# New Jersey Municipal Environmental

# Risk Management Fund

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**PERIODIC TESTING AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR**

**ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS (ASTS) WITH UNDERGROUND PIPING**

***Your municipality or authority has been identified through the Fund’s environmental engineer as having buried piping attached to your aboveground storage tank.***

Owning and operating an underground storage tank (UST) system can be an expensive and risky endeavor. Consequently, many of our Environmental Joint Insurance Fund (EJIF) members have installed above-ground storage tanks (ASTs) for their liquid fuels and chemicals. These ASTs often store gasoline for vehicles, diesel fuel for emergency generators and heating oil for boilers. Although the ASTs are inherently safer to own and operate than underground systems, EJIF members are experiencing substantial environmental damages and losses due to discharges from the underground piping associated with those ASTs.

Many ASTs have underground piping systems, but they do not have corrosion protection or leak detection monitoring to protect the entity in the event of a discharge or failure in the underground piping. As a result, underground leaks may go undetected for a long time, causing considerable damage to the environment and leaving the entity extremely vulnerable to expensive claims that may even exceed the EJIF level of protection.

In response to this growing concern for our members, the EJIF Commissioners and Fund professionals have adopted the attached policy that requires specific testing of underground piping. The inspections, testing, and record keeping outlined in the policy are designed to help members improve their level of protection. A list of certified vendors is included for your reference. There is also a reimbursement process for testing fees through your EJIF membership.

Please note that the compliance date for current EJIF members was **7/1/2013**. After 7/1/2013, new EJIF members AND current members that acquire the above described system must demonstrate compliance with the attached standards in order to secure coverage for that system.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss anything related to the new testing policy, please feel free to contact your Environmental Engineer:

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| **BERGEN, MORRIS, SOUTH BERGEN,**  **SUB ESSEX, NJUA** | **CAMDEN, MONMOUTH, OCEAN, PMM, SUB MUNICIPAL, CENTRAL, TRICO, BURLCO** |
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