

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

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Michael R. Pence Governor Carol S. Comer Commissioner

December 1, 2016

The Honorable David Long President Pro Tempore Indiana State Senate 200 W. Washington Street Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear President Pro Tempore David Long:

2016 SEA 255 amended IC 13-23-7-7 and added a provision that requires the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to arrange for an independent actuarial study examining the future obligations and fiscal sustainability of the Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF) once every five (5) years. IC 13-23-7-7(b). As you know, the ELTF is a dedicated state trust fund that serves as a financial responsibility mechanism for Underground Storage Tank (UST) owners and operators. In FY 2016, the ELTF paid over \$33 million in claims to UST owners, operators and assignees for corrective action and third party liability claims. Analyzing, reorganizing and improving IDEM's ELTF Program has been one of my focuses since becoming Commissioner last year.

IDEM retained Milliman Inc. to conduct the actuarial study described in IC 13-23-7-7(b). We are attaching a copy of Milliman's report. As you can see, while the ELTF is stable under current conditions, small changes to projected revenues, costs, or claims payments could seriously impact the ELTF's financial viability in the future.

In addition to retaining Milliman, IDEM retained Pinnacle Actuarial Resources, Inc., and its subcontractor, R&A Risk Professionals, to conduct a performance review of IDEM's ELTF Program. The purpose of this review was to help the ELTF Program improve accuracy and efficiency, and better identify and prevent fraud, waste and abuse. As more fully described in the report, R&A interviewed IDEM employees, met with environmental consultants and UST owners and operators, and reviewed documentation and data related to ELTF claim submissions and approvals. The R&A report is also attached.

As noted above, improving the manner in which the ELTF Program receives, processes, and pays claims has been one of my primary focuses since becoming Commissioner, and we have already made several improvements. The following is a summary of our accomplishments to date.

<u>Creation of New Deputy Assistant Commissioner Position.</u> The ELTF Program is part of IDEM's Office of Land Quality (OLQ). OLQ is IDEM's largest Office and has many environmental management responsibilities, including solid waste, hazardous waste, inspections, remediation, compliance, enforcement, permits, emergency response, science services, underground storage tanks (USTs) and ELTF Claims. In the past, OLQ has been led by an Assistant Commissioner and a single Deputy Assistant Commissioner (DAC). We created a second DAC position to focus on three of OLQ's branches: USTs (which includes the ELTF Program), Science Services, and Emergency Response. While our consultants were working on

their reports, I directed the new DAC to conduct a thorough internal review of all UST Branch operations with a particular focus on the ELTF Program.

<u>UST Branch Reorganization—Effective October 2016.</u> Following the review described above, I approved a plan to reorganize the UST Branch. In the past, we had one group of project managers dedicated only to leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites in the ELTF Program (the ELTF Technical Section) and another group of project managers responsible for LUST sites that were not in the ELTF Program (the LUST Section). This led to inefficiency and inconsistency, so we merged the two sections in order to standardize LUST project management and oversight.

LUST Technical Support—Consistency Improvements. We have also focused on standardizing the project management process for LUST corrective action sites to ensure technical consistency across project management staff. In the past, project managers were not consistently requesting technical review from IDEM's Science Services Branch. Some project managers with a geology or chemistry background were substituting their own technical determinations in lieu of utilizing IDEM's OLQ's Science Services Branch staff. That practice resulted in an inconsistent application of remediation closure guidance to LUST corrective action projects. To increase consistency, we now require all project managers to use IDEM's Science Services Branch for technical review.

ELTF Rulemaking—Implementation of SEA 255. IDEM initiated a rulemaking (LSA# 15-231) to incorporate changes to the existing ELTF rule (328 IAC 1). We are in the process of drafting a Second Notice of Rulemaking which we expect to publish in early 2017. The new rule will remove obsolete language concerning ELTF eligibility and clarify requirements for ELTF claims. We have also modified relevant ELTF claims forms. These changes were necessary due to recent amendments to the ELTF statutes. They will streamline and simplify the process of making and processing ELTF Claims.

ELTF NPD—Labor Rates Clarification. Over the years, some ELTF applicants began providing less information to support claims for reimbursement of labor costs. In response, the agency denied some of these costs and requested additional information upon resubmittal. This resulted in longer review times, more denials and increased administrative costs for applicants. In order to resolve these issues, the agency drafted a non-rule policy document to clarify documentation requirements for ELTF applicants. The policy went into effect on September 15, 2016, and we are optimistic that it will help applicants submit complete, correct claims information, resulting in fewer denials and greater efficiency.

ELTF Eligibility and Claim Process Changes. We made numerous changes to the processes and policies by which we determine who is eligible for ELTF reimbursement, and how claims will be processed.

- <u>Eligibility Determinations.</u> We changed the eligibility determination process to provide applicants an opportunity to review a preliminary eligibility decision. This process increases transparency and gives the parties an opportunity to resolve disputes informally before a mandatory appeal requirement is triggered.
- Assessment of Closure Status for LUST Sites Reimbursed Greater than \$1 Million.

 IDEM has initiated review of outstanding LUST sites for which the ELTF has reimbursed

applicants in excess of the federally required financial assurance minimum of \$1 million dollars. For such sites, we now require LUST project managers to provide management a summary of the site's status and closure options for review and input.

- Credentialing Documentation for Senior Project Manager Staff Classification. In the past, IDEM has requested, for every site, proof of credentials for environmental consultants whose work is the basis of an ELTF claim. We are finalizing a system by which applicants can submit their consultants' credentials to the agency just once, rather than for each individual ELTF Claim. This process change reduced red tape for both the applicant and the agency.
- <u>"Total Amount Reimbursed" Detail.</u> This line item was added to claims decision letters, and it details the amount of costs reimbursed by the ELTF for the site to date. This information provides transparency and allows both IDEM and the responsible party to quickly assess the total cost of state-funded remediation.
- Reduction of Resubmittal Documentation and Administrative Denials. IDEM's focus has been to minimize denials by evaluating and changing the administrative denial and cost review process. ELTF Claims staff members are now directed to follow up with applicants and give them an opportunity to supplement their submissions as needed to process the claim rather than issuing a denial determination. The process changes result in fewer resubmittals, reducing the workload and claims processing costs for both applicants and IDEM.
- Process Review to Increase Claims Reviewer Consistency. We evaluated the ELTF
 claims review process in order to ensure consistency among claims reviewers. This
 process review resulted in the development of new workflows and decision trackers to
 assist claims reviewers in making decisions consistent with policy from IDEM senior
 management.
- Development of preapproval process for remediation conducted under an approved CAP. We are increasing our focus on preapproval of remediation costs for ELTF sites. This will allow for quicker review of claims and faster payment, and it will provide owners and operators more certainty with regard to reimbursement for work performed. Developing this preapproval process will also assist IDEM and responsible parties in controlling the costs of state-funded corrective action by ensuring that work completed is both necessary and reimbursable.
- <u>Claim Decision Letters Mailing.</u> We changed our process for issuing ELTF decision letters. In the past, the agency withheld those letters while payments were processed, creating unnecessary delay. Going forward, IDEM will issue decision letters as soon as our accounting department approves payment. This change will reduce paperwork and provide earlier notice to applicants.
- Review and Analysis of Other State Managed UST Funds. IDEM staff are reviewing and
 assessing database and claim processing systems used in other states that manage funds
 similar to the ELTF. This includes a comprehensive review of other states' cost
 guidelines and reimbursement procedures. Where we find best practices, we will
 incorporate them into our ELTF Program.

All of the changes described above have improved the timeliness and efficiency of the ELTF Program. However, we still have room to improve, and the reports from Milliman and R&A will help us formulate a plan for future improvements. Improving the ELTF Program will continue to be one of IDEM's top priorities in 2017.

Sincerely,

Carol Comer, Commissioner

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Enclosures

EXCESS LIABILITY TRUST FUND ACTUARIAL ANALYSIS AS OF 6/30/16

Prepared for: Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Date: November 29, 2016



Prepared by: Timothy J. Cremin, FCAS, MAAA Milliman, Inc. 201 Edgewater Drive, Suite 289 Wakefield, MA 01880 (781) 213-6200

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I. BACKGROUND

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") is responsible for administering the Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF"), which was established by the Indiana Legislature in 1988 to assist owners and operators of regulated underground storage tanks ("USTs"). The ELTF provides a source of money to satisfy obligations for corrective action and third party damages caused by leaking USTs. The ELTF's primary source of funds is an inspection fee corresponding to \$0.01 per gallon of fuel sold or used for motor vehicles in Indiana.

IDEM maintains data on 4,212 facilities with active tanks and 13,425 regulated tanks that are not permanently out of service (or closed). The following table provides a breakdown by age of tank.

Indiana Department of Env Excess Lia	Table 1 ironmental Mana ability Trust Fund n of Tanks by Aç	d
	(1)	(2)
	No. of	Percent
Age in Years	Tanks	of Total
0 to 10	1,928	14.4%
10 to 20	3,645	27.2%
20 to 30	4,780	35.6%
Greater than 30*	3,072	22.9%
Total	13,425	100.0%
* Includes tanks with un	known ages	

Prior to 7/1/16, UST owners and operators had to demonstrate compliance with financial responsibility requirements in order to be eligible to be covered by the ELTF. To determine whether an occurrence was eligible for reimbursement, an ELTF applicant had to have a confirmed release that resulted from a release of product from a registered UST system and dispensing components, submit an initial Site Characterization Report, submit an ELTF eligibility request, and be in substantial compliance at the time the release was first discovered. In order to receive reimbursement from the ELTF, an applicant had to receive technical approvals from IDEM and submit ELTF claims for costs incurred. A deductible was applied to submitted costs, ranging from \$20,000 to \$35,000, depending on technical characteristics of the UST system.

New legislation covering releases reported after 7/1/16 made several significant changes to the ELTF, including:

- Eliminating the standard of "substantial compliance" as a component of eligibility.
- Standardizing the deductible at \$15,000. Reimbursement will also be reduced by the total amount of unpaid annual fees due, plus an additional amount of \$1,000 for each annual fee that was not paid in the year it was originally due.
- Increasing the total amount that may be reimbursed per eligible release from \$2 million to \$2.5 million.
- Increasing the annual cap on payments to an eligible party from \$2 million (\$3 million for entities with more than 100 tanks) to \$10 million (regardless of the number of tanks).

The following table summarizes the financial results of the ELTF over the past five fiscal years, where fiscal year 2012 is the period 7/1/11 to 6/30/12.

	Т	able 2			
In	Financial Summary,	bility Trust Fund	i		
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
D 1 1 E 1 B 1	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Beginning Fund Balance	64,012	77,839	81,028	88,774	101,616
Claims Paid	33,322	38,546	37,776	34,441	33,127
Revenue:					
Inspection Fee	49,237	46,242	51,203	51,025	50,282
Interest	56	106	91	172	320
Other Revenue	2,822	206	1,176	351	1,085
Total Revenue	52,116	46,554	52,470	51,549	51,687
Expenses:					
Personal Services	2,054	2,103	2,420	2,635	2,532
Other Expenses	2,912	2,716	3,028	130	679
Total Expenses	4,966	4,819	5,448	2,765	3,211
Transfer to IFA	0	0	1,500	1,500	1,455
Ending Fund Balance	77,839	81,028	88,774	101,616	115,510
Cap Pending Obligation	21,132	21,958	23,833	24,786	24,698

"Transfer to IFA" refers to amounts that have been transferred to the Indiana Financial Authority in order to assist with the cleanup of UST contamination at sites for which there is no viable responsible party.

The "Cap Pending Obligation" refers to amounts that have been approved for payment, but the funds have been held back due to the annual cap on payments to a single entity. The obligation as of 6/30/16 was \$24.7 million and the full amount relates to a single entity.

II. SCOPE AND INTENDED PURPOSE

A. Scope of Project

IDEM retained Milliman, Inc. ("Milliman") to provide an overall assessment of the financial viability of the ELTF. Specifically, the scope of our analysis includes the following:

- An independent, actuarial estimate of the ELTF's net liability for unpaid claim amounts on releases reported as of 6/30/16. This liability corresponds to estimated claim payments to be made in fiscal years 2017 and subsequent for releases that have been reported as of 6/30/16. In conjunction with this estimate, we provide various statistics, such as the average cost per release. We also estimate the current portion (due within one year) of the unpaid claim liability, and provide an estimate of the payout of the liability by fiscal year.
- Pro forma financial summaries illustrating the performance of the ELTF over a ten-year period (fiscal years 2017 to 2026) under a set of baseline assumptions and a set of adverse assumptions. Estimates for releases reported in the pro forma period reflect the legislative changes effective 7/1/16.

