

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 334

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GOODE.

Read 1st time January 23, 2003, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1241S.011

AN ACT

To repeal sections 319.125, 319.127, 319.139, RSMo, and section 319.137 as enacted by house committee substitute for senate substitute for senate bill no. 3, eighty-eighth general assembly, first regular session, and section 319.137 as enacted by house bill no. 251, eighty-eighth general assembly, first regular session, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to underground storage tanks.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 319.125, 319.127, 319.139, RSMo, and section 319.137 as enacted by house committee substitute for senate substitute for senate bill no. 3, eighty-eighth general assembly, first regular session, and section 319.137 as enacted by house bill no. 251, eighty-eighth general assembly, first regular session, are repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 319.125, 319.127, 319.137, and 319.139, to read as follows:

319.125. 1. The department may deny or invalidate a certificate of registration issued under sections 319.120 and 319.123 if the department finds, after notice and a hearing pursuant to chapter [644] 260, RSMo, that the owner has:

- (1) Fraudulently or deceptively registered or attempted to register a tank; or
- (2) Failed at any time to comply with any provision or requirement of sections 319.100 to 319.137 or any rules and regulations adopted by the department in accordance with the provisions of sections 319.100 to 319.137.

2. Upon the action of the department to invalidate or refuse to issue a certificate, the department shall advise the applicant of his right to have a hearing before the [clean water] **Missouri hazardous waste management** commission. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures established in chapter [644] 260, RSMo.

3. When the department finds that a release from an underground storage tank presents, or is likely to present, an immediate threat to public health or safety or to the environment, it shall order correction of the problem, order cleanup or institute clean-up operations pursuant to the provisions of sections 260.500 to 260.550, RSMo.

4. If the owner or operator fails to perform or improperly performs any action required by the department to abate or eliminate an immediate threat to public health or safety or to the environment, the department or an authorized agent of the department may take any and all necessary action to abate or eliminate such threat. In addition to any other remedy or penalty provided by sections 319.100 to 319.137 or any other law, the owner or operator shall be held strictly liable for the reasonable costs incurred by the department in taking any such action.

5. The denial of reregistration or the revocation of registration of any person participating in the underground storage tank insurance fund shall, upon completion of any appeal, terminate participation in the fund.

319.127. 1. It is unlawful for any owner or operator to cause or permit any violations of sections 319.100 to 319.137, or any standard, rule or regulation, order or permit term or condition adopted or issued hereunder. Except as provided in this section, whenever on the basis of any information, the department determines that any person is in such violation, the department may issue an order requiring compliance within a reasonable specified time period, pursuant to chapter [644] 260, RSMo, or the department may commence a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction in which the violation occurred for appropriate relief, including a temporary or permanent injunction.

2. If an owner or operator fails to comply with an order under this section within the time specified, the department may commence a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction for injunctive relief to prevent any such violation or further violation or for the assessment of a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars for each day, or part thereof, the violation occurred or continues to occur, or both, as the court deems proper. A civil monetary penalty under this section shall not be assessed for a violation where an administrative penalty was assessed under section 319.139. The department may request either the attorney general or a prosecuting attorney to bring any action authorized in this section in the name of the people of the state of Missouri. Any offer of settlement to resolve a civil penalty under this section shall be in writing, shall state that an action for imposition of a civil penalty may be initiated by the attorney general or a prosecuting attorney representing the department under authority of this section, and shall identify any dollar amount as an offer of settlement which shall be negotiated in good faith through conference, conciliation and persuasion.

3. Any penalty recovered pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be handled in accordance with section 7 of article IX of the state constitution.

4. If the department alleges a violation of law or regulation of sections 319.100 to

319.139, and mandates compliance with such law or regulation by a person or entity, the department shall provide the person or entity responsible for compliance with such law or regulation with written criteria detailing exactly what action is necessary for such person or entity to comply with the law or regulation. The criteria shall include any time restrictions imposed by the department and shall be prima facie evidence of the action necessary for compliance with the law or regulation. Any person or entity meeting the criteria shall be deemed to be in full compliance with the requests of the department and evidence of compliance shall constitute an affirmative defense in any action brought by or on behalf of the department under the law or regulation. The criteria may not be amended by the department once issued to the person or entity responsible for compliance with such law or department regulation for three years from the date of issuance unless mandated by a change in state or federal law.

319.137. 1. Rules and regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under subtitle I of the federal Resource Conservation Recovery Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-580), as amended, may be adopted by the department by reference. The department may adopt rules and regulations that are more stringent than those issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency if such rules or regulations are necessary to protect human health or the environment. Rules and regulations promulgated under sections 319.100 to 319.139 shall be submitted to and reviewed by the advisory committee established by subsection 2 of section 319.131 prior to publication. Any such rule shall be adopted only after due notice and public hearing in accordance with the provisions of this section, **chapter 260, RSMo, and chapter 536, RSMo**, and chapter 644, RSMo].

2. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of sections 319.100 to 319.139 shall become effective until it has been approved by the joint committee on administrative rules in accordance with the procedures provided herein, and the delegation of the legislative authority to enact law by the adoption of such rules is dependent upon the power of the joint committee on administrative rules to review and suspend rules pending ratification by the senate and the house of representatives as provided herein.

3. Upon filing any proposed rule with the secretary of state, the filing agency shall concurrently submit such proposed rule to the committee, which may hold hearings upon any proposed rule or portion thereof at any time.

