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Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality Underground Storage Tank Program: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Announces Major Grant

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The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") announced in an October 21st news release a grant for the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment – Division of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") Underground Storage Tank ("UST") program.

EPA stated it was awarding DEQ a grant for \$536,673:

... to support the state's leaking underground storage tank program.

The funds are stated to be targeted for "corrective action costs and expenses required to address accidental releases and other program activities."

Arkansas obtained delegation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle I UST program more than two decades ago. As a result, DEQ implements and enforces the UST regulations in the state.

DEQ also has an active program identifying and addressing UST releases. This includes the authority and funds to investigate and remediate releases from USTs where an owner or operator cannot be identified and/or is unable to do so. Further it has the statutory authority to recover costs from the owner or operator of the UST for such activities if appropriate.

A copy of the news release can be downloaded <u>here</u>.