

Name: _____
Street _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone (optional): _____

Date: _____

RE: Shell Oil vs. The Environment

Dear Elected Official or Governing Authority:

I am writing you to inform you of the clandestine sell off of every Shell service station in the United States. This is a direct result of Shell Oil not wanting to pay high fines for its failing underground storage tank systems ("UST"). Shell has already paid \$10.5 million to San Diego County and \$6.5 million to Riverside County for failing sensors that Shell Oil knew about, but refused to fix or inform the proper authorities. Instead of fixing the same problems in the remaining counties of America, Shell has elected to sell all its service stations in mass. This abandons all franchise operations in the United States and makes every Shell station an "open dealer." This has the absolute effect of shifting all retail environmental liabilities to individual retailers who are not prepared financially to fix and replace an aging, failing expensive gasoline containment system. Retailers are like sub prime borrowers, they are not prepared or capable of the "environmental balloon payment" at the end of the effective life of their UST systems.

All environmental laws to date were predicated on the makers of oil products owning the dirt and equipment. Now that Shell has sold most all of its service stations, who is left holding the bag for the predictable environmental impacts? The second law of thermodynamics tell us all UST equipment will have to be replaced at some point in the future. With major oil companies no longer owning the land, the dispensers or containment equipment, who is going to pick up the tab? This looks to be an environmental crises in the retail service station business like sub prime mortgages effected the financial markets - and no one is paying attention. The only website on the internet to bring this matter public is **SeeitReal.com**. I respectfully ask that your office visit that site for a clearer understanding of the problems faced in Shell Oil's sell off of its franchise operations in America.

More importantly, Shell's mass sell off has been engineered to hide known environmental problems at some number of the 13,000 former Texaco stations Shell purchased. The Riverside District Attorney is investigating along with Riverside County, but they should not be the only ones responsible for what should be a legislative solution to the problem. "Voluntary Compliance" is a failed strategy with Shell. You can see the problem at <http://seeitreal.com/Compliance.aspx>. It is in our mutual interest that we work together to protect the public trust and save the environment. My vote goes with your attention to this matter. Please look into it accordingly.

Regards,

Your Concerned Constituent