**Section 731.162 Initial Abatement Measures and Site Check**

a) Owners and operators must perform the following abatement measures:

1) Remove as much of the regulated substance from the UST system as is necessary to prevent further release to the environment;

2) Visually inspect any aboveground releases or exposed belowground releases and prevent further migration of the released substance into surrounding soils and groundwater;

3) Continue to monitor and mitigate any additional fire and safety hazards posed by vapors or free product that have migrated from the UST excavation zone and entered into substance structures (such as sewers or basements);

4) Remedy hazards posed by contaminated soils that are excavated or exposed as a result of release confirmation, site investigation, abatement or corrective action activities. If these remedies include treatment or disposal of soils, the owner and operator must comply with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 722, 724, 725 and 807 through 815.

5) Measure for the presence of a release where contamination is most likely to be present at the UST site, unless the presence and source of the release have been confirmed in accordance with the site check or the closure site assessment. In selecting sample types, sample locations and measurement methods, the owner and operator must consider the nature of the stored substance, the type of backfill, depth to groundwater and other factors as appropriate for identifying the presence and source of the release; and

6) Investigate to determine the possible presence of free product, and begin free product removal as soon as practicable and in accordance with Section 731.164.

b) Within 20 days after release confirmation, owners and operators must submit a report to the Agency, summarizing the initial abatement steps taken under subsection (a) and any resulting information or data.

(Source: Amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 10312, effective July 13, 2016)