

New Federal UST Regulations Overview

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) authorized changes to the 1988 federal underground storage tank (UST) regulations, effective October 13, 2015.

This brochure provides an overview of the following major provisions of the regulations:

- Regulation of previously deferred UST systems
- Monthly walkthrough inspections
- UST system fuel compatibility
- Annual testing requirements for release detection equipment
- 3-year testing requirements for overfill devices, spill buckets, and containment sumps
- Phase-out ball floats
- Ground water/vapor monitoring methods require site assessment
- UST internal lining inspection update
- UST system repair changes
- Suspected release reporting requirements

How Do I Comply ?

You can purchase the guidance documents cited in the federal regulations (listed below) and determine if you are qualified to perform the actions specified. Alternatively, you can comply with EPA's new regulations by hiring a service provider to perform the testing and walkthrough inspections.

- UST Inspection and Maintenance of UST Systems (PEI RP 900)
- Testing and Verification of Spill, Overfill, Leak Detection, and Secondary Containment Equipment at UST Facilities (PEI RP 1200)

Additionally, DEQ is always available to answer any questions. See back of brochure for contact information.

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Web Resources

Information on the new federal UST regulations can be accessed on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/waste-mgmt-remediation/storage-tanks.

For the full text of the regulations, visit www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/revregs.html. The regulations contain provisions not discussed in this brochure. For a summary document, visit www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/regs2015-musts.pdf.



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New Federal Underground Petroleum Storage Tank Regulations

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Previously Deferred UST Requirements

- **Emergency power generators** are now required to have release detection. *For existing systems, requirement is due October 13, 2018. Applies immediately to new UST installations.*
- **UST systems with field-constructed tanks and airport hydrant fuel distribution systems** are now regulated. *Requirement is due October 13, 2018. Applies immediately for notification, financial responsibility, release reporting, and closure.*

UST System Walkthrough Inspections

Owners/operators must conduct monthly walkthrough inspections to prevent and quickly detect releases. *Requirement is due October 13, 2018.*

Equipment requiring inspection includes the following:

- ✓ Spill buckets and fill pipes
Frequency: Every 30 days
- ✓ Release detection equipment and records
Frequency: Every 30 days
- ✓ Containment sumps
Frequency: Annually

UST System Fuel Compatibility

Owners/operators must notify DEQ at least 30 days prior to switching to a substance containing greater than 10% ethanol gasoline or greater than 20% biodiesel. UST system compatibility must be demonstrated for the new substance. *Requirement is effective immediately.*

Statistical Inventory Reconciliation (SIR)

SIR must be able to detect a release **within 30 days**. *Requirement is effective immediately.*

Annual Testing Requirements

Primary **release detection equipment** must pass an annual functionality test. *Requirement is due October 13, 2018.*

Equipment requiring testing includes the following:

- ✓ Automatic tank gauges
- ✓ Line leak detectors
- ✓ Interstitial monitoring sensors
- ✓ Sump sensors

3-Year Testing and Inspection Requirements

Owners/operators of regulated UST systems must test spill buckets, overflow prevention equipment, and containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring every 3 years. *Requirement is due October 13, 2018.*

Spill buckets must pass a tightness test every 3 years or use a double-walled spill bucket with monthly interstitial monitoring in lieu of performing a tightness test.

Overflow device must be inspected every 3 years and activate at appropriate fuel level in the tank.

- ✓ Flapper—95%
- ✓ Audio/visual alarm via float sensor—90%
- ✓ Ball floats—90%

Containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring of piping must pass a tightness test every 3 years or use a double-walled containment sump with interstitial monitoring in lieu of performing a tightness test.

Ball Floats Phased-Out

Ball floats used for overflow prevention are prohibited for new installations. Ball floats that fail an overflow inspection cannot be replaced for any reason. *Requirement is effective immediately.*

Vapor and Ground Water Monitoring Methods

Vapor and ground water monitoring as a release detection method requires a site assessment. *Requirement is due October 13, 2018.*

UST Internal Lining Inspection

Owners/operators must permanently close tanks using internal lining as the sole method of corrosion protection if the internal lining fails the periodic inspection and cannot be repaired in accordance with a code of practice developed by a nationally recognized association. *Requirement is effective immediately.*

UST System Repairs

- The entire piping run must be replaced when 50% or more of a single piping run is replaced. *Requirement is effective April 11, 2016.*
- Owners/operators must test repaired spill, overflow, and secondary containment areas within 30 days of the repair. *Requirement is effective immediately.*

Suspected Release Reporting Requirements

- Alarms, including interstitial monitoring alarms, will require suspected release reporting to DEQ unless the monitoring device is found to be defective and is immediately repaired, recalibrated, or replaced and additional monitoring does not confirm the initial result.
- Interstitial integrity testing will be allowed for investigating suspected releases. *These requirements are effective immediately.*