

1 H.363

2 Introduced by Representative Marcotte of Coventry

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Conservation and development; underground storage tanks;

6 aboveground storage tanks; Petroleum Cleanup Fund

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the  
8 Petroleum Cleanup Fund requirements in order to specify the amount of grants  
9 available from the Fund for different aboveground storage tanks or  
10 underground storage tanks. The bill also increases from \$350,000.00 to  
11 \$400,000.00 the amount of assistance the Secretary of Natural Resources may  
12 authorize from the Heating Fuel Account of the Fund for underground and  
13 aboveground heating fuel tanks in any one fiscal year.

14 An act relating to the Petroleum Cleanup Fund

15 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

16 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 1941(g) is amended to read:

17 (g) The owner of a farm or residential heating fuel storage tank used for on-  
18 premises heating or an underground or aboveground heating fuel storage tank  
19 used for on-premises heating by a mobile home park resident, as defined in  
20 section 6201 of this title, who desires assistance to close, replace, or upgrade

1 the tank may apply to the Secretary for such assistance. The financial  
2 assistance may be in the form of grants of up to: \$2,000.00 or the costs of  
3 closure, replacement, or upgrade, whichever is less for an aboveground storage  
4 tank located inside a structure; up to \$3,000.00 or the costs of closure,  
5 replacement, or upgrade, whichever is less for an aboveground storage tank  
6 located outside a structure; and up to \$4,000.00 of the costs of closure,  
7 replacement, or upgrade, whichever is less for an underground storage tank.  
8 Grants shall be made only to the current property owners, except at mobile  
9 home parks where a grant may be awarded to a mobile home park resident. To  
10 be eligible to receive the grant, an environmental site assessment must be  
11 conducted by a qualified consultant during the tank closure, replacement, or  
12 upgrade if the tank is an underground heating fuel storage tank. In addition, if  
13 the closed tank is to be replaced with an underground heating fuel storage tank,  
14 the replacement tank and piping shall provide a level of environmental  
15 protection at least equivalent to that provided by a double wall tank and  
16 secondarily contained piping. Grants shall be awarded on a priority basis to  
17 projects that will avoid the greatest environmental or health risks. The  
18 Secretary shall also give priority to applicants who are replacing their  
19 underground heating fuel tanks with aboveground heating fuel storage tanks  
20 that will be installed in accordance with the Secretary's recommended  
21 standards. The Secretary shall also give priority to lower income applicants.

1 To be eligible to receive the grant, the owner must provide the previous year's  
2 financial information, and, if the replacement tank is an aboveground tank,  
3 must assure that any work to replace or upgrade a tank shall be done in  
4 accordance with industry standards (National Fire Protection Association, or  
5 NFPA, Code 31), as it existed on July 1, 2004, until another date or edition is  
6 specified by rule of the Secretary. The Secretary shall only authorize up to  
7 ~~\$350,000.00~~ \$400,000.00 in assistance for underground and aboveground  
8 heating fuel tanks in any one fiscal year from the Heating Fuel Account for this  
9 purpose. The application must be accompanied by the following information:

10 (1) proof of ownership, including information disclosing all owners of  
11 record of the property, except in the case where the applicant is a mobile home  
12 park resident;

13 (2) for farm or residential aboveground heating fuel storage tank  
14 owners, a copy of the federal income tax return for the previous year;

15 (3) identification of the contractor performing any heating fuel storage  
16 tank closure, replacement, or upgrade;

17 (4) an estimated cost of tank closure, replacement, or upgrade;

18 (5) the amount and type of assistance requested;

19 (6) a schedule for the work;

20 (7) description of surrounding area, including location of water supply  
21 wells, surface waters, and other sensitive receptors; and

1           (8) such other information and assurances as the Secretary may require.

2       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

3           This act shall take effect on passage.