



State of Utah

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## **Making Environmental Spill Information More Accessible to the Public**

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) Division of Environmental Response and Remediation (DERR) has launched a new web-based database that allows the public to access information about environmental incidents in their communities.

The public portion of the Environmental Incidents Database, <http://eqspillsp.deq.utah.gov/>, is designed to share incident information with the general public through a search on the web page. DEQ tracks environmental incidents through a 24 hour call-in number (801-536-4123) and distributes an initial notification report to the appropriate agency for review and incident response. Information contained in the database includes the details of the incident, the agency providing oversight, the material spilled and what has been impacted, as well as response actions and closure details.

“Access to this information helps local health departments and other agencies to better respond to environmental incidents in their jurisdictions,” said Brent Everett, director of DERR. “Now the general public will also have the ability to track cleanup progress and pinpoint more recent incident locations and information.”

In addition to providing online access as incidents are reported, the database also allows local health departments to update site cleanup progress and incident closure where they provided the primary oversight. The database was developed by DEQ to increase efficiency as information is collected and shared with appropriate agencies. For more information on reporting routine and more significant environmental incidents, visit <http://www.superfund.utah.gov/spills.htm>.

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