EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A release was reported to the Utah Department of Environmental Quality based on analytical results from a closure sample collected from the west end of the excavation for a 250-gallon steel tank that was removed near Building 460 at Hill Air Force Base. The site was assigned case number AGAS under the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program. Two USTs were located at the site: a 6,000 gallon heating oil tank containing # 6 fuel oil and the 250-gallon tank containing diesel fuel for use in an emergency generator. Both tanks showed no evidence of having leaked at the time of removal. This was further evidenced by the fact that the tanks were full just prior to removal. The release is suspected to have occurred due to surface spills and overfills of the diesel tank. Chemical analysis of two soil samples using California Modified Method 8015 resulted in TPH levels ranging from non-detection to 999 mg/kg. Samples were collected at a depth of two feet below the native soil/tank backfill interface. Tank backfill materials were placed back into the excavation. Ground water was not encountered during excavation and is estimated to be 80 to 100 feet below ground surface.

Four borings were drilled into the area of the former tanks and soil samples were collected below the native soil/backfill interface and at the total depths of the borings, which penetrated 30 ft below ground surface. Continuous sampling in the borings provided for complete observation and field monitoring of subsurface soils. Field measurements, using a photoionization detector, detected minor concentrations (less than 10 ppm) of organic vapors in soils. Field observations found no indications of petroleum product in soils. All nine soil samples were analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) and BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes) and non-detectable values were reported.

In summary, contamination from spills and overfills of diesel may have resulted in the high TPH value found in soils at the west end of the excavation. Verification samples from this investigation could not confirm the previous high value. Therefore, the contamination may have been from a small area of contaminated soils that is very limited in extent and that has not migrated into surrounding soils. No impacts of the release on human health, ground water, or surface water resources are projected. No further action is recommended based on the findings in this study.