

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 277 (HB 1035)

2022 Regular Session

Coussan

Existing law provides for the regulation of underground storage tanks for fuel by the Dept. of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and establishes the Motor Fuels Underground Storage Tank Trust Dedicated Fund Account (the "Tank Trust Fund"). Existing law enumerates authorized uses of money in the Tank Trust Fund.

Under existing law, LDEQ is authorized to make loans from the Tank Trust Fund for underground storage tank upgrades and improvements, but only interest earned on the account and deposits into the fund from certain cost recovery efforts of the department may be used for this purpose.

New law expands the nature of the monies available to be used for loans for upgrades and improvements to all cost recovery efforts.

New law adds an additional authorized use of the same deposits and interest for LDEQ to reimburse eligible tank owners for upgrades to single wall underground storage tanks through grants.

New law specifies that these grants cannot exceed \$150,000 and the total amount of grants per year cannot exceed \$3,000,000. New law requires that LDEQ promulgate rules to implement these tank upgrade grants, including rules regarding the application, procedural, and approval processes which must be followed for tank owners to claim reimbursement for upgrades.

Existing law requires LDEQ to submit a report to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality each year regarding disbursements from the Tank Trust Account.

New law requires LDEQ to include information regarding all grants made from the Tank Trust Fund in the annual report.

Existing law establishes a Motor Fuels Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Advisory Board that provides the secretary with advice regarding Tank Trust Account loans.

New law allows the board to advise the secretary regarding the issuance of grants from the Tank Trust Account.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 30:2195(C), (E), and (F)(1), 2195.8(A)(1), and 2195.12(Section heading); Adds R.S. 30:2195.2(A)(6); Repeals R.S. 30:2195.12(E))