

**Alberta's Tank Site Remediation Program  
Providing Financial Assistance to Municipalities  
and Owners of Small Retail Gas Stations dealing  
with the legacy of leaking Underground Storage  
Tanks**

Habib Dhalla M.Sc., P.Eng. & Joe Petrie P.Geol.,  
R.E.T.

ESAA - Remediation Technologies Symposium  
Oct 24 to 26, 2007  
Banff, Alberta



## **Program Objective**

Provide financial assistance to eligible applicants to clean up their sites to comply with Alberta Environment's Standards including on & offsite impacts to both soil & groundwater



## **Program Overview**

- Program 1 was introduced Oct 13, 2000
- Program 1 was administered by Alberta Municipal Affairs until March 31, 2002 when application acceptance was closed.
- Ongoing Administration of approved Grants completed under Safety Codes Council from April 1, 2002 to December 31, 2006



## **Program Overview cont'd**

- Program 1 was a \$60 million program to provide Grants to Eligible Applicants to complete Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) and Remediation
- Eligible Applicants included Single and Small Retail Gas Station Owners and Municipalities
- Grants of up to \$10,000 for ESA & up to \$100,000 for remediation were provided



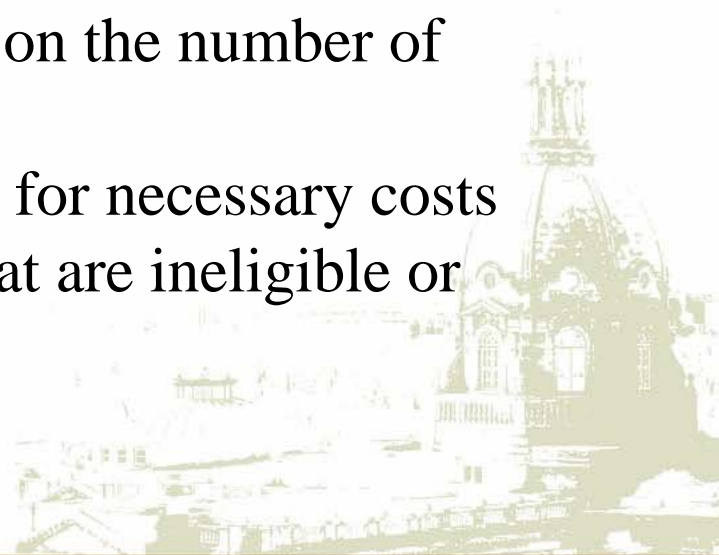
## Program Overview cont'd

- Program 2 was announced on August 25, 2006
- Funding of \$50 Million to provide grants to eligible applicants
- Program is administered by Alberta Municipal Affairs & Housing
- Subject to funding availability eligible applicants receive up to \$110,000 to conduct investigations & clean up work at contaminated sites



## **Program Overview cont'd**

- Subject to funding availability up to an additional \$50,000, if required, for heavily contaminated sites
- Small Retailers receive funding according to a sliding scale based on the number of sites owned
- Owners are responsible for necessary costs to complete clean up that are ineligible or exceed the Grant



## Sliding Scale for Small Retailers

No of Sites	Maximum Base Grant
1	\$110,000
2	\$99,000
3	\$88,000
4	\$77,000
5	\$77,000
6 or more	\$0



## **Status of Programs 1 and 2**

- 930 eligible applicants accepted into Program 1
- 717 Program 1 sites remediated to August 31, 2007
- 245 (Aug. 31, 07) Program 1 sites approved for additional funding
- 161 (Aug. 31, 07) New eligible Applicants approved for funding under Program 2



## Eligible Applicants Details

- Municipalities who own former Retail Gas Stations sites through tax recovery or have under ground tanks remaining under streets or sidewalks
- Single & Small Facility Retail Owners (1 to 5 Sites) who own an:
  - active retail site(s)
  - Inactive retail site(s) where the tanks are removed
  - Inactive retail site(s) where the tanks are still in the ground and are **within** 500 meters of a water well or 200 meters of surface water or 150 meters of a major underground structure

## Applicants not Currently Eligible

- Single and Small Facility Retail Owners (1 to 5 Sites) who own an:
  - Inactive retail site(s) where the tanks are still in the ground and are **not** within 500 meters of a water well or 200 meters of surface water or 150 meters of a major underground structure
- Owners with tanks for their own use
- Owner of Bulk Plants, Card or Keylocks, Aboveground Tanks, Underground Tanks containing Used Oil, Aviation Fuel or Non-Motor Fuel products
- Large Retailers (>5 Sites)

## Eligible Costs

- Engineering fees for ESA and Clean up.
- Remediation of on and off site contamination
- Backfill to grade to replace contaminated material
- One time testing of operating tanks systems prior to ESA
- Removal and disposal of old tanks and piping
- RMP monitoring & sampling up to 3 years
- Non-refundable GST

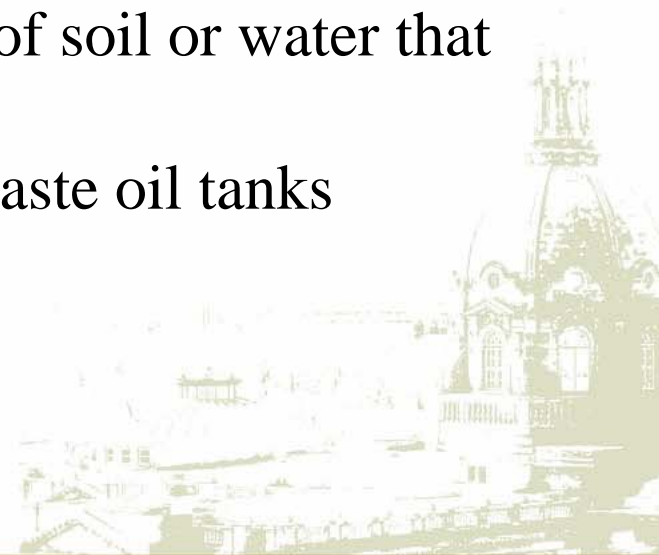
## Examples of Ineligible Costs

- Clean up more stringent than required by Alberta Environment.
- Replacement of tanks, piping or pumps.
- Removal or replacement of canopy
- Removal or reconstruction of buildings or infrastructure
- Repaving, re-concreting or landscaping
- Legal fees



## **Examples of Ineligible Costs Cont'd**

- Repairs and maintenance of tanks and lines
- Remediation of contaminants other than associated with retail fuel sale
- Removal or treatment of soil or water that is not contaminated
- Contamination from waste oil tanks



## Payment of Grant Funds

- Grant funds are released in the following manner:
  - Payments made directly to the Consultant or Contractor on behalf of Grant Recipients
  - Payments are made for eligible costs against pre-approved budgets up to the total amount of the grant
  - Owners are provided with monthly statements



## Stages in Remediation Process

- Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), include a pre-drilling site reconnaissance visit
- Clean up Plan (full clean up or partial clean up & risk management)
- Tendering
- Remediation or Risk Management
- Reporting



## **Types of Remediation Alternatives Used to Date**

- Excavation & landfarming
- Excavation & onsite treatment with Allu Bucket
- Excavation & offsite Landfill disposal
- Vapour Extraction and/or Bioventing
- Dual Phase Extraction
- ORC or Chemical Treatment



## Why Grants are Provided



## Why Assistance is Needed



# Questions