4. A final order of rulemaking shall not be filed with the secretary of state until thirty days after such final order of rulemaking has been received by the committee. The committee may hold one or more hearings upon such final order of rulemaking during the thirty-day period. If the committee does not disapprove such order of rulemaking within the thirty-day period, the filing agency may file such order of rulemaking with the secretary of state and the order of rulemaking shall be deemed approved.

5. The committee may, by majority vote of the members, suspend the order of rulemaking

or portion thereof by action taken prior to the filing of the final order of rulemaking only for one or more of the following grounds:

- (1) An absence of statutory authority for the proposed rule;
- (2) An emergency relating to public health, safety or welfare;
- (3) The proposed rule is in conflict with state law;
- (4) A substantial change in circumstance since enactment of the law upon which the proposed rule is based;
- (5) That the rule is arbitrary and capricious.

6. If the committee disapproves any rule or portion thereof, the filing agency shall not file such disapproved portion of any rule with the secretary of state and the secretary of state shall not publish in the Missouri Register any final order of rulemaking containing the disapproved portion.

7. If the committee disapproves any rule or portion thereof, the committee shall report its findings to the senate and the house of representatives. No rule or portion thereof disapproved by the committee shall take effect so long as the senate and the house of representatives ratify the act of the joint committee by resolution adopted in each house within thirty legislative days after such rule or portion thereof has been disapproved by the joint committee.

8. Upon adoption of a rule as provided herein, any such rule or portion thereof may be suspended or revoked by the general assembly either by bill or, pursuant to section 8, article IV of the constitution, by concurrent resolution upon recommendation of the joint committee on administrative rules. The committee shall be authorized to hold hearings and make recommendations pursuant to the provisions of section 536.037, RSMo. The secretary of state shall publish in the Missouri Register, as soon as practicable, notice of the suspension or revocation.

319.139. 1. In addition to any other remedy provided by law, upon a determination by the director that a provision of sections 319.100 to 319.137 or a standard, limitation, order, rule or regulation promulgated pursuant thereto, or a term or condition of any permit has been violated, the director may issue an order assessing an administrative penalty upon the violator under this section. An administrative penalty shall not be imposed until the director has sought to resolve the violation through conference, conciliation or persuasion and shall not be imposed for minor violations of sections 319.100 to 319.137 or minor violations of any standard, limitation, order, rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to sections 319.100 to 319.137 or minor violations of any term or condition of a permit issued pursuant to sections 319.100 to 319.137. If the violation is resolved through conference, conciliation and persuasion, no administrative penalty shall be assessed unless the violation has caused, or has the potential to cause, a risk to human health or to the environment, or has caused or has potential to cause pollution, or was knowingly

committed, or is defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as other than minor. Any order assessing an administrative penalty shall state that an administrative penalty is being assessed under this section and that the person subject to the penalty may appeal as provided by this section. Any such order that fails to state the statute under which the penalty is being sought, the manner of collection or rights of appeal shall result in the state's waiving any right to collection of the penalty.

2. The [clean water] **Missouri hazardous waste management** commission shall promulgate rules and regulations for the assessment of administrative penalties. The amount of the administrative penalty assessed per day of violation for each violation under this section shall not exceed the amount of the civil penalty specified in section 319.127. Such rules shall reflect the criteria used for the administrative penalty matrix as provided for in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6928(a), Section 3008(a), and the harm or potential harm which the violation causes, or may cause, the violator's previous compliance record, and any other factors which the [clean water] **Missouri hazardous waste management** commission may reasonably deem relevant. An administrative penalty shall be paid within sixty days from the date of issuance of the order assessing the penalty. Any person subject to an administrative penalty may appeal to the commission as provided in section [644.056] **260.400**, RSMo. An appeal will stay the due date of such administrative penalty until the appeal is resolved. Any person who fails to pay an administrative penalty by the final due date shall be liable to the state for a surcharge of fifteen percent of the penalty plus ten percent per annum on any amounts owed. Any administrative penalty paid pursuant to this section shall be handled in accordance with section 7 of article IX of the state constitution. An action may be brought in the appropriate circuit court to collect any unpaid administrative penalty, and for attorney's fees and costs incurred directly in the collection thereof.

3. An administrative penalty shall not be increased in those instances where department action, or failure to act, has caused a continuation of the violation that was a basis for the penalty. Any administrative penalty must be assessed within two years following the department's initial discovery of such alleged violation, or from the date the department in the exercise of ordinary diligence should have discovered such alleged violation.

4. Any final order imposing an administrative penalty is subject to judicial review upon the filing of a petition pursuant to section 536.100, RSMo, by any person subject to the administrative penalty.

5. The state may elect to assess an administrative penalty, or, in lieu thereof, to request that the attorney general or prosecutor file an appropriate legal action seeking a civil penalty in the appropriate circuit court.

[319.137. Rules and regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under subtitle I of the federal Resource Conservation Recovery Act of

1976 (P.L. 94-580), as amended, may be adopted by the department by reference. The department may adopt rules and regulations that are more stringent than those issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency if such rules or regulations are necessary to protect human health or the environment. Any such rule shall be adopted only after due notice and public hearing in accordance with the provisions of this section, chapter 536, RSMo, and chapter 644, RSMo. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of sections 319.100 to 319.139 shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024, RSMo.]

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