering the gas station in question. Alternately, you can fax the notice to our office at (650) 627-8244.

   The notice should include the station name and address, when the power failure occurred, when the monitoring system was or will be re-certified, and by whom.

2. Submit a monitoring certification report to this office within 14 days of the emergency cold start. The certification report should cover all underground storage tank related monitoring components tied to the Veeder-Root system (all sensors and electronic leak detectors). Please note: the annual certification date is not reset by this emergency repair.

There is no permit or fee required and facilities do not have to wait for this office to sign-off on re-opening. As soon as an ICC certified technician has certified the monitoring system as fully functional, it may resume fueling activities.

This procedure is only for monitoring panel malfunctions and is not applicable to scheduled activities. If a monitoring panel must be disconnected or powered off in such a way as to require reprogramming, you must contact this office for further guidance.

If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dermot Casey
Underground Storage Tank Specialist
San Mateo County Environmental Health
(650) 372-6257