B. Intended Purpose

The intended purpose of this report is to provide IDEM with liability and funding estimates for financial analysis and budgeting purposes.

III. DISCLOSURES AND LIMITATIONS

A. Disclosures

Basis of Presentation

Our estimates are intended as measurements of expected value over a range of reasonably possible outcomes. Such an estimate is known as an "actuarial central estimate" and is conceptually similar to a mean. Since the range of reasonably possible outcomes may not include all conceivable outcomes, an actuarial central estimate is not technically a true statistical mean. For example, the range of reasonably possible outcomes may exclude conceivable extreme events whose contribution to the true statistical mean is not reliably estimable.

In addition, please note the following regarding our estimates:

- Estimates are provided both gross and net of deductibles and other adjustments based on eligibility;
- Our estimates are presented on an undiscounted basis with regard to the time value of money, and do not include an explicit risk margin; and
- Our estimates do not include provisions for IDEM's internal costs associated with the program, such as claims administration expenses, except to the extent those costs are charged to the ELTF and are included in the financial summary expense categories, as shown in Table 2.

Terminology

Loss Adjustment Expenses ("LAE"). For property and casualty insurance programs, LAE are generally classified as allocated loss adjustment expenses ("ALAE") and unallocated loss adjustment expenses ("ULAE"), where ALAE includes claims settlement costs directly assigned to specific claims, such as legal fees, and ULAE includes other claims administration expenses. IDEM's claim payment data does not

distinguish between loss and loss adjustment expenses. Our unpaid claim liability estimates include LAE to the extent it is included in the claim payment data. The ELTF financial summary shown in Table 2 also includes LAE and other operational expenses to the extent they are charged to the ELTF.

3. Acknowledgment of Qualifications

Timothy J. Cremin is a Consulting Actuary with Milliman, a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society, and a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries. Tim meets the qualification standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to provide the estimates in this report.

4. Other Disclosures

This is the first time an actuarial analysis of the ELTF has been performed. We understand that legislation effective 7/1/16 calls for future actuarial analyses to be performed every five years.

B. Limitations on Distribution and Use of Name

Milliman's work is prepared solely for the use and benefit of IDEM in accordance with its statutory and regulatory requirements. Milliman recognizes that materials it delivers to IDEM may be public records subject to disclosure to third parties. However, Milliman does not intend to benefit and assumes no duty or liability to any third parties who receive Milliman's work and may include disclaimer language on its work product so stating. To the extent that Milliman's work is not subject to disclosure under applicable public records laws, IDEM agrees that it shall not disclose Milliman's work product to third parties without Milliman's prior written consent; provided, however, that IDEM may distribute Milliman's work to (i) its professional service providers who are subject to a duty of confidentiality and who agree to not use Milliman's work product for any purpose

other than to provide services to IDEM, or (ii) any applicable regulatory or governmental agency, as required.

Any reader of this report agrees not to use Milliman's name, trademarks or service marks, or to refer to Milliman directly or indirectly in any third party communication without Milliman's prior written consent for each such use or release, which consent shall be given in Milliman's sole discretion.

C. General Limitations

1. Reliance on Data

In performing this analysis, we relied on data and other information provided by IDEM. We have not audited or verified this data and information. If the underlying data or information is inaccurate or incomplete, the results of our analysis may likewise be inaccurate or incomplete. In that event, the results of our analysis may not be suitable for the intended purpose.

We performed a limited review of the data used directly in our analysis for reasonableness and consistency and have not found material defects in the data. If there are material defects in the data, it is possible that they would be uncovered by a detailed, systematic review and comparison of the data to search for data values that are questionable or relationships that are materially inconsistent. Such a review was beyond the scope of our assignment.

Uncertainty

Actuarial estimates are subject to uncertainty from various sources, including changes in claim reporting patterns and claim handling practices, legislative changes, economic conditions, etc. In particular, legislative changes effective 7/1/16 create significant uncertainty regarding the future financial results of the ELTF relative to historical

patterns and results. In performing our analysis, we used paid claim data on a gross basis with respect to deductibles and eligibility adjustments, then factored these items in separately to reflect the pre- and post-7/1/16 legislative bases, as appropriate.

In preparing these actuarial estimates, it is necessary to project future claim payments. Actual future payments will not develop exactly as projected and may, in fact, vary significantly from the estimates. Further, the estimates make no provision for future emergence of new classes or types of payments that are not sufficiently represented in the historical database or that are not yet quantifiable.

Our estimates are presented on a going concern basis. That is, we have not anticipated any changes in claim reporting patterns, claim payment patterns, claim handling practices, or claim costs that might occur if the ELTF were to cease operating as a going concern.

Variability of Results

Our actuarial central estimates are intended to approximate the expected value of an inherently variable process. Actual loss experience in any given year may differ from our estimates.

We considered the sensitivity of our estimates to key variables and assumptions in the analysis. Key variables and assumptions include (but are not limited to) paid loss development factors (especially "tail" factors), release count development factors, and trend factors. It is possible that reasonable alternative selections would produce materially different estimates.

The operating results contemplated by the pro forma financial summaries in this report are based in part on certain assumptions regarding future revenue, claim payments, and other items. Actual results of operations may be substantially different than those projected. The uncertainty of the pro formas increases with the time horizon.

4. Knowledge of Audience

Milliman strongly recommends that any reader who does not have actuarial expertise, and therefore may not fully recognize the uncertainties involved in these estimates, seek their own actuarial advice on our report. We are available to discuss the report with interested parties whose requests are approved by IDEM under acceptable terms and conditions.

A. Estimated Net Unpaid Claim Liability as of 6/30/16

Our actuarial central estimate of the net liability for unpaid claim amounts on releases reported as of 6/30/16 is \$435 million—see Exhibit 1. This figure represents claim payments that will be made in fiscal years 2017 and subsequent for releases that have been reported as of 6/30/16. The claim payments are expected to be made over a long period of time (approximately 30 years or more). We note, for example, that payments are still being made on releases that were first reported in fiscal year 1989. The current portion of the unpaid claim liability (i.e., the amount expected to be paid within one year) is estimated to be \$38.4 million. The following table provides the expected payout of the liability by year.

			Estimated D	avaut af the	Mattheast	Claim Link	ility as of 6/3	1046				
			e sumateu F	ayout us tale	(\$000's)		iniy as or or	50/16				
												
											2027 and	
Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Subsequent	Tola
incremental Payout	38,399	37,990	36,184	33,346	29,61‡	26,628	24,319	22,233	20,063	18,677	147,657	435,106
Cumulative Payoul	38,399	76,389	112,572	145,918	175,529	202,158	226,476	248,709	268,772	287,449	435,106	
Percent of Total Liability	8.8%	8.7%	8.3%	7.7%	6.8%	6.1%	5.6%	5.1%	4.6%	4.3%	33.9%	100.0%
Cumulative Percent	8.8%	17.6%	25.9%	33.5%	40.3%	46.5%	52.1%	57.2%	61.8%	66.1%	100.0%	

We note that the net unpaid claim liability estimate reflects deductibles and eligibility adjustments that applied to claims for releases reported prior to 7/1/16, and does not include the Cap Pending Obligation, which is treated as a separate liability. Also, the unpaid claim liability estimate has not been discounted for the time value of money.

As discussed, the estimates above are subject to significant uncertainty and variability due to the nature of UST releases, legislative changes, the timing of release notifications and cost reimbursement requests, etc. For example, sensitivity tests of one key parameter used in the analysis indicate that the liability would be 20% higher or

14% lower by selecting reasonable alternative indications for this parameter based on different curve fits (as shown in Appendix A). This parameter is known as the "paid tail development factor," and it is used to estimate the development (growth) of paid claim amounts beyond the time frame encompassed by the historical data. It is important to note that this range is based on varying a single parameter and therefore it reflects a narrower range than the range of possible outcomes. Therefore, it is possible for actual results to fall outside this range, perhaps significantly.

B. Pro Forma Financial Summaries

The following table summarizes the projected financial performance of the ELTF over a ten-year period, using the following baseline assumptions:

Revenue:

- A constant inspection fee of \$0.01 per gallon of fuel and a 1% annual increase in fuel volume subject to the fee. The 1% annual increase in fuel volume is based on the assumption of continued moderate economic growth, relatively stable fuel prices and fuel economy (mileage), etc. Reasonable alternative selections could produce materially different results.
- Annual interest based on 0.3% of the beginning fund balance. The 0.3% assumption is based on the interest earned in fiscal year 2016 (results are not overly sensitive to this assumption).
- Other revenue increasing 1% per year, in line with the inspection fee (results are not overly sensitive to this assumption).

Expenses:

- A 1% annual increase in personal expenses and other expenses, in line with the increase in the inspection fee (results are not overly sensitive to this assumption).
- The Cap Pending Obligation is expected to decline in fiscal year 2017 by the maximum payment to the capped entity in a single year (\$10 million), less the expected amount of approved claim payments for the capped entity in fiscal year 2017 (\$4.2 million, based on the average of recent fiscal years). Subsequent years are calculated in a similar manner until the obligation is reduced to \$0. Note that the net reduction in the Cap Pending Obligation represents payments made from the ELTF in addition to the claims paid.

- The ultimate value of new releases is from Exhibit 5, where the number of releases per year is assumed to remain flat and the average cost per release increases by 2.5% per year.
- Claims paid amounts are based on the payout of the liability per Table 3, plus claims paid for new releases reported in fiscal years 2017 to 2026.

					Table	4							
			S	immary of Pro	Forma Fina Baseline		tions (\$000°	's)					
	Actual 2014	Actual 2015	Actuat 2016	Projected: 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	202
Beginning Gross Fund Balance	81,028	88,774	101,616	115,510	118,682	121,875	124,276	126,663	132,731	139,550	145,042	149,473	152,788
Claims Pald	37,776	34,441	33,127	38,535	39,010	40,302	40,820	41,835	43,197	45,057	46,650	48,301	50,034
Revenue:													
Inspection Fee	51,203	51,025	50,282	50,784	51,292	51,805	52,323	52,846	53,375	53,909	54,448	54,992	55,542
Interest	91	172	320	347	356	366	373	380	398	419	435	448	458
Other Revenue	1,176	351	1,085	1,096	1,107	1,118	1,129	1,140	1,152	1,163	1,175	1,187	1,198
Total Revenue	52,470	51,549	51,687	52,227	52,755	53,289	53,825	54,367	54,925	55,490	56,058	56,627	57,199
Expenses:													
Personal Services	2,420	2,635	2,532	2,557	2,582	2,608	2,634	2,661	2,687	2,714	2,741	2,769	2,796
Other Expenses	3,028	130	679	686	693	700	707	714	721	728	736	743	750
Total Expenses	5,448	2,765	3,211	3,243	3,275	3,308	3,341	3,375	3,408	3,442	3,477	3,512	3,547
Transfer to IFA	1,500	1,500	1,455	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Net Reduction in Cap Pending Obl	igation			5,777	5,777	5,777	5,777	1,588	0	0	0	0	0
Gross Fund Balance	88,774	101,616	115,510	118,682	121,875	124,276	126,663	132,731	139,550	145,042	149,473	152,788	154,906
Cap Pending Obligation	23,833	24,786	24,698	18,920	13,143	7,366	1,588	0	0	0	. 0	c	. 0
Net Fund Balance	64,941	76,830	90,813	99,762	108,732	116,911	125,075	132,731	139,550	145,042	149,473	152,788	154,906
Ultimate Value of New Refeases				28,405	29,136	29,885	30,653	31,440	32,246	33,073	33,920	34,789	35,679
Unpaid Net Claim Liability			435,106	424,976	415,102	404,686	394,518	384.122	373,171	361,187	348,458	334,946	320,592

The pro forma results are sensitive to certain key assumptions and parameters. Table 5 illustrates an Adverse Case pro forma, where certain baseline assumptions have been altered:

- Fuel volume subject to the inspection fee decreases by 1% per year (for example, due to factors such as lower economic growth, higher fuel prices, improved fuel economy (mileage), greater use of electric vehicles, etc.).
- A higher paid tail development factor is used. As mentioned, the liability as of 6/30/16 is sensitive to this parameter, which is used to estimate the development (growth) of paid claim amounts beyond the time period encompassed by the historical data. Appendix A includes an analysis of this parameter based on different curve fits. Using a curve fit that produces a higher factor increases the liability as of 6/30/16 by 20% and the expected cost per release for fiscal year 2017 by approximately 8% (see Adverse Case exhibits in Appendix B).
- The number of new releases reported in fiscal years 2017 to 2026 increases by 5% per year (see Exhibit 5 in Appendix B). This assumption accounts for the

possibility of an increasing trend in the number of reported releases, due to legislative changes (e.g., elimination of the "substantial compliance" standard), aging and deterioration of the current tank population, etc.

