

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**  
**Environmental Protection Performance**  
**Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites**  
Secondary containment around oil and condensate tanks  
(§ 78a.64)

*The purpose of this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is to highlight changes in and address questions about the new regulations. This FAQ should not be used in lieu of reference to the 2012 Oil and Gas Act, 25 Pa.Code Chapter 78a and other applicable laws and regulations. The answers outlined in this FAQ are intended to supplement existing requirements. Nothing in this document shall affect statutory or regulatory requirements.*

*This document is not an adjudication or a regulation. There is no intent on the part of the Department to give this document that weight or deference. The Department may supplement or amend this document at any time as necessary without notice.*

- 1) What is the definition of “harmful discharge” as used in section 78a.64(d)(1)?

Drainage of secondary containment is acceptable if the accumulation of liquids in secondary containment consists of “only precipitation directly to the secondary containment and drainage will not cause a harmful discharge or result in a sheen.” Examples of a harmful discharge could be situations where the result of the discharge is an issue such as erosion, staining, stressed or dead vegetation, excessive pooling, safety issues, and interference with existing land uses. (posted 09/26/16)