
State Water Resources Control Board

Updated April 30, 2019

To: Unified Program Agencies

INSPECTION OF ABANDONED UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

During the Abandoned Underground Storage Tank (AbUST) Initiative, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) observed that AbUSTs were not consistently being inspected, included in Report 6, or reported through the California Electronic Reporting System (CERS) by the Unified Program Agencies (UPAs). This correspondence and attached *Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Compliance Checklist* have been updated to address the new Report 6 technical compliance rate (TCR), to clarify regulatory requirements for conducting inspections of AbUST facilities, and when AbUST information is required to be included in Report 6 and CERS.

California Health and Safety Code, division 20, chapter 6.7, section 25288 requires all USTs be inspected annually, including AbUSTs. USTs are considered abandoned when the UST is out of service and the operating permit requirements are not being implemented, but the UST has not been properly closed, removed, or decommissioned before January 1, 1984. Understanding that many AbUSTs have limited or no site access, the State Water Board has developed minimum criteria for documenting and reporting compliance of AbUSTs. The minimum inspection and reporting criteria for AbUSTs with limited or no site access is included in the attached *Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Compliance Checklist*. UPAs with full site access to AbUSTs will perform a standard UST inspection in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code and the UPA Inspection and Enforcement Plan.

The number of UST compliance inspections conducted, TCR determinations, and number of active USTs shall include AbUSTs. UPAs are required to include AbUST inspections data in the Report 6. Further, UPAs are required to ensure that AbUSTs installed after January 1, 1984 or those that were previously regulated, as described in the CERS [Frequently Asked Questions](#), are included in CERS with the UST element set to "Applicable".

The State Water Board has observed consistent progress by the UPAs in conducting annual compliance inspections, reporting through the Report 6 and adding appropriate AbUSTs to

CERS. For additional clarification, please contact Mr. Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or tom.henderson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Laura S. Fisher, Chief
UST Leak Prevention Unit &
Office of Tank Tester Licensing

Attachment: *Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Compliance Checklist*

cc: [Via email only]

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Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Compliance Checklist

Facility Name:	Date of Inspection: Time In: Time Out:
Address:	Inspected by: ICC No.
Contact:	Type of Inspection: <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Re-Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Complaint
Phone:	Permission for Inspection Granted by:

CERS Violation Number	Name	Description	Citations	Violation	Comments
2030021	Failure to Obtain Operating Permit	Failure to obtain a valid permit to operate from the CUPA.	23 CCR 16 2711(d); HSC 6.7 25284	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2030038	Permanent Closure	UST system was abandoned or not properly closed, or failure to comply with all permanent closure requirements.	23 CCR 16 2670, 2672; HSC 6.7 25298	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2030035	Unsafe UST Operation	Failure to operate the UST system to prevent unauthorized releases including leaks, spills, and/or overfills.	HSC 6.7 25292.1(a)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2030039	Permit Conditions	Failure to comply with any of the applicable requirements of the permit issued for the operation of the UST system.	23 CCR 16 2712	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2060020	Spill Container USEPATCR 9a	Failure to have a properly qualified service technician test spill container as required every 12 months.	23 CCR 16 2635(b), 2637.1(b), 2637.1(a), 2637.1(c), HSC 6.7 25284.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2030036	Overfill Prevention USEPATCR 9b	Failure to have a properly qualified service technician inspect overfill prevention as required every 36 months.	23 CCR 16 2635(d), 2637.2(a), 2637.2(b), 2637.2(c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2030043	Monitoring Equipment USEPATCR 9d	Failure of the leak detection equipment to be installed, calibrated, operated, and/or maintained properly.	23 CCR 16 2638(a), 2641(j)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Compliance Checklist

	Tank Condition	Yes	No	Unknown
	Residual amounts of hazardous substances have been properly removed and disposed. HSC 25298(c)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Tank systems have been properly sealed. HSC 25298(c)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Report 6 Information	No	Yes
	Facility in compliance with Spill Prevention (USEPATCR 9a)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with Overfill Prevention (USEPATCR 9b)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with Corrosion Protection (USEPATCR 9c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with Release Detection (USEPATCR 9d)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with USEPATCR 9a, 9b, 9c and 9d (USEPATCR 9e)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with Designated Operator Training (USEPATCR 10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with Financial Responsibility (USEPATCR 11)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facility in compliance with Designated Operator Inspection Requirements (USEPATCR 12)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Red Tag Information	No	Yes
	A Red Tag was issued to this facility based on the results of this inspection. Red Tag #	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reason for Red Tag (Select a minimum of one violation):		
	1. Violation threatening/causing liquid release. <i>CCR 2717(a)(1)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Violation impairing ability of UST system to detect a leak. <i>CCR 2717(a)(2)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Chronic violation or committed by recalcitrant violator. <i>CCR 2717(a)(3)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>