			S	ummary of Pro	Forma Fina Adverse		:tions (\$600	's}					
	Actual 2014	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Projected: 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	202
Beginning Gross Fund Balance	81,028	88,774	101,616	115,510	108,842	101,092	91,744	81,790	74,430	65,763	53,656	38,647	19,931
Claims Paid	37,776	34,441	33,127	47,370	47,911	48,973	49,040	50,100	52,473	55,191	67,965	60,940	64,577
Revenue:													
Inspection Fee	51,203	51,025	50,282	49,779	49,281	48,788	48,300	47,817	47,339	46,866	46,397	45,933	45,474
Interest	91	172	320	347	327	303	275	245	223	197	162	116	60
Other Revenue	1,176	351	1,085	1,096	1,107	1,118	1,129	1,140	1,152	1,163	1,175	1,187	1,198
Total Revenue	52,470	51,549	51,687	51,221	50,714	50,209	49,704	49,203	48,714	48,226	47,733	47,236	46,732
Expenses:													
Personal Services	2,420	2,635	2,532	2,557	2,582	2,608	2,634	2,661	2,687	2,714	2,741	2,769	2,796
Other Expenses	3,028	130	679	686	693	700	707	714	721	728	736	743	750
Total Expenses	5,448	2,765	3,211	3,243	3,275	3,308	3,341	3,375	3,408	3,442	3,477	3,512	3,547
Transfer to IFA	1,500	1,500	1,455	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Net Reduction in Cap Pending Obl	igation			5,777	5,777	5,777	5,777	1,588	0	0	0	0	0
Gross Fund Balance	88,774	101,616	115,510	108,842	101,092	91,744	81,790	74,430	65,763	53,856	38,647	19,931	(2,961
Cap Pending Obligation	23,833	24,786	24,698	18,920	13,143	7,366	1,588	. 0	. 0	0	ß	0	` 0
Net Fund Balance	64,941	76,830	90,813	89,921	87,949	84,378	80,201	74,430	65,763	53,856	38,647	19,931	(2,961
Ultimate Value of New Releases				30,839	33,212	35,767	38,518	41,480	44,669	48,103	51,800	55,780	60,065

We note that, under these conditions, the fund balance becomes negative in fiscal year 2026.

It is important to note that this Adverse Case pro forma is based on reasonable alternative assumptions and is not meant to illustrate a worst case scenario.

A. Data and Information

We relied on data and information provided by IDEM, which included the following:

- 1. Claim Data IDEM maintains a database of information regarding releases for which eligibility requests and cost reimbursement claims have been received. We refer to this database as the "Claim Data." When a release is reported, IDEM assigns the release an Incident Number, which indicates the year and month the release was reported. We assigned each release and its associated claim amounts to a fiscal year based on its Incident Number. The Claim Data was compiled following the end of fiscal year 2016 (6/30/16). The Claim Data includes information about the dates and amounts of cost reimbursement claims, applicable deductibles and other adjustments, and the date that payment authorization was issued, which we took to be an approximation for the date of payment.
- UST Release Data A listing of all releases reported in fiscal years 2016 and prior, indicating report year and month, as well as Disposition (Active, Deactivated, No Further Action, Referred to Another IDEM Program, etc.) for each release.
- Financial Summaries by Fiscal Year These summaries show the ELTF balance at the beginning and end of each fiscal year, along with amounts paid or received during the fiscal year, including claim payments made, inspection fees received, etc.
- 4. <u>Background Information</u> IDEM provided background information regarding the operation of the ELTF, legislative changes effective 7/1/16, etc.

B. Methodology

Our methodology consists of the following steps:

- 1. Estimated Ultimate Number of Releases by Fiscal Year
- 2. Estimated Ultimate Amounts by Fiscal Year Incurred
- 3. Estimated Unpaid Claim Liability as of 6/30/16
- 4. Estimated Ultimate Amounts for Fiscal Years 2017 to 2026

1. Estimated Ultimate Number of Releases by Fiscal Year

Each record in the Claim Data has an Incident Number that encodes the year and month the release was first reported. We used the Incident Number to assign each release to a fiscal year. The Claim Data only includes releases for which an eligibility request has been received, and therefore the number of releases for a given fiscal year grows over time (eligibility requests for previously reported releases are not received for several years, in some cases). To estimate the ultimate number of releases for each fiscal year, we analyze the historical growth patterns of each fiscal year, using the earliest claim "Received Date" to determine the point in time when each release gets counted.

Appendix A includes the release count data triangle that exhibits the growth pattern of each fiscal year, and our analysis of those patterns. Based on this data, we derived a development pattern that we used to estimate the ultimate number of releases (see Exhibit 4).

We note that, in addition to the 2,988 releases included in the Claim Data, there are over 7,000 additional releases that have been reported for which no eligibility requests have ever been made. IDEM provided us with a listing of these releases as well. The data record for each release includes a "Disposition" field which indicates additional information about the release:

- "Active" means that action with regard to the release has not been finalized.
- "Deactivated" means a suspected release was reported but it was subsequently determined that no release occurred.
- "No Further Action" means corrective action has been completed and the incident is considered closed.
- "Referred to Another IDEM Program" means a different program is handling the cleanup and the ELTF is not expected to bear any additional costs.

Out of 7,222 releases in fiscal years 1988 to 2016 for which no eligibility requests have been made, 702 had the "Active" designation. We used these Active release counts as an indication of the potential magnitude by which the Claim Data release counts could develop (see Exhibit 4). In total, we are estimating that 259 of these Active releases will eventually result in claim payments by ELTF.

2. Estimated Ultimate Amounts by Fiscal Year Incurred

In Appendix A, we also display a data triangle of payments, similar to the data triangle of release counts. We used the "Amt Approved" field in the Claim Data to compile the paid data triangle. This field includes the total amount approved for the submitted claims regardless of deductible or percent eligibility. Thus, the paid amounts in the data triangle are on a "gross" basis with respect to deductibles and eligibility adjustments, so that these items can be factored in separately to reflect the pre- and post-7/1/16 legislative bases, as appropriate.

Based on this data, we derived a development pattern that we used to estimate the ultimate amounts paid for each fiscal year's releases (see Exhibit 3). In analyzing the paid data in Appendix A, we note that the earliest years of the ELTF's operation tended to produce higher development factors than more recent years. We expect the more recent years' development patterns to be more representative of future development, and so we have excluded development factors for the earliest years. We also relied on curve fits to extend the development patterns beyond the period included in the historical data. In some cases, we also used the curve fits to smooth the observed development patterns.

We then use the results of Exhibit 3 and Exhibit 4 on Exhibit 2, where we calculate an average amount per release, and select an annual trend factor to put each fiscal year on a fiscal year 2016 cost basis. Based on the trended average amount per release for each fiscal year, we select an expected amount per release for 2016, and de-trend that value to older fiscal years. Multiplying the number of releases by the expected amount per release produces an expected ultimate amount incurred for each fiscal year. We then use that result on Exhibit 1 to estimate the unpaid claim liability.

We also adjust the estimates on Exhibit 1 to account for deductibles and eligibility adjustments that were made on releases reported prior to the new legislation effective 7/1/16. In particular, we reviewed the ratio of payments net of deductibles and eligibility adjustments (per the "Amt Reimbursed" field) to the ratio of gross payments (per the "Amt Approved" field). For the more mature fiscal years, where this ratio is expected to be at or near its ultimate value, the ratio generally reaches approximately 0.9. We selected 0.9 as the ultimate value of this ratio for all fiscal years.

3. Estimated Unpaid Claim Liability as of 6/30/16

We estimated the liability for unpaid claim amounts on releases reported as of 6/30/16 by subtracting net amounts paid as of 6/30/16 from estimated net ultimate amounts. We note that amounts related to the Cap Pending Obligation are actually included as payments in the data and therefore the Cap Pending Obligation should be considered as a separate liability in addition to the unpaid claim liability.

4. Estimated Ultimate Amounts for Fiscal Years 2017 to 2026

Note that we are considering the unpaid claim liability to include unpaid amounts for releases reported as of 6/30/16. Releases reported after 6/30/16 are considered to be incurred in the fiscal year in which they are reported. On Exhibit 5, we estimate the gross and net amounts expected to be incurred in each fiscal year, 2017 to 2026. We selected the number of releases for fiscal year 2017 on Exhibit 4. Also, based on recent history, we are estimating no trend in the number of releases per year (however, in the

Adverse Case, we increase the number of releases by 5% per year). The average cost per release for 2017 is based on the selected value for 2016 on Exhibit 2, and an increase in the average cost of 2.5% per year. We also factor in the standard \$15,000 deductible per release that applies to releases reported after 7/1/16. Reimbursement reductions due to unpaid annual fees are not expected to be material and were not factored into the analysis.

VI. EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	<u>Description</u>
1	Estimated Unpaid Claim Liability as of 6/30/16
2	Expected Ultimate Amounts by Fiscal Year Incurred
3	Paid Development Method
4	Release Count Development Method
5	Estimated Ultimate Amounts for Future Reported Releases

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Estimated Unpaid Claim Liability as of 6/30/16

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Estimated Net Unpaid Liability (10) - (7) 800,951 4,630,905 7,897,906 6,144,706 7,875,909 6,144,706 7,875,449 1,352,85 8,113,770 13,362,410 12,562,610 1 Release 435,105,944 (19) (6) × (9) 7,572,488
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Exhibit 2

(6) (7) (9) (9) (9)

From Appendix A Based on the Claim Data provided by IDEM Selected based on the results in (8) and actuarial judgment

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Expected Ultimate Amounts by Fiscal Year Incurred

			'
(8)	Expected Gross Ultimate (2) x (7)	1,558,211 9,050,607 39,563,130 563,130 57,745,838 39,668,877 48,131,910 53,714,461 38,919,831 49,947,117 57,717,007 41,170,203 51,144,905 51,144,905 51,144,905 51,144,905 51,144,905 51,144,905 51,144,905 51,144,005 51,14	260,126,1001,1
6	Expected Average Amount	269.702 266.194 279.670 286.665 289.829 301,174 308.704 308.704 324.332 324.40 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 349.770 358.673 368.673	
(9)	Trended Average Amount (3) x (5)	476,858 588,443 519,197 499,090 490,922 559,706 434,339 415,477 674,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 572,048 573,140 574,140 574,14	Averages Excluding Latest Year: Avg. All Years 537,826 Latest 15 518,493 Latest 10 468,868 st 10 x Hi, Low 453,419 elected for 2015 518,493
(9)	Trend Factor to 2016	1,948 1,900 1,804 1,765 1,765 1,765 1,765 1,600 1,509	Averages Excluvitd. Aug. All Years Latest 15 Latest 10 Latest 10 x Hi, Low Selected for 2016
4)	Fitted Average Amount	287,531 292,947 298,466 309,817 310,654 321,608 327,658 327,658 333,831 340,120 346,527 353,055 353,055 353,055 353,055 353,055 353,055 353,056 366,482 373,886 387,587 402,327 417,629 423,512 441,678 449,999 449,999 449,999 441,678 441,678 441,678 441,678 441,678	A Wfd. P Latest Sele
(3)	Untrended Average Amount (1) / (2)	244,819 309,659 280,050 275,934 325,114 325,114 258,600 253,554 422,037 466,158 375,945 375,945 375,945 375,945 375,945 375,945 375,945 376,027 389,207 384,475 384,47	1.9% 2.5%
(2)	Estimated Ultimate Releases	8 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	o,241 nn Curve Fit /erity Trend
(£)	Paid Development Method Estimated Gross Ultimate	8,323,830 44,900,537 58,550,395 50,771,928 57,151,928 57,151,928 57,151,197 68,993,731 80,179,246 78,572,498 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 54,125,728 57,140,991 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,241,091 54,281,774 14,5281,774	Annual Trend Based on Curve Fit Selected Annual Severity Trend
	Fiscal Year	1988 1982 1980 1980 1980 1980 1990 1991 1992 1992 1993 17,1,1,228 1994 1996 1996 1996 1996 1996 1996 1996	Ann

