

UST Inspection Report

Tribal Express

Date of Report: October 3, 2025

Inspection Date & Time: August 27, 2025, at 11:45 a.m. MDT

Weather: Sunny, 80 degrees Fahrenheit

Facility Owner: Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes

Facility Owner Address: 501 Medicine Bear Road
Poplar, Montana 59255

Facility Address: Highway 2 East
Poplar, Montana 59255

Facility Phone: 406-3768-3480

Facility Representative: [REDACTED] Youpee

EPA Facility ID Number: 2050099

Reason for Inspection: Routine compliance inspection

Inspector(s): [REDACTED] Person, EPA (lead)
[REDACTED] Grabowski, EPA
[REDACTED] Drum, Ft. Peck Tribes UST Coordinator

UST System Description

Tribal Express (Facility) is a Tribally-owned gas station located on the Fort Peck Reservation in Poplar, Montana. The fuel at this Facility is sold to the public. The Environmental Protection Agency's Facility records indicate that the Facility has two cathodically protected steel underground storage tanks (USTs) installed in 1992. Tank 1 has a capacity of 10,000 gallons and is used to store unleaded gasoline. The second tank is split into two compartments; Tank 2 is a 6,000-gallon compartment used to store diesel and Tank 3 is a 6,000-gallon compartment used to store premium gasoline. Facility piping is pressurized. Piping for Tanks 1, 2, and 3 is constructed of double-walled fiberglass reinforced plastic materials.

Inspection Narrative

On August 27, 2025, the EPA conducted an inspection at Tribal Express in Poplar, Montana. The EPA last inspected the Facility on May 18, 2022, and selected it for routine re-inspection. On August 6, 2025, the EPA contacted the Facility operator to schedule the inspection. See Attachment A for the record of communication with the Facility Representative.

The EPA inspector arrived at the Facility at approximately 11:45 a.m. The EPA inspector introduced herself and presented inspector credentials. The Facility representative consented to the inspection. The EPA inspector conducted a physical inspection of the UST system as well as a review of Facility records. Copies of operation and maintenance records collected are included in Attachment B. Photographs of UST system components taken during the inspection are in Attachment C.

Tank Leak Detection

Tank leak detection consists of an automatic tank gauge (ATG) system conducting 0.2 gallons per hour leak detection tests. The Facility representative provided 12 months of passing release detection monitoring for all three tank compartments. The Facility representative did not have records of annual equipment testing for the ATG system.

Piping Leak Detection

Lines are all equipped with electronic line leak detectors (ELLDs) which are connected to independent monitors. There was no log of the regular monitoring for the ELLD monitors. The Facility representative did not have records of annual testing for the line leak detectors or line tightness testing.

Cathodic Protection

The USTs are constructed of cathodically-protected steel (STI-P3). According to EPA records, the cathodic protection (CP) system was last tested and passed on June 7, 2022. During the EPA inspection, no records regarding the CP system were reviewed. Therefore, this item was not mentioned in the onsite deficiency form.

Periodic Testing/Inspection of Spill and Overfill Prevention Equipment

No records of testing/inspection of the spill or overfill prevention equipment were provided at the time of inspection. EPA records indicate the overfill prevention devices and spill buckets for Tanks 2 and 3 passed testing/inspection on November 2, 2022. The spill and overfill for Tank 1 passed inspection on June 7, 2022.

Periodic O&M Walkthrough Inspections

Monthly and annual walkthrough inspections have not been performed. The EPA inspector assisted the Facility representative in performing a monthly and an annual walkthrough inspection during the inspection.

Operator Training

There were no training Certificates for the Class A and B operator present during the inspection. The Facility representative had started the operator training course. The Facility representative did maintain training records of the Class C operators.

Financial Responsibility

On-site records indicate that the Facility maintains private insurance to meet the financial responsibility coverage requirements.

Physical Observations

The EPA inspectors viewed the tank top sumps, spill buckets, fill ports and dispensers. All spill buckets and sumps were clean and dry. Flapper valves were observed in each fill port. The ATG and LLD monitors all showed that functions were normal, with no active alarms.

Conclusion

At the end of the inspection, Ms. Person filled out an Onsite Deficiency Identification Form (see Attachment D), which represents the EPA staff's initial compliance recommendations at the time of the inspection. Ms. Person provided the onsite deficiency form to the operator and retained the carbon copy for recordkeeping. Prior to departing the Facility, Ms. Person stated that a full inspection report would be forthcoming, which includes the inspection checklist (see Attachment E).

Inspection Report Attachments

- A. Record of communication
- B. Facility O&M records
- C. Photo log
- D. Onsite Deficiency Form
- E. Inspection checklist

Signature

Lead Inspector

[Redacted Signature]

PERSON

Digitally signed by [Redacted Name] PERSON
Date: 2025.10.03 07:13:26 -06'00'

[Redacted Name]

Person

Date of signature