

**A MESSAGE FROM
COMMISSIONER MIKE ROTHMAN**



As part of our mission to protect the public interest, the Minnesota Department of Commerce administers the Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund, known as the Petrofund.

The Petrofund is here to help farmers, businesses and homeowners remove abandoned petroleum storage tanks on their property. In addition, the program provides financial support for cleaning up contaminated soil and water as a result of any leaks from these tanks.

The Petrofund not only provides an important, cost-effective service to Minnesota farmers, businesses and homeowners who have abandoned storage tanks. It also contributes to a healthier, safer and cleaner natural environment by preventing the pollution of Minnesota's soil and water.

Since it was created by the Minnesota Legislature in 1987, the Petrofund has provided over \$430 million in assistance to farmers, businesses, school districts, government agencies and homeowners.

If you have an underground storage tank that needs to be removed, the Minnesota Commerce Department and the Petrofund are here to help. I encourage you to contact us.

Mike Rothman



**DO YOU HAVE AN
UNDERGROUND
PETROLEUM
STORAGE TANK?**

WE CAN HELP



85 7th Place East, Saint Paul, MN 55101
mn.gov/commerce



WHAT IS THE PETROFUND?

Leaks from petroleum storage tanks are one of the nation's leading causes of groundwater pollution. To help address this problem, the Minnesota Legislature established the Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund (Petrofund) to pay for the removal of abandoned underground storage tanks across the state.

WHAT STORAGE TANKS ARE COVERED BY THE PETROFUND?

The Petrofund applies to underground petroleum storage tanks that were taken out of service before December 1988.

Tanks taken out of service after that date qualify if the owners are able to show they could not have reasonably known of the tank's existence at the time they first acquired the property.

HOW DO I GET AN ABANDONED TANK REMOVED?

You can apply to the Petrofund for assistance in removing an abandoned underground tank on your property.

Once your application is approved, Minnesota Commerce Department staff will hire private contractors to remove the tank and conduct environmental sampling.

The Petrofund will pay for an excavation report to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to document the tank removal and environmental sampling.

WHAT ARE THE OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITIES?

To participate in the Petrofund program, a property owner must agree to:

- Give written permission for the Petrofund and its contractors to access the property where the tank is located
- Release the Petrofund from liability for the work performed.

If there is a leak and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency determines that you are responsible, you must agree to complete any necessary investigation and cleanup work to the best of your ability.

The Petrofund will provide reimbursement of up to 90% of reasonable and necessary costs for the investigation and cleanup, as well as for damage costs owed to third parties. Reimbursement is capped at \$1 million.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR PETROFUND ASSISTANCE?

Applying to have your abandoned tank removed is easy!

There is a simple, two-page application form that you need to complete. You can download this form from the Minnesota Commerce Department website or you can request it via email or phone.

Website:

<http://mn.gov/commerce>

Email:

petrofund.commerce@state.mn.us

Phone:

651-539-1515

or

800-638-0418

(toll free outside the Twin Cities metro area)