Notes:
(1): Exhibit 3
(2): Exhibit 4
(4): Based on fitting an exponential curve to the data in (3)
(5): Based on fitting an exponential trend
(5): Based on the selected annual trend
(7): Based on the selected value for 2016 and the trend factors in (5)

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Paid Development Method

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Estimated Gross	Ultimate	(1) x (2)	o	8,323,830	44,900,537	58,530,395	50,771,928	37,557,567	52,018,197	44,996,350	31,187,088	64,993,731	80,179,246	78,572,493	54,125,728	51,090,752	56,617,213	50,724,089	31,653,121	43,917,956	47,259,523	40,701,259	34,542,410	33,781,940	26,014,991	21,651,863	33,368,141	24,246,806	42,281,774	19,526,143	O	1,163,535,072
D gi	Development	Factor	1.129	1.141	1,155	1.170	1.188	1.207	1.227	1.251	1.277	1.306	1,339	1,376	1.419	1.467	1.523	1.588	1.665	1.756	1.865	2.009	2.194	2.501	2.901	3.582	4.797	7.776	13,957	56.137	418.610	
Gross	as of	06/30/16	o	7,292,528	38,871,019	50,020,312	42,748,665	31,124,519	42,387,669	35,982,169	24,426,382	49,759,975	59,888,962	57,090,288	38,144,927	34,822,087	37,176,083	31,933,395	19,014,552	25,006,863	25,338,559	20,262,112	15,747,328	13,509,335	8,968,402	6,043,934	6,956,261	3,118,282	3,029,351	347,833	0	729,011,792
	Fiscal	Year	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total

Notes:
(1): Based on the Claim Data provided by IDEM
(2): From Appendix A

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Release Count Development Method

(6)	Selected Ultimate	Releases	(1) + (8)	မ	34	145	209	184	135	160	174	123	154	172	209	124	115	114	6	83	102	128	119	114	101	94	72	52	51	09	20	56	3,247	112	22	54	55	%0.0
(8)	Selected Additional	Releases	(5) x (7)	0	-	က	5	5	4	S	ဖ	ญ	7	ထ	7	7	7	ω	7	60	9	7	7	<u>ნ</u>	4	/	12	ത	10	1 3	15	8	259	Average	Lafest 10	Latest 5	Selected for 2017	uency Trend
E		Selected	Ratio	000'0	0.143	0.120	0.086	0.091	0.129	0.116	0.158	0.185	0.438	0.296	0.244	0,250	1,000	0.889	1,000	1,000	0.769	1.000	1.000	1,000	0.700	0.875	0,571	0.450	0,556	0,591	0.400	0.500					Selec	Expected Annual Frequency Trend
(9)		Ratio	(4) / (5)	0.000	0.143	0.120	0.086	0.091	0.129	0.116	0.158	0,185	0.438	0.296	0,244	0.250	1.000	0.889	1.143	1.000	0.769	2,000	1.273	1.154	0.700	0.875	0.571	0.450	0.556	0.591	0.378	0,642						Expec
(5)	Active Refeases	Not	Evaluated	9	7	22	23	55	31	43	88	27	16	27	45	28	1-	ത	7	ထ	চ	7	7	<u>ნ</u>	50	16	73	20	8	22	37	67	702					
(4)	Additional	Releases	(3) - (1)	0	-	က	သ	ເດ	4	5	9	S	7	∞	Ţ	7	7	60	60	603	5	4	4	5	14	14	12	თ	5	<u>ნ</u>	14	43	280					į
ହି	Estimated Ultimate	Releases	$(1) \times (2)$	ധ	8	145	503	182	135	160	174	123	154	172	209	124	115	114	88	ဗ္ဗ	102	135	122	116	5	94	72	25	5	8	49	92	3,268					
(S)	Release	Development	Factor	1.015	1.017	1,019	1.022	1.025	1.028	1.031	1.035	1,040	1.045	1.050	1.055	1.062	1.069	1.077	1.085	1.095	1.106	1.117	1.130	1.145	1.161	1.178	1.198	1.220	1.244	1.272	1.399	2.962						otes:
(5)	Reported Releases	as of	06/30/16	დ	g	142	204	179	131	155	168	118	147	164	198	117	108	106	06	35	95	121	108	101	87	80	9	43	41	47	35	22	2,988					Notes:
		Fiscal	Year	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total					

Notes:
(1): Based on the Claim Data provided by IDEM
(2): From Appendix A
(5): Based on information provided by IDEM
(7): Selected based on (6) and actuarial judgment

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Estimated Ultimate Amounts for Future Reported Releases

(9)	(4) / (5)	0.481 0.477 0.536 0.444 0.518	0.559 0.568 0.568 0.586 0.596 0.604 0.613 0.633
(2)	Inspection Fee	49,237,490 46,242,130 51,203,441 51,025,492 50,281,583	50, 784, 399 51, 292, 243 51, 292, 243 51, 305, 165 52, 332, 217 52, 846, 449 53, 374, 914 53, 902, 653 54, 467, 749 54, 992, 227 55, 542, 149
(4)	Estimated Net Ultimate	23,661,099 22,063,907 27,466,573 22,670,674 26,069,636	28,405,060 29,848,811 29,848,130 30,652,577 31,439,517 32,246,129 33,920,355 34,788,989 35,679,339
<u>(c)</u>	Estimated Gross Ultimate	26,290,110 24,515,453 30,518,414 25,189,638 28,966,263	29,230,060 30,708,311 31,477,577 32,264,517 32,264,517 33,837,708 34,745,355 35,613,989 36,504,339
(2)	Estimated Gross Ullimate per Release	505,579 480,695 508,640 503,793 517,255	531,456 544,742 554,742 572,320 586,628 601,293 616,326 631,734 647,527
9	Estimated Ultimate Releases	52 50 50 58 58	W
	Fiscal	Historical: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2015	Projected: 2017 2018 2018 2018 2019 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2025 2026

Notes;
(1): Exhibit 4
(2): Historical = (3)/(1); Projected is based on the selection for 2016 in Exhibit 2 and the annual severity trend selection in Exhibit 2
(3): Historical is from Exhibit 1; Projected is (1) × (2)
(4): Historical is from Exhibit 1; Projected is (3) less [(1) × \$15,000 deductible per release]
(5): Historical is from information provided by IDEM; Projected assumes 1,0% annual change.

Appendix A Analysis of Release Count Development and Paid Development

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF")

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Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF")

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• • •	1.100 1.100 1.100 1.100 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000	1.007 1.007 1.002 1.002	1,004	1,003 1,031 0,970
•••	1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000	1,001 1,001 1,000 1,000	1,004 1,004 1,004	1.004 1.035 0.965
	1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000	1,007 1,005 1,005 1,006	1,005	1.004 1.040 0.962
240-252 ; Months	1,080 1,080 1,080 1,080 1,090 1,090 1,090 1,090	1,008 1,007 1,008 1,009	1.005	1,005 1,045 0,957
228-240 :	1,000	1.006 1.006 1.003 1.002	1,005	1,005 1,050 0,952
216-228 Months	1,250 1,153 1,103	1.01 1.001 1.002 1.002	1,005	1.055 1.055 0.948
204-216 Months	1,000 1,000	1,015 1,008 1,004 1,004	1,006 1,006 1,006	1.006 1.062 0,942
192-204 Months	1,000 1,000	1,011 1,002 1,003 1,002	1.006 1.007 1.006	1,007 1,069 0,935
180-192 Months	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100	1.013 1.004 1.002 1.002	1,006 1,007	1.007 1.077 0.929
168-180 Months	13.00 17.00	1,024 1,011 1,006 1,006 1,006	1,007 1,008 1,007	1.085
156-168 Months	1,000 1,121 1,121 1,102 1,102 1,003 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000	1,034 1,014 1,007 1,007	1,007 1,009 1,008	1,009 1,095 0,913
144-156 Months	1,105 1,112 1,116 1,106	1.006 1.006 1.000 1.000	1,008 1,010 1,009	1.010 1.106 0.904
132-144 Months	1.776 1.056 1.056 1.059 1.059 1.059 1.073 1.073 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000	1.026 1.020 1.000 1.000	1,009 1,010 1,009	1.010 1.117 0.695
120-132 Months	1,000 1,000 1,105 1,105 1,105 1,105 1,005 1,005 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000	1,049 1,010 1,004 1,003 1,003	1,012	1,012 1,130 0,865
10B-120 Months	1,063 1,1063 1,1072 1,1072 1,1083 1,1083 1,1019 1,1019 1,1019 1,1019 1,1019 1,1019 1,000 1	1,056 1,007 1,003 1,006	1.041 1.043 1.044	1,145 0,873
96-108 Months	1,145 1,128	1,009 1,009 1,007 1,009	1.012 1.014 1.013	1.014
84-96 Months	1,750 1,106 1,106 1,106 1,105	1,058 1,015 1,012 1,013	1,015 1,015 410,1	1,015 1,178 0,849
72-84 Months	1333 1140 1110 1110 1110 1110 1110 1100 110	1,004 1,004 1,008 1,008	1.016	1,017 1,198 0,834
60-72 Months	1,000 1,000	1,086 1,019 1,014 1,018	1.019	1.018 1.220 0.820
48-60 Months	1,262 1,245 1,263 1,263 1,263 1,463 1,463 1,623 1,623 1,623 1,623 1,623 1,623 1,633	1,086 1,023 1,011 1,010 1,017	1.024 1.020 1.023	1,020 1,24¢ 0,80¢
35-48 Months	1,737 1,176 1,176 1,176 1,176 1,176 1,283 1,283 1,283 1,283 1,283 1,083 1,033	1.150 1.024 1.017 1.017 1.029	1,032 1,022 1,029	1,022 1,272 0,786
24-36 Months	3.286 1.099 1.472 1.472 1.472 1.346 1.239 1.289 1.289 1.178 1.178 1.178 1.1078 1.1078 1.1078	1,261 1,111 1,109 1,097	1,048 1,024 1,039	1,100
12-24 Months	4.500 2.357 2.000 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 1.528 1.528 1.533	2,017 1,721 1,990 2,117 1,885	1,097 1,026 1,061	2,117 2,962 0,338
Fiscal	288 1986 1987 1987 1986 1986 1986 1986 1988 2000 2000 2000 2000 2011 2011 2011 20	Vol Wid Avg 7 Yr Vol Wid Avg 5 Yr Vol Wid Avg 5 Yr Vol Wid Avg 3 Yr Vol Wid Avg 3 Yr Vol Wid Avg	Inverse Power Curve Exponential Curve Weibuil Curve	Selected Cumulative Ratio to Ultimate

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF")

