

UST Inspection Report

Thronson's

Date of Report: August 22, 2023
Inspection Date & Time: July 18, 2023, at 11:10 a.m. MDT
Weather: Sunny, 68 degrees
Facility Owner: Thronson Store, LLC
Facility Owner Address: PO Box 169
Babb, Montana 59411
Facility Address: 4013 US-89
Babb, Montana 59411
Facility Phone: 406-249-0549
Facility Contact(s): [REDACTED]
EPA Facility ID Number: 2010056
Reason for Inspection: Routine compliance inspection
Inspector(s): [REDACTED]

UST System Description

Thronson's (Facility) is a privately-owned gas station located on the Blackfeet Reservation in Babb, Montana. The fuel at this Facility is sold to the public. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Facility records indicate that the Facility has one compartmentalized double-walled, Steel Tank Institute P3 (STI-P3) underground storage tank (UST) installed in 1989. The tank has three compartments which will be referred to as Tanks 1 through 3 for the purposes of this report. Tank 1 is an 8,000-gallon compartment utilized for the storage of unleaded fuel. Tank 2 is a 3,000-gallon compartment utilized for the storage of premium unleaded fuel. Tank 3 has the capacity for 7,000 gallons of storage but is currently not in use. Tank 3 was taken out of service in 2021 due to reduced need at the Facility. The pressurized piping system is constructed of single-walled FRP piping.

Inspection Narrative

On July 18, 2023, the EPA conducted an inspection at Thronson's in Babb, Montana. The EPA last inspected the Facility on November 4, 2020, and selected it for routine reinspection. On June 28, 2023, the EPA inspector contacted the Facility contact to schedule the inspection (see Attachment A).

The EPA inspectors arrived at the Facility at approximately 11:10 a.m. MDT. Ms. Person presented her inspector credentials and filled out a Notice of Inspection (NOI) (see Attachment B). Ms. Person explained that the NOI serves as documentation of consent for the EPA to conduct an inspection. The

Facility representative signed the NOI. Ms. Person said that she would provide the NOI at the end of the inspection. The EPA inspector began with a review of records followed by a physical inspection of the Facility. Photographs of UST system components were collected during the inspection (see Attachment C). Records supplied are included as Attachment D.

Tank Leak Detection

Tank leak detection consists of manual monitoring of the tank's interstice. The facility provided twelve months of passing leak detection records at the time of inspection.

Piping Leak Detection

Lines are all equipped with mechanical line leak detectors (MLLDs). The MLLDs and lines were tested and passed on May 31, 2023.

Cathodic Protection

The USTs are STI-P3 construction. The Facility maintained a record of the passing tests dated May 26, 2020, and June 1, 2023.

Periodic Testing/Inspection of Spill and Overfill Prevention Equipment

The ball float valves passed a triennial overfill prevention equipment inspection on September 9, 2021. The Facility's spill buckets were tested and passed on May 31, 2023.

Periodic O&M Walkthrough Inspections

Records of the monthly and annual walkthrough inspections for the last twelve months were available at the time of the inspection.

Operator Training

Certificates for the Class A and B operator were present during the inspection. There were no Class C operators or training at this Facility as it is unmanned.

Financial Responsibility

The Facility uses the Montana Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund (fund) for financial responsibility coverage. The Facility had the required Certificate of Financial Responsibility and Montana UST Operating Permit. The Certificate of Financial Responsibility in the Facility's record was not notarized. A final copy was available in the EPA's records.

Physical Observations

The EPA inspectors observed the tank top sumps, spill buckets, fill ports and dispensers. The spill buckets for Tanks 1 through 3 were clean, intact and functional. The EPA inspectors observed the operator conduct the manual interstice monitoring. The monitoring was conducted properly, the interstice was dry, and the gauging stick utilized was in good condition.

Conclusion

Prior to departing the Facility, Ms. Person stated that a full inspection report would be forthcoming, which includes the inspection checklist (see Attachment E). The EPA Inspector provided the Facility representatives with the NOI form and retained a carbon copy for recordkeeping.

Inspection Report Attachments

- A. Record of Communication
- B. Notice of Inspection
- C. Photo Log
- D. Records
- E. Inspection Checklist

Signature

Lead Inspector

ROBERTA PERSON Digitally signed by ROBERTA PERSON
Date: 2023.08.22 10:40:35 -06'00'

Roberta Person

Date of signature