

January 16, 2018 (revised 10-18)

Data Quality Record for Strategic Measures

Strategic Measure Text: By September 30, 2022, complete 56,000 additional Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanups that meet risk-based standards for human exposure and ground water migration

Goal Number/Objective: Goal 1: Core Mission/Objective 1.3: Revitalize Land and Prevent Contamination

NPM Lead: Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)

1a. Purpose of Strategic Measure:

The reporting of this measure provides a means to determine how effectively the states, tribes and EPA are cleaning up petroleum contaminated sites. Meeting this measure over time will mean that EPA's Underground Storage Tank (UST) program has found an effective and streamlined means to address some of the most challenging LUST sites.

1b. Performance Measure Term Definitions:

LUST Cleanups Completed. Definition as found on EPA's Underground Storage Tank webpage at

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-04/documents/revised-ust-lust-perf-meas-defs_4-10-18.pdf

The cumulative number of confirmed releases where cleanup has been initiated and where the state has determined that no further actions are currently necessary to protect human health and the environment. This number includes sites with post-closure monitoring - as long as site-specific (e.g., risk-based) cleanup goals have been met. Site characterization, monitoring plans, and site-specific cleanup goals must be established and cleanup goals must be attained for sites being remediated by natural attenuation to be counted in this category.

Clarification: "Cleanups Completed" is a cumulative category-sites should never be deleted from this category. It is no longer necessary to report separately cleanups completed that are state lead with state money and cleanups completed that are responsible party lead. It is, however, still necessary to report the number of cleanups completed that are state lead with Trust Fund money. A "no further action" determination made by the state that satisfies the "cleanups initiated" measure above, also satisfies this "cleanups completed" measure. This determination will allow a confirmed release that does not require further action to meet the definition of both an initiated and completed cleanup.

1c. Unit of Measure: An UST confirmed release that has reached cleanup completion as defined by the state.

2a. Data Source:

The data source is the LUST4 database. This database is the master database of all national UST program-related data. States and EPA regional offices report data into LUST4. Performance is reported semi-annually.

2b. Data needed for interpretation of (calculated) Performance Result:

The baseline for the development of the strategic plan goals assumes that the program will achieve a specific number of cleanups completed each year to reach 41,700 total cleanups completed by the end of FY 2022.

Performance is reported semi-annually. The performance results include the number of confirmed releases that reach cleanup completion within a given fiscal year. The cumulative number of confirmed releases and cleanups completed change over time. The UST program oversees active UST facilities and additional releases are found every year, increasing the number of confirmed releases. In addition, states and EPA regional offices continue to complete cleanups every year. Based on FY 2017 data, there were a cumulative 538,193 confirmed releases and 469,898 cleanups completed.

3. Methodology:

The states and EPA regional offices report the number of cleanups completed within the reporting period (every 6

months based on the fiscal year). The state totals and the EPA regional totals of cleanups completed in Indian country are added together to determine the national number of cleanups completed for the reporting period and the fiscal year.

4. Data Limitations/Qualifications:

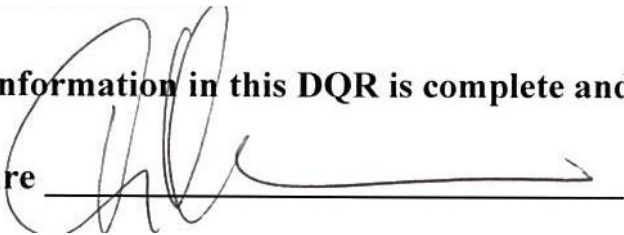
The LUST4 system houses state and EPA regional aggregate data for each performance measure. It does not include site specific information. The definition is designed to allow states flexibility in determining when cleanup completion is reached based on each state definition. There is variation across state programs regarding cleanup levels and use of risk-based decision making for closure. Data quality depends on the accuracy and completeness of state records. In addition, the universe totals will change over time as releases are found and cleanups are completed, and as corrections are made to the cumulative totals for confirmed releases and cleanups completed due to state database review efforts and reporting lagging activities.

5. Technical Contact: Susan Burnell/202-564-0766

6. Certification Statement/Signature:

I certify the information in this DQR is complete and accurate.

DAA Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to be the initials 'MB' followed by a long horizontal stroke.