Paid Loss Development

348-Ult Manths			1,265 1,065 1,129	1,129 1,120 0,868
335-348 Reenths			1,015 1,011	1,011 1,141 0,876
324-336 Menths	5507		000, 000, 000, 000,	1,01 1,01 1,01 1,01 1,01 1,01 1,01 1,01
312-324 Months	1027		£ £ £	1,013 1,170 0,855
300.312 Wenthn	4001 6001 8001		1,012	1,015 1,188 0,842
289-300 Months	1,1046 1,1036 1,1037 1,1037		1,019 410,1 1,016	1,018 1,02,1 1,528
278-288 Months	1,023 1,039 1,039		1,020 1,015 1,017	1,017 1,227 0,815
264-276 Meetho	28071, 1002 00073, 1008 00073, 1008		191 191 191	1251 1250 0650
252-284 Months			1,016 1,016 1,021	1,021 7,12,1 0,780
240-252 Months	£9488888	1,024 1,024 1,024	1,022 1,022 1,023	251 8051 8051 8051
228-240 Months	1,158 1,158	1,026 1,026 1,026	1,024 1,024 1,025	201 047 747
216-228 Months	1,088	2011 2011 2011 2011 2011	1,027	1.028 1.376 0.727
204-216 Meethin	1.1.9 1.1.1.9	565 565 565 565 565 565 565 565 565 565	1,032 1,031	1,031 1,419 0,755
192-204 Monthn	2.1.1 10.1 10.1	99	1,034 1,034	25 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
180-192 Movihs	1522 1522 1523 1533 1533 1533 1533 1533	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1,038 1,038 1,038	1,028 1,523 0,657
765-180 Months	2,12,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,	24 250 250 250 250 250 250 250 250 250 250	540,1 240,1	1,588 1,588 0.630
156-188 Monthe	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	1201 1201 1201 1201 1201 1201	1,068 1,048 1,048	1,048
144-156 Nonthe	1.22 1.22 1.22 1.22 1.23 1.23 1.23 1.23	1,085 1,047 1,047 1,048	1,054 1,055 1,055	1,055 1,756 0,569
132-144 Venina	1,100 1,100	8851 8851 5851 5851 5851	1,081 1,082 1,082	1,062 1,865 0,508
120-132 Months	1,135, 1,135, 1,137, 1,137, 1,137, 1,137, 1,137, 1,109, 1,100, 1,	1,082 1,077 1,071 1,091	1,072 0,00,1 0,00,1	1,077 2,039 0,498
108-120 Months	2.5.6.9 2.6.6.9 2.6.6.9 2.6.6.9 2.6.6.9 2.6.6.9 3.6.6.	1.093 1.081 1.095 1.009	1,063 1,070 1,083	1,082 2,194 0,456
16-10s Meeting	25	22222 25888	1,100 1,080	1.140 2.501 0.400
84-08 Months	266 266 266 266 266 266 266 266 266 266	1,160 1,140 1,140 1,135	1,122 1,098 1,115	1,160 2,901 0,345
72-84 Months	228 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	95995	C 222	1,235 3,581 0,279
65-72 Months	18 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	#555 #555 #555 #555 #555 #555 #555 #55	25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 2	1,328 4,797 0,208
46-80 Months	28.657 3.000 1.017 1.017 1.018	1,680 1,580 1,594	1,286	1,621 1,776 0,129
38-48 Menths	1,787 1,486 2,786 1,000 1,419 1,100 1,200	75,1 808,1 885,1 885,1	847.1 885.1	1,795 13,851 270,0
24:38 Months	2,408 2,418 2,418 2,919 2,914 2,44 2,44 2,44 2,44 2,44 2,44 2,44 2,	2.801 2.801 2.803 3.883 5.883	1,828	4.022 56.137 0.016
12-24 Wyntha	12.200 R.B.Y.C. R.B.Y.C. D1.373 17.173 17.173 23.76 2.015	7,457 3,724 14,162	3,385 1,201 1,716	7.457 418,610 0.002
Fiscal Vest	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Vel Wid Ave 7 Yr Vel Wad Ave 5 Yr Vel Wad Ave 5 Yr Vel Wid Ave 3 Yr Vel Wid Ave	Inverse Pover Curva Exponential Curva Welbull Corva	Salected Cumulative Rato to Litimato

Appendix B Adverse Case Exhibits

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM")

Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Estimated Unpaid Claim Liability as of 6/30/16

Milliman

Net Unpaid Release Liability 7,595,512 11,850,435 11,1850,433 9,117,087 11,486,341 11,030,412 14,867,416 17,647,091 15,373,738 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,248 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,335,235 16,3 28,532,179 24,908,275 19,826,149 21,594,846 27,269,456 24,381,802 28,245,379 (10) - (7) Estimated 521,981,140 Selected Net Ultimate (6) x (9) 9 160,876,738 Netformate <u>6</u> Net/Gross Ratio 8 (7) / (5) 1.000 0.929 0.904 0.891 0.899 0.904 0.881 0.881 0.888 0.888 0.894 3.835 3.801 3.847 Net Paid as of 8 6,771,538
35,134,513
46,037,616
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327,962,269
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^{(1):} Exhibit 2
(2): From Appendix A
(5),(7): Based on the Claim Data provided by IDEM
(9): Selected based on the results in (8) and actuarial judgment

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Expected Ultimate Amounts by Fiscal Year Incurred

(8)	Expected Gross Ultimate (2) x (7)	9,804,156 42,867,136 63,317,726 63,317,726 57,137,432 42,969,522 52,200,172 58,186,701 42,160,278 54,100,576 61,940,475 77,146,501 44,598,014 45,9415,460 44,598,014 45,315,460 45,315,460 45,315,460 45,315,460 47,723,246	
6	Expected Average Amount	288, 1324 288, 568 302, 956 310, 530 318, 293 326, 293 334, 406 341, 376 361, 176 361, 176 361, 176 361, 176 361, 176 361, 176 37, 80 37, 80 37, 80 37, 80 37, 80 37, 80 40, 93 472, 50 484, 32 484, 32 484, 32 484, 32 561, 569 571, 564 561, 569	Ŀ
(9)	Trended Average Amount (3) x (5)	516,560 637,436 552,425 540,644 531,946 606,307 470,502 470,502 470,503 780,882 780,882 780,169 780,882 780,169 780,882 495,653 780,882 495,653 780,882 495,653 780,888 780,888 780,188 780,888 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688 780,688	Averages Excluding Latest Year: Avg. All Years 582,605
(5)	Trend Factor to 2016	1.948 1.854 1.869 1.765 1.722 1.589 1.589 1.589 1.589 1.581 1.448 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.345 1.369 1.369 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.379 1.370	Averages Exclus Wtd. Avg. All Years Jatest 15
(4)	Fitted Average Amount	311,470 317,338 323,316 328,407 335,612 341,935 348,376 368,438 375,379 382,450 382,656 386,986 404,474 419,887 427,767 427,767 427,767 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 489,606 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 474,466 476,605 477,767 477,777 477,77	Mtd. A
(3)	Untrended Average Amount (1) / (2)	265,202 335,441 303,367 296,909 301,357 362,183 280,131 274,664 457,176 407,246 457,992 567,992 566,468 366,468 366,468 366,468 366,468 370,504 370,50	1.9% 2.5%
(2)	Estimated Ultimate Releases	。	on Curve Fit everity Trend
(1)	Paid Development Method Estimated Gross Ultimate	9,016,868 48,638,934 63,403,607 56,909,174 40,664,902 56,349,207 70,405,078 86,854,932 86,854,932 86,854,932 86,854,932 86,714,401 56,334,544 47,574,544 47,574,544 47,674,544 47,674,544 47,674,544 47,674,544 51,194,325 36,594,608 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 36,594,808 37,418,395 3	Annual Trend Based on Curve Fit Selected Annual Severity Trend
	Fiscal Year	1989 9,016,888 1990 48,638,934 1992 48,638,934 1992 49,174 1992 49,174 1995 49,174 1995 49,174 1996 86,349,207 1997 70,405,078 1998 86,854,932 1998 86,144,401 2001 55,344,544 2002 61,331,135 2004 47,253,240 2005 54,947,353 2005 51,194,329 2007 44,080,028 2007 44,080,028 2010 28,180,948 2011 28,448,395 2010 28,180,948 2011 28,48,487 2011 28,48,487 2012 29,109,88 2013 26,285,884 2014 45,802,135 2015 21,151,880 2016 1,280,410,446	Anr

561,663 507,906 491,171 Latest 15 Latest 10 Latest 10 x Hi, Low

561,663 Selected for 2016

Notes:
(1): Exhibit 3
(2): Exhibit 3
(4): Besed on fitting an exponential curve to the data in (3)
(5): Based on fitting an exponential curve for the data in (3)
(5): Based on the selected annual frend
(7): Based on the selected value for 2016 and the trend factors in (5)

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Paid Development Method

8	Estimated Gross	Ë	(1) x (2)	o	9,016,868	48,638,934	63,403,607	54,999,174	40,684,592	56,349,207	48,742,724	33,783,710	70,405,078	86,854,932	85,114,401	58,632,210	55,344,544	61,331,135	54,947,353	34,288,545	47,574,544	51,194,329	44,090,026	37,418,395	. 36,594,608	28,180,986	23,454,587	36,146,356	26,265,584	45,802,135	21,151,880	a	1,260,410,446
(3)	Paid	Development	Factor	1.223	1,236	1.251	1.268	1.287	1,307	1.329	1.355	1,383	1,415	1.450	1.491	1,537	1.589	1.650	1.721	1.803	1.902	2.020	2.176	2.376	2.709	3.142	3.881	5,196	8,423	15,119	60,810	453,463	
Ê	Gross Paid	as of	06/30/16	0	7,292,528	38,871,019	50,020,312	42,748,665	31,124,519	42,387,669	35,982,169	24,426,382	49,759,975	59,888,962	57,090,288	38,144,927	34,822,087	37,176,083	31,933,395	19,014,552	25,006,863	25,338,559	20,262,112	15,747,328	13,509,335	8,968,402	6,043,934	6,956,261	3,118,282	3,029,351	347,833	0	729,011,792
		Fiscal	Year	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total

Notes:
(1): Based on the Claim Data provided by iDEM (2): From Appendix A

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Release Count Development Method

6)	Selected Ultimate Releases (1) + (8)	9	34	145	209	184	135	160	174	123	154	172	209	124	115	114	97	89	102	128	119	114	5	8	72	22	5	09	20	56	3,247	172	14	- r.	i k	5.0%
(8)	Selected Additional Releases	0	-	က	ις	ιΩ	4	ß	ဖ	ທ	7	ထ	7	7	1-	60	7	ω	5	7	=	<u>(5</u>	4	14	12	Ø	5	5	15	8	259	Average	1 afect 10	Tatest 5	Salarfad for 2017	Jency Trend
6	Selected Ratio	00000	0.143	0,120	0.086	0.091	0.129	0.116	0.158	0.185	0,438	0.296	0.244	0.250	1.000	0.889	1.000	1.000	0.769	1,000	1,000	1.000	0.700	0.875	0.571	0.450	0.556	0.591	0.400	0.500					Selec	Expected Annual Frequency Trend
(9)	Ratio (4) / (5)	0.000	0.143	0.120	0.086	0.091	0.129	0.116	0.158	0.185	0,438	0.296	0.244	0.250	1.000	0.889	1.143	1,000	0.769	2,000	1,273	1.154	0.700	0.875	0.571	0.450	0.556	0,591	0.378	0.642						Expect
(9)	Active Refeases Not Evaluated	9	7	22	28	55	છ	4	88	27	16	27	45	28	۲-	თ	1-	œ	Ð	7	7	Ω	20	5	21	20	18	22	37	29	702					
(4)	Additional Releases (3) - (1)	0	τ-	ო	S	ß	4	Ŋ	9	ιΩ	~	∞	+	7	~	∞	ట	60	5	14	14	15	4	14	12	ത	10	13	14	43	280					אַבַּרוֹ אַל
<u>ම</u>	Estimated Ultimate Releases (1) x (2)	9	8	145	209	184	135	160	174	123	154 42	172	209	124	115	114	86	83	102	135	122	116	101	94	72	52	51	90	49	95	3,268					n Data nowided
(2)	Release Development Factor	1.015	1.017	1.019	1.022	1,025	1.028	1,031	1.035	1.040	1.045	1.050	1,055	1.062	1.069	1.077	1.085	1.095	1.106	1,117	1.130	1.145	1.161	1.178	1.198	1.220	1.244	1.272	1.399	2.962						lotes: (1): Rased on the Claim Data provided by IDEM
(2)	Reported Releases as of 1	9	83	142	204	179	131	155	168	118	147	164	198	117	108	106	06	85	95	121	108	104	87	80	99	43	14	47	35	23	2,988					Notes:
	Fiscal Year	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total					

Notes:
(1): Based on the Claim Data provided by IDEM
(2): From Appendix A
(5): Based on information provided by IDEM
(7): Selected based on (6) and actuarial judgment

Indiana Department of Environmental Management ("IDEM") Excess Liability Trust Fund ("ELTF") Estimated Ultimate Amounts for Future Reported Releases

(9)	(8) (8)	/2/ . //	0.518	0.517	0.580	0.481	0.562		0.620	0.674	0.733	0.797	0.867	0.944	1.026	1.116	1,214	1.321
(5)	Inspection		49,237,490	46,242,130	51,203,441	51,025,492	50,281,583		49,778,767	49,280,979	48,788,170	48,300,288	47,817,285	47,339,112	46,865,721	46,397,064	45,933,093	45,473,762
(4)	Estimated Net		25,491,421	23,903,909	29,685,398	24,565,921	28,245,379		30,838,740	33,211,851	35,766,993	38,518,102	41,480,178	44,669,364	48,103,043	51,799,921	55,780,138	60,065,370
(§)	Estimated Gross		28,323,801	26,559,898	32,983,775	27,295,468	31,383,755		31,663,740	34,078,101	36,676,556	39,473,143	42,482,970	45,722,297	49,208,622	52,960,779	56,999,039	61,345,215
(2)	Estimated Gross Ultimate per		544,688	520,782	549,730	545,909	560,424		575,704	290,097	604,849	619,971	635,470	651,357	667,641	684,332	701,440	718,976
(5)	Estimated Ultimate Releases		52	57	09	20	56		55	28	9	94	29	70	74	77	8	85
	Fiscal	Historical:	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Projected:	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026

Notes:

(1): Exhibit 4

(2): Historical = (3)/(1); Projected is based on the selection for 2016 in Exhibit 2 and the annual severity trend selection in Exhibit 2

(2): Historical is from Exhibit 1; Projected is (1) x (2)

(3): Historical is from Exhibit 1; Projected is (3) less [(1) x \$15,000 deductible per release)

(4): Historical is from Information provided by IDEM; Projected assumes -1.0% annual change.

