LRB-0629/1 RCT:nwn&jld:md

2009 SENATE BILL 446

January 7, 2010 - Introduced by LAW REVISION COMMITTEE. Referred to Committee on Commerce, Utilities, Energy, and Rail.

AN ACT to repeal 101.143 (11) of the statutes; relating to: eliminating a requirement for reporting on the petroleum storage remedial action program (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Commerce).

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Natural Resources administer a program (commonly known as PECFA) to reimburse owners of petroleum storage tanks for a portion of the costs of cleaning up discharges from the tanks. Current law requires the departments to report on PECFA twice per year. Among other things, the reports must include information about each cleanup for which reimbursement is being provided. This bill eliminates the requirement for the semiannual reports on PECFA.

For further information, see the Notes provided by the Law Revision Committee of the Joint Legislative Council.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Law Revision Committee Prefatory Note: This bill is a remedial legislation proposal, requested by the Department of Commerce and introduced by the Law Revision Committee under s. 13.83 (1) (c) 4. and 5. After careful consideration of the various provisions of the bill, the Law Revision Committee has determined that this bill makes minor substantive changes in the statutes, and that these changes are desirable as a matter of public policy.

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Section 1. 101.143 (11) of the statutes is repealed.

Note: According to the Department of Commerce, the requirement for hard-copy reports has become inefficient and ineffective because the reports are typically too voluminous to be useful to recipients. The Department of Commerce and the Department of Natural Resources have instead jointly developed a comprehensive web-based database, which is used extensively for tracking the remediation activities that are the subject of the report. The Department of Commerce reports that any interested person with Internet access can easily search the database for any desired site-specific information (the Internet site contains a guide for performing these searches). Further, either agency can readily supply whatever stored information is requested by any interested person.

2 (END)