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Indiana Department of Environmental Management



Excess Liability Trust Fund Program

November 28, 2016



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John E. Wade, ACAS, MAAA Senior Consulting Actuary jwade@pinnacleactuaries.com

November 28, 2016

Donald M. Snemis
Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room #1307
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Snemis:

Pinnacle Actuarial Resources, Inc. (Pinnacle) is happy to present its report on the claims processing study of the Indiana Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF). The report has been prepared for the State of Indiana, Department of Environmental Management (IDEM or Department).

This report reflects Pinnacle's review of the claims processing system. Recommendations contained herein are reflective of this review. Other improvements may be made to the management of the ELTF outside the scope of this review of the claims processing system. Additional study in these areas can be developed if desired by IDEM. This report does not provide an estimate of the ultimate liability of the ELTF. It is Pinnacle's understanding that IDEM has contracted the services of another independent actuarial firm to conduct such an analysis.

This report is provided to IDEM by Patrick J. Rounds, Thomas J. Norris, and John E. Wade, ACAS, MAAA. Mr. Wade meets the basic education standards of the Casualty Actuarial Society and the American Academy of Actuaries and continuing education standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to make statements of actuarial opinion.

Donald M. Snemis
Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
November 28, 2016

Pinnacle has enjoyed working with IDEM on this engagement. Please direct any questions about this report to any of the respective contacts by using the information shared below.

Thank you for allowing Pinnacle Actuarial Resources to work with IDEM on this engagement.

Best Regards,

Patrick J. Rounds

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Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Excess Liability Trust Fund Program

Executive Summary

Pinnacle Actuarial Resources, Inc. (Pinnacle), entered into a contract with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (the State) to conduct a performance audit of the Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF) Program to assess whether the program's processes and procedures are meeting the goals and objectives of the program. Pinnacle was directed to examine ELTF policies, procedures and processes regarding the receipt, analysis and processing of ELTF claims to determine whether those policies and practices need to be modified to:

- 1. Detect and reduce errors by employees (improve accuracy),
- 2. Increase efficiency of processing claims (timeliness), and
- 3. Identify and prevent fraud by applicants.

Performance of these services included a preliminary kick-off meeting, staff interviews, and reviews of electronic files. IDEM forms and documentation requirements were reviewed and analyzed to determine:

- 1. If the forms should be revised,
- 2. If any documentation requirements are not being met, and
- 3. If further documentation is necessary to properly process claims.

Pinnacle evaluated how forms are utilized, prepared and submitted. Likewise, Pinnacle determined whether the form completion and submittal process is efficient, or if modifications, including technology enhancement and database integration can be implemented to streamline the process internally or externally. As part of the analysis, Pinnacle evaluated whether technological tools can be utilized to meet the goals and objectives of the program and to increase efficiency and accuracy of the claims process. Pinnacle evaluations considered existing program policies, procedures and processes and actual processing as indicated by staff and as noted in file reviews.

Findings

The ELTF claims review process is very detailed and time consuming with extensive resources expended to compare invoices to fixed tables that dictate maximum unit rates for various services based on the date the services were performed. Minimal oversight of the quantity of measured services or the services selected is performed. Emphasis is placed on documentation and unit costs associated with services rather than the value of, or need for, the service. The claim reviews confirm that invoice documentation meets written criteria but does not evaluate the cost effectiveness or necessity of the service.

Prior scope and budget approval would eliminate much of the claim review process. Electronic claim submittal requirements and Web-based data submittal could eliminate claim adjustments for incorrect rates by limiting the allowable rate that can be entered into the claim submittal database. The utilization of a Web-based claims application with the ability to include necessary documentation, as well as providing invoicing and documentation on a standardized basis, would reduce disallowed costs, increase the accuracy of applications and reduce improperly entered rates. Eliminating redundant reviews of forms submitted for subsequent claim submittals would increase review efficiency.

Background

Pinnacle Actuarial Resources, Inc., entered into a contract with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to conduct a performance audit of the Excess Liability Trust Fund Program to assess whether the program's processes and procedure are meeting the goals and objectives of the program. Pinnacle was directed to examine ELTF policies, procedures and processes regarding the receipt, analysis and processing of ELTF claims to determine whether those policies and practices need to be modified to:

- 1. Detect and reduce errors by employees (improve accuracy),
- 2. Increase efficiency of processing claims (timeliness), and
- 3. Identify and prevent fraud by applicants.

Performance of these services included a preliminary kick-off meeting at IDEM on April 14, 2016, involving Carol Comer, Commissioner, IDEM; Bruno Pigott, Chief of Staff, IDEM; Donald Snemis, Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel, IDEM; Julie Lange, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Tanks, Underground Storage Tank Branch, Office of Land Quality, IDEM; and Roberta Steiff, Technical Environmental Specialist, Underground Storage Tank Branch, Office of Land Quality, IDEM. IDEM staff

indicated that as part of this project they also wanted suggestions for cost savings associated with incident expenses and claims processing.

Pinnacle reviewed Indiana codified statutes, administrative rules, and IDEM internal policies, procedures and forms. Pinnacle interviewed IDEM, Underground Storage Tank (UST) and Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) staff on June 14, 15 and 16, 2016. IDEM and ELTF staff interviewed included Donald Snemis; Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel; Julie Lange Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Tanks, Brian Pace, Section Chief ELTF Section, Roberta Steiff, Technical Environmental Specialist Underground Storage Tank Branch; Stephen Onochie, Senior Environmental Manager LUST; Craig Schroer, Chief Underground Storage Tank Branch; Bill Davis, ELTF Technical; Rita Browne, Senior Environmental Manager ELTF; Lynn Truax, Environmental Manager ELTF; Tom Newcomb, Tech 7 UST; and Jason Goulet, Tech 7 UST Information Technology. Pinnacle also held a conference call with Julie Lang former Deputy Assistant Commissioner of tanks; Amy Smith Deputy Assistant Commissioner of tanks; Andrea Robertson, Brownfields Technical Staff Coordinator; and Meredith Gramalspacher, Brownfields Director & General Counsel, to discuss how the Brownfields LUST program operates. Pinnacle reviewed 50 electronic files and electronic data as of June 16, 2016 from 52,091 claim submittals received since 2012. Additional industry data were considered through July 18, 2016.

In response to Amendment #1which contained new Task G, Pinnacle met with and accepted comments from consultants and owners/operators concerning their suggestions on possible modifications to ELTF program policies, procedures and processes regarding the receipt, analysis and processing of ELTF claims, and how those policies and practices could be modified to improve accuracy and timeliness, and better detect and prevent fraud, waste and abuse.

IDEM forms and documentation requirements were reviewed and analyzed to determine:

- 1. If the forms should be revised,
- 2. If any documentation requirements are not being met, and
- 3. If further documentation is necessary to properly process claims.

Pinnacle evaluated how forms are utilized, prepared and submitted. Likewise, Pinnacle determined whether the form completion and submittal process is efficient, or if modifications, including technology enhancement and database integration can be implemented to streamline the process internally or externally. As part of the analysis Pinnacle evaluated whether technological tools can be utilized to meet the goals and objectives of the program or to increase efficiency and accuracy of the claims process. Pinnacle evaluations considered existing program policies, procedures and processes and actual processing as indicated by staff and as noted in file reviews.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF) Program oversees a financial assurance mechanism required under state and federal law for owners and operators of regulated petroleum underground storage tanks (UST), and is utilized by most owners and operators to pay for corrective action costs and third party liability associated with the release of petroleum from a UST. ELTF staff determines eligibility and reimburses corrective action costs and third party claims associated with confirmed releases from regulated USTs. The ELTF provides financial assurance mandated by U.S. EPA and Indiana, and provides funding for the cleanup of release from regulated USTs. ELTF staff review all information submitted for the release and for the facility where the release occurred to determine if the release is ELTF eligible. Corrective action includes determining the full nature and extent of contamination and cleanup when necessary in order to adequately eliminate or control unacceptable risks.

RECENT STATUTORY REVISIONS

The statutes governing the ELTF underwent significant revision during the 2016 legislative session. The revisions provided clarification of the statutory scheme and allowed broader access to the fund. Six new definitions were created including "Eligible party" and "Eligible release", and the concept of "substantial compliance" has been deleted from the statute. The deductible has been reduced to a flat \$15,000, maximum reimbursement per eligible release was increased from \$2 million to \$2.5 million and the maximum payout to any eligible party per fiscal year was raised to \$10 million. The revisions also allow for an independent actuarial study every five years. IDEM staff indicates that the ELTF Program funding cannot be diverted for other uses and the revenue stream can be adjusted.

Observations

• The claim submittal review process is complicated and time consuming. Staff interviews and file reviews confirm that the claim submittal review process is extremely labor intensive and places significant time demands on the ELTF claims processing staff to approve line item labor rates, labor classifications for various tasks, drilling rates, mileage rates and other specific line item unit costs. The ability to adequately verify unit pricing based on the date of performance is limited by the requirement to have all claim submittals reviewed and a response issued within 60 days of receipt by ELTF. The review process requires claim reviewers to determine allowable unit rates prescribed in rule with different allowable rates depending on the date the costs were incurred.

- The claims staff performs detailed reviews that are very accurate. Errors in the reimbursement process were not discovered. Documentation requirements and approved rates were applied consistently in reviewed files.
- IDEM Technical approval, either by written notice or milestones in the ULCERS database, are required for Site Characterization Approval, Corrective Action Plan Approval, Corrective Action Plan Implementation Approval, and No Further Action. Once the necessary technical milestone is reached, ELTF claims personnel review the approval letters to determine whether the work conducted matches the work approved when those costs are submitted for reimbursement.
- Of 52,091 electronic claim submissions reviewed (dating back to 2012), 65.7 percent were
 original expense submissions, 7 percent were eligibility determinations only with no
 reimbursable expenses requested, and 27.4 percent were resubmission of previously denied
 reimbursement requests. A significant majority of denied expenses are subsequently approved.
- The review process may take hours to perform a single claim submittal review. Senior reviewers, who verify and check the initial claim submittal reviews, have limited ability to perform their audits or re-reviews based on the time required for the complex process associated with unit rate verification. Management spends considerable time and resources attempting to manage workflow of the ELTF claims review staff to comply with required processing deadlines. The ability of the ELTF technical staff to perform scientific and engineering technical oversight for the ELFT claims reviewers is diminished by the deadlines and staff workflow issues.
- Of 35 recognized UST funds in the United States, only six funds take longer to pay claims than Indiana and only two funds had more appeals in 2015. (Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials, Inc., (ASTSWMO) 2015 State Fund Survey)
- The ability to submit claims up to three times creates processing backlogs and slows the review process considerably. Eligible parties have the option of resubmittal (up to two times) of previously denied costs with clarifications. These resubmittals are subject to the same 60 day turnaround requirement. ELTF staff indicate that as many as 25 percent of the initial claim submittals are denied. Denials may be due to minor clerical errors or administrative information included in the initial eligibility application form or the subsequent application form, resulting in the entire claim being denied. Approximately 27 percent of all submittals are resubmittals of previously denied reimbursements. Each denial takes staff time to process and log, as well as providing the basis for the denial in writing to the applicant. This requires staff resources that could be used to review other claim submittal documentation requirements.

- Claim review staff must rely on UST regulatory staff to determine if all registration fees have been paid and if there are other administrative issues which would preclude or limit reimbursement.
- Approximately 20 percent of expenses recently submitted for reimbursement were disallowed according to ELTF staff. Denials are generally related to improper labor rate categorization, billing for non-reimbursable items or items not included in guidance and pricing schedules. Most of these disallowed expenses are eventually reimbursed following resubmittal. The resources expended by ELTF claims staff to review forms and rate tables to compare to invoiced amounts based on the date the services were conducted may exceed the ultimate savings recognized by the reductions in submitted invoices.
- The ability of the environmental consulting firm to have the eligibility for reimbursement assigned from the responsible party (RP) removes a critical fraud, waste and abuse detection transaction. The assignment allows the consulting firm to submit claims for costs directly to ELTF for reimbursement. This unique arrangement tends to remove the RP from the ELTF process eliminating any oversight of the services performed for the RP. With the assignment, the consulting firm could benefit from an increase in the scope of work or duration of a project leaving only the ELTF to approve the increased scope or to verify the activity was necessary. The elimination of the RP may create an economic incentive if the consultant is able to increase project scope and cost without having to justify the increase to an interested RP. The percentage of claims paid to consultants has increased over the years from 16% in 2012 to 80% in 2015 according to IDEM staff. Although assignments are allowed, the consultant does not have to accept responsibility for completing the corrective action. The average reimbursement (paid to date) for ELTF claims is approximately \$341,135 per incident (as reported in the ASTSWMO 2015 State Fund Survey). The average claim amount reported to ASTSWMO has increased from \$191,760 in 2010 to \$341,135 in 2015.
- There are 35 state UST funds that provide approved financial responsibility coverage for tank owners. For all other similar UST funds in the United States the average incident claim is approximately \$157,347. (ASTSWMO 2015 State Fund Survey). The ELTF has the third highest pay out of all similar programs in the United States at 217 percent of the national average. Reimbursements are 3.16 times greater than similar claims in Ohio, 2.82 times greater than similar claims in Kentucky, and 1.94 times greater than similar claims in Illinois (ASTSWMO 2015 State Fund Survey). No obvious environmental factors exist that would cause Indiana to have significantly greater corrective action costs than bordering states. For comparison purposes, the Bureau of Economic Analysis measures Regional Price Parities (RPPs) between the states.

RPPs measure the differences in the price level of goods and services across the states and are expressed as a percentage of the overall national price level for each year. The most recent data indicate that Indiana is 91.4 percent of the national average, yet ELTF claims greatly exceed the national average. Possible factors causing the excessive claim size include:

- o The industrial default contaminant level (IDCL) of 14 parts per billion (PPB) Benzene and residential default contaminant level (RDCL) of 8.4 PPB Benzene are extremely aggressive groundwater cleanup standards that are only slightly above federal drinking water standards or maximum contaminant level MCL's of 5 PPB Benzene. With such stringent goals, these standards almost always drive remediation as the corrective action response rather than determining whether there are potential receptors and the existence of complete pathways to those potential receptors. The conservative contaminant level goals greatly increase corrective action costs. The use of Environmental Restrictive Covenants (ERC's) seem to be primarily used after some type of remedial activities have taken place at a site and as a mechanism to rationalize classifying a site as No Further Action (NFA) when the IDCL's and RDCL's cannot be effectively reached.
- o Recent statutory change has increased the per incident limit to \$2.5 million. Indiana now has the highest per-incident limit of all state funds. Most other UST funds limit reimbursement to \$1 million per incident, which is consistent with federal financial responsibility requirements. Twenty five of the 35 state funds have \$1 million per incident limits. The higher limit eliminates pressure on the consulting firm to complete corrective action within the \$1 million limit. To date the ELTF has approved payments exceeding \$1 million for 177 incidents, approving nearly \$69 million more than would be allowed with a \$1 million per incident limit. The increased per incident limit will cause the average claim amount to increase in the future.
- Corrective action rules allow numerous laboratory analyses. Reliable characterization can be obtained with less expensive and fewer standardized analyses. Standard EPA methods such as 8260, 8020, 8010, and 8240/8270 are some of the most common analyses used throughout the nation.
- o Prior budget approval by ELTF is not required. Competitive bidding is not required, except when bidding to subcontractors in the corrective action implementation stage and the scope of services is not controlled by the ELTF. The only cost control tools are price lists and documentation requirements. Using competitive bids to select the primary consultant, or bidding of entire aspects of a project such as site assessment,

free product recovery, and/or implementation and operation & maintenance of corrective action activities would lead to more competitive pricing. This coupled with prior budget approval requirements would likely allow easier cost control for the program.

- Several time consuming documentation requirements add significant review burden without adding similar value to the reimbursement process. In some instances the potential cost savings are minor or the expenses are generally reimbursed on the second or third submittal. Many denied expenses are eventually reimbursed after appeal. Some of the required documentation does not affect the work product or improve the accuracy of the reimbursement process. Examples include:
 - Chain of custody review for lab samples.
 - o Consultant staff qualification documentation.
 - Claim application verification after the original application is approved.
 - Prioritization classification process.
 - o Reimbursable expense documentation for:
 - Hotel rooms
 - Meals
 - Miscellaneous minor expenses
- There does not appear to be an evaluation of reasonableness or cost effectiveness of selected corrective action plans or denial of costs because the work performed was unreasonable or for lack of cost effective performance as authorized pursuant to 328 IAC 1-3-5.
- Claim reserves are not established when eligibility is determined or as claims progress.
- Subrogation is not pursued against potentially responsible parties including contractors that
 may have performed improper installation, maintenance, or repairs of UST systems or against
 manufacturers of faulty UST components.
- Based upon the extremely high corrective action costs associated with each incident, the ELTF should focus on loss prevention and preventative measures to reduce total program costs. An example of a cost effective loss prevention strategy is annual tank inspections. Finding and stopping just one eligible incident per year would save the ELTF more than \$340,000. The ELTF is authorized to pay for expenses of the Department to inspect underground storage tanks.

Comments from the environmental consulting industry provided the following observations:

- Commenters indicated there appears to be a lack of trust of the environmental consulting industry by the ELTF staff as noted by staff looking for any reason to deny claims.
- Poor communication between ELTF and consulting industry results in denial of claims based upon ELTF implementation of changes in procedures or new interpretations impacting claims already submitted, causing resubmittals, delaying payments, and creating additional workload on consultants and ELTF staff.
- Since ELTF brought claim processing in house, more claims are denied for minor administrative issues rather than conducting a substantive review of the submittal.
- There are inconsistencies among the different ELTF reviewers.
- Complete denials are issued when partial denials of specific items appear more appropriate.
- New claim submission requirements preclude the ability to obtain payment of past expenses because newly required documentation did not exist and was not required when the expense was incurred.
- The bifurcation of technical reviews by the ELTF technical staff (now the LUST staff) and ELTF claims staff created significant delays of up to a year in the claims review process.
- ELTF Technical and ELTF Claims staff is not receptive to corrective action ideas that may reduce corrective action costs.
- Administrative denials take up to 90 days during which time no technical reviews are conducted.
- ELTF encourages claim denials by giving reviewers a productivity "credit" for denying claims.
- Commenters expressed concern over why both paper and CD submittals of claims are required and why resumes of staff must be included in every submittal.
- Commenters noted that reviewers deny claims for unspecified "site specific decisions" that cannot be corrected because the issues are not identified.

- Specific labor rates are denied without support as to why the reviewer determined that another labor rate would be more appropriate for the specified task.
- The existing per diem rate of \$26 per day is not adequate and has not been adjusted similar to mileage rates.
- It was noted that reviewers will deny overnight expenses even if those expenses are less than the cost of remobilization.
- Commenters expressed concern over the burden of submitting time sheets based upon the past practices of a few consultants that overbilled the ELT.
- Delayed payments from ELTF for costly capital expenditures, increases the burden and expense for consultants.

Suggestions from the environmental consultants include:

- A request for more consistent, proactive communication from the ELTF review staff prior to changes in policy or new interpretations.
- Contact the consultant to ask for missing or incomplete documents, or to correct documents with minor errors, rather than deny an entire claim and require a resubmittal.
- Implement a "triage," "administrative review" or "QA/QC" process to review a claim quickly to make sure it is complete and appropriate from an administrative/procedural perspective. This would expedite the overall claims process.
- Request direct communication with the project manager when a claim or portion of a claim is denied.
- Publish an organizational chart so consultants can understand ELTF's internal structure.
- More predictability, calibration and consistency relating to the claims review process.
- Inclusion of fees for preparing claim submittals to address the added expenses associated with new claim documentation and submittal requirements.
- Better and more formal communication between the ELTF and the consulting industry including

additional "consultant days".

- There was some support for a pre-budget approval process similar to that used in the Brownfields LUST program.
- Establish an FTP site to upload the data directly to IDEM to eliminate the submittal of CD and paper copies of claims.

Comments from LUST site owners provided the following observations:

- Concern over the time required to be reimbursed based upon the submission and resubmission requirements that sometimes cause delays of up to six years.
- Concern over nine month time frame to receive notice of a denial.
- Concern over complete denial of claims over administrative issues.
- Concern over detailed denials of small items such as padlocks or supplies rather than focusing on the big picture.
- Some owners indicated that claims in other states are processed quicker, and require less documentation.
- Concern that the overall time to reach closure and obtain a "No Further Action" (NFA) letter is too long.
- Other states pay consultants directly.
- Owners indicated that they felt getting concurrence on scopes of work from the LUST technical staff was problematic and led to delays in claims processing.
- Most owners support the ability to assign claims to consultants because small owners do not
 have the ability to finance the expenses while waiting for claims to be paid and many may not
 be able to properly manage and comply with the claims submittal process.
- Believe that six months delay in approving a scope of work is too long.

Suggestions from owners/operators include:

 Most commenters believe the claims process could be improved and claims could be processed more timely if there was better communication between the ELTF, the consultants and the site owners.

Analysis of Brownfield LUST Program

The Indiana Brownfields Program addresses corrective action at petroleum contaminated properties that qualify for treatment as a Brownfield. The corrective action activities are nearly identical to the activities that are reimbursable under the ELTF; however the average cost of corrective action at a Brownfield LUST site is less than half of the cost of corrective action at ELTF eligible sites and routinely includes tank removal costs that are not reimbursed under the ELTF program. We evaluated the Brownfields LUST program to determine differences between it and the ELTF program that may provide insight into the project cost differences between the programs.

Pinnacle held a conference call with Julie Lang former Deputy Assistant Commissioner of tanks, Amy Smith Deputy Assistant Commissioner of tanks, Andrea Robertson (Brownfields Technical Staff Coordinator) and Meredith Gramalspacher (Brownfields Director & General Counsel) to discuss how the Brownfields group handles their LUST claims as a comparison to the ELTF Program. The following observations were noted:

- The Brownfield LUST program has a list of pre-qualified consultants that are authorized to bid on the scope of work at Brownfield sites.
- Projects are bid based upon project manager generated scopes of work.
- Time and material reimbursements are generally not necessary.
- Project managers establish the scope of work, make regulatory decisions and manage change orders.
- The Brownfields program has limited funding and staff resources which may place an emphasis
 on efficient and cost effective solutions.
- The Brownfields Program utilizes the Indiana Department of Environmental Management IDEM Remediation Closure Guide (RCG) formerly the Risk Integrated System of Closure (RISC) guidance, which is designed to provide consistent application of risk-based closure policies by IDEM and provides flexibility to achieve a balance between environmental protection and

economic development. Applying RCG allows the opportunity for an Indiana Brownfields Program site to achieve closure or make a seamless transition to or from IDEM remediation programs.

- While both programs allow Environmental Restrictive Covenants to close sites based upon less conservative action levels, it appears that corrective action goals based upon ERCs are examined early in the process on Brownfields LUST cases, while the less conservative action levels are not considered until after corrective action has stalled or has become prohibitively expensive under the ELTF program.
- The Brownfields program is able to achieve closure with small amounts of residual free product remaining while all ELTF sites continue with corrective action until there is no free product remaining.
- The Brownfields technical staff generally does not rely on Science Services for technical assistance.
- The Brownfields program uses a consistent, integrated approach of project management with one technical staff and one financial staff handling all duties on one site until the completion of the corrective action activities.
- There are less statutory and rule constraints on the Brownfields invoice reimbursement process.
- Brownfield project managers are trained and educated scientists focused on completing projects rather than complying with reimbursement criteria.
- Brownfield project managers generally do not have to coordinate with responsible parties when approving corrective action plans or deciding to utilize restrictive covenants.

Based upon comparisons of the programs, it appears that the following are key factors in the efficiency, cost effectiveness and success of the Brownfields program:

- Implementation of competitive bidding of complete projects (not just small portions of projects) with prior approval of budgets and elimination of the time and material activities.
- Use of Environmental Restrictive Covenants when determining the scope of required corrective action.

- Dedicated project manager able to approve budgets and establish closure goals.
- Elimination of burdensome reimbursement documentation.

Forms Use and Review

The following forms were identified, reviewed and their use evaluated:

- Initial Incident Report Form 54487
- Excess Liability Trust Fund Eligibility Application, State Form 55459
- Excess Liability Trust Fund Application, Form # 47139
 - o Invoice Summary
 - o Submission Pay Request
 - o Affidavit Regarding Payment of Costs
- Cost Review Summary
- Claim Summary
- ELTF Claim Preparation QC Checklist
- ELTF Program Claim QC Checklist
- Site Characterization for Prioritization of Claims Form 51920
- Scope of Work Form 51955

UST Initial Incident Report, State Form 54487

The Initial Incident Report Form 54487 is the primary document that generates an incident file for the IDEM and forms the basis for IDEM to require further investigation into an incident. It contains the details of the release and administrative information about the responsible party, contact information and facility address. It contains specific information regarding the UST systems in use at the site, the UST system that is the source of the release, date of discovery and report date. It asks the applicant to provide information about knowledge of the release, the source of the release, and the cause of the release. The form asks for further information regarding affected areas, priority factors and additional site information. This form has historically been received by the LUST department to set up an incident file.

Although this form is not utilized by the ELTF claims processing area, our review indicates that this form provides useful information for the department; however, some of the information requested would be unknown at the time of reporting. It is acknowledged that this form may be partially completed by applicants initially and supplemented by IDEM staff so the Incident Priority Information can be logged by LUST staff. This form seems to be appropriate in its current form.

Excess Liability Trust Fund Eligibility Application, State Form 55459

This form is used for initial eligibility determination. It includes applicant information, site information, UST tank fee payment information, incident reporting information, initial site characterization (ISC) information and UST regulatory compliance information. This form is used consistently and provides the data necessary for an eligibility determination based on the applicant and the status of the tank system with respect to fees and regulatory compliance.

Excess Liability Trust Fund Application, Form # 47139 (Claims payment application)

This form must accompany all reimbursement requests. It includes applicant information, site information and detailed information on the reimbursement request. The applicant must confirm the most recent technical determination of the incident, sign the application, include an executed affidavit regarding payment of costs (form is included) and provide a detailed invoice summary for all costs in the request, including the name of the vendor, invoice number, invoice date, invoice amount, requested amount, proof of payment, use of a dropdown list for description of the line item, explanation of the task performed, number of units, unit description, unit cost, tax and markup, all divided by new submittals and resubmittals. It is utilized by the ELTF staff to determine eligibility for specific invoice items.

This form is required on all claims submissions. Sections 1 & 2 relate to the applicant and the site and are redundant with data submitted with Form 55459 and all previous claim payment applications. Entire submittals are denied if data is improperly entered on this form.

The application includes three forms required for submission: the Invoice Summary, Subsequent Pay Request and Affidavit Regarding Payment of Costs.

• The Invoice Summary is submitted with each application providing listing of invoices being submitted for reimbursement by vendor name, invoice number, invoice date and amount. It also includes a proof of payment column that is typically satisfied by providing an affidavit

signed by the applicant attesting to the costs being paid before submitting the claim. Invoices must be separated between subsequent claims and resubmittal claims.

- The **Subsequent Pay Request** separates into specific line items with required descriptions, tasks performed, units, type of unit, unit cost, mark up and taxes. Each page of the listing is tracked by invoice number, incident number, name of applicant and name of vendor. These requests are numbered sequentially.
- The Affidavit Regarding Payment of Costs must be executed with every Subsequent Pay Request indicating that all costs submitted were incurred, proof of payment will be maintained on file, and no credits, rebates, refunds or other payments have been made to the applicant. It also includes the applicant contact information.

The application includes six pages of instructions outlining specific items of information the ELTF Program needs and listing the requirements for claim submissions and associated backup documentation. The length and complexity of the instructions implies the preciseness required by the ELTF. This form appears difficult to accurately and fully complete, especially by an owner or operator that does not have significant experience in petroleum remediation. Much of the data required by this form would become obsolete if task-based, prior approval were required.

Internal ELTF Forms

- The Cost Review Summary is created by ELTF staff to track all line items submitted for payment, identifying the amount disallowed, total approved and reason for disallowed costs. This form tracks the site name, ELTF number, facility ID number, invoice line item number, resubmission number, vendor, invoice number, amount requested, amount disallowed and total approved. It is included in every claim approval or denial.
- The Claim Summary is created by ELTF staff to track eligibility data for each incident. The form tracks the incident number, ELTF number, claim number, facility ID number, date the claim was received, claim type, previous assigned ELTF staff, target date, tank fees paid (by percent), eligibility status, site name, site address, release reporting data including incident numbers, priority, responsible technical staff, milestones and date approved, and claim deductible amount. This data is necessary to process payments and should be available in the database at all times.

- The ELTF Claim Preparation QC Checklist is an internal form utilized by administrative staff for initial claim file set up and to track various dates on which functions of the claims review process are completed. All parties handling the claim submission are required to initial and date the form when their respective function in the process has been completed. Because of the necessity to allocate workload among claims reviewers in an equitable manner and to comply with the turnaround requirement for all claims submissions, this document does have value in the current claim processing scheme. However if a more task based, competitive bid process would be undertaken by the program, this form may be able to be consolidated with other forms.
- The ELTF Program Claim QC Checklist is an internal form that tracks administrative requirements for contacts and notices, including claim information, decision letter, cost review summaries, general layout, ULCERS information, signatures, and trigger dates associated with technical reviews. This seems to be a redundant form considering the ELTF Claims Checklist form above addresses many of the same factors. This form has more details to be checked and rechecked by the claims reviewer, peer reviewer (when that process was utilized, it had been suspended at the time of our interviews), and senior reviewer to ensure that all items have been checked and reviewers have approved with their signatures. Administrative issues could be tracked electronically to become more streamlined while still satisfying the documentation needs of the program.

Site Characterization for Prioritization of Claims, State Form 51920

This form is required to be submitted before a claim can be processed. Data for the prioritization comes from the Initial Site Characterization Report, Further Site Investigation Report or other technical corrective action or site assessment activities. Although a prioritization score is required for reimbursement, all categories are eligible for immediate payment.

Scope of Work, State Form 51955

This ELTF form is required to be included for all proposed corrective actions submitted after September 29, 2004. Item 1 of the instructions states:

This form <u>must</u> be included for all proposed corrective actions submitted after September 29, 2004, [328 IAC 1-3-3(a)(1)] and should be included with technical documents related to the below referenced phases. {emphasis in original}

Consistent use of this form would allow the ELTF to approve or disapprove activities at each incident site and to affect the scope of work before costs are incurred. There are no cost estimates required in this form. The addition of cost estimates associated with proposed scope of work would be beneficial. Prior approval of both scope and costs would eliminate the need for the detailed analysis and rate comparison required with Form 47139, the Invoice Summary, Subsequent Pay Request and the Affidavit Regarding Payment of Costs. This form is not consistently used and is not required by ELTF.

Recommendations

- Eligibility determinations should be completed for initial eligibility. Future eligibility should be reviewed only if a change in status has been submitted. This will reduce redundant eligibility reviews.
- Registration fees and administrative issues should be maintained in a database that can be accessed by claim administration staff to eliminate the delay caused by requesting reimbursement eligibility determination by UST regulatory staff.
- Database submittal of reimbursement requests should be required with a database that will limit specific line items at the time of input. This will eliminate comparisons to rate tables based on the date the service was performed and will eliminate multiple submissions of the same expenses for reimbursement.
- The utilization of a Web-based claims application with the ability to include necessary documentation and provide invoicing and documentation on a standardized basis would reduce disallowed costs, increase the accuracy of applications and reduce improperly entered rates.
- Documentation for smaller line item expenses can be eliminated through the use of per task fees and per diem rates that will not require copies of invoices.
- Reserves should be established and tracked for every eligible incident to assist in cash flow management.
- All corrective action services and reimbursement requests should be evaluated to determine whether the performance is reasonable and cost effective.
- Subrogation should be pursued against potentially responsible parties.
- Loss prevention activities designed to reduce releases should be a priority.
- Claim review deadlines create bottlenecks and unnecessary disallowed determinations for costs
 that are eventually reimbursed after receipt of appropriate documentation. Immediate,
 informal requests for additional documentation by ELTF reviewers to applicants (via phone or
 email) to support submitted costs before disallowing the costs could streamline the data review
 process and eliminate disallowed costs that require additional ELTF workload to review the
 resubmittal of the disallowed costs.
- Chain of custody for specific lab analysis should be documented by the laboratory and not be required to be rechecked by ELTF staff.
- Limit lab analysis to a limited number of standardized, cost effective methods created specifically for petroleum constituents.

- If prioritization is not required, do not perform prioritization evaluation.
- Require consistent use of Scope of Work, Form 51955, or a similar form, for all future activities.
- Require competitive bidding for all phases of corrective action, including site characterization, corrective action plans, corrective action implementation, free product recovery and long term monitoring.
- Require task-based prior approval of all expenses. This will eliminate reimbursement tasks associated with form and rate table compliance.
- Discontinue the ability of consultants to submit reimbursement requests on a time and material basis except in limited, pre-approved circumstances.
- Tie assignment of eligibility for reimbursement to acceptance of accountability as the responsible party.
- Limit eligibility to \$1 million per claim.
- Implement risk based corrective action standards that take into consideration potential receptors, and exposure pathways.
- Consider the use of Environmental Restrictive Covenants and other risk based solutions early in the project before designing and implementing active corrective action plans.
- Increase loss control efforts to reduce the overall frequency and severity of incidents eligible for reimbursement.
- Encourage the ELTF review staff, LUST staff and the consultant to work cooperatively to focus efforts on determining reasonable project scopes of work in advance of implementation.
- Encourage open communication between ELTF staff and consultants to address administrative or technical issues to reduce denials and subsequent resubmittal applications.
- Where possible, assign the same ELTF and LUST reviewers throughout the lifetime of the project.

Distribution & Use

This study has been conducted at the request of Indiana Department of Environment officials. The report has been prepared so that our assumptions and judgments are documented. Judgments about the conclusions drawn in this report should be made only after considering the report in its entirety. We remain available to answer any questions that may arise regarding this report. We assume that the user of this report will seek such explanation on any matter in question.

Reliances & Limitation

We have prepared this report in conformity with its intended use by persons technically competent in the areas addressed and for the stated purposes only. Judgments as to conclusions, methods, and data contained in this report should be made only after studying the report in its entirety. Furthermore, we are available to explain any matter presented herein.

Throughout our review we have, without audit or verification, relied on historical data and qualitative information provided by IDEM. We considered this data for consistency among data elements. We believe the data to be reasonable and accurate. The accuracy of our results is dependent upon the accuracy and completeness of this underlying data. Therefore, any material discrepancies discovered in this data by IDEM should be reported to us and this report amended accordingly, if warranted.

There is a limitation upon any estimates of financial impact from adopting any recommendations contained herein in that there is an inherent uncertainty in how effectively recommendations would be implemented. Also our projections are subject to a high degree of uncertainty because they require prediction of future operational, economic, legal, and judicial conditions which are not knowable in advance. In our judgment, we have employed techniques and assumptions that are appropriate, and the conclusions presented herein are reasonable, given the information currently available. However, it should be recognized that future financial results will likely deviate, perhaps materially, from our estimates.

Pinnacle's report is intended solely for the internal use of IDEM. We understand that IDEM may also wish to share a copy of this report with other state agencies and legislative bodies. This distribution is granted on the conditions that the entire report be distributed rather than excerpts and that all recipients are made aware that Pinnacle is available to answer any questions regarding the report. Third parties reading this report should recognize that the furnishing of this report is not a substitute for their own due diligence and should place no reliance on this report or the data contained herein that would result in the creation of any duty or liability by Pinnacle to the third party. Any further use or distribution is not authorized without prior written consent of Pinnacle.