

UST Program Update May 2025

Single-Walled UST Survey

On March 7, 2025, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) requested the Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) provide the most current information on all single-walled underground storage tanks (USTs) within their jurisdiction that are subject to Health and Safety Code, chapter 6.7 section 25292.05. The State Water Board will use the survey data to assist UPAs with planning and resource allocation, including providing red tag supplies for UPAs later this year in preparation for the single-walled UST closure deadline. An overview of the survey results is shown below:

- 420 facilities with 1,172 single-walled tanks
 - 51 of these facilities are government owned
- 57 facilities with 140 double-walled tanks with single-walled pipe only
 - 13 of these facilities are government owned
- 28 facilities with 39 single-walled emergency tank systems
 - 8 facilities are government owned
- 51 facilities are within 1,000 ft of a public drinking water well
- 318 (67%) facilities have not submitted a UST closure permit application
- 73 facilities have a Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading UST (RUST) application under review

All UPA data provided from the survey is located on the State Water Board <u>Single-Walled UST webpage</u>¹ in the <u>"List of Single-Walled Facilities from Unified Program Agencies- April 2025"</u> spreadsheet.

For additional information regarding the list of single-walled UST facilities, contact: Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or <u>Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov</u>.

¹ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/single_walled.html

Notice of Modified Proposed Underground Storage Tank Reporting Regulations and Opportunity to Provide Comment

On May 2, 2025, the State Water Board notified UST stakeholders of the modified proposed amendments to the UST Regulations via an email through the <u>UST GovDelivery subscription list</u>². Based on feedback received during the 45-day public comment period, the modified proposed amendments address changes made to exempt facilities, secondary containment requirements, compliance requirements, and alternative monitoring requirements.

The 15-day public comment period for the proposed modifications to the UST Regulations is currently open and will close on **May 19, 2025 at 12:00pm**. Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the proposed UST Regulations to Ms. Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board, by email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, by fax at (916) 341-5620, or by mail or hand delivery addressed to:

Ms. Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (by mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (by hand delivery)

The proposed rulemaking package and information on how to submit comments are available on the Proposed Chapter 16 Rewrite Regulations webpage³.

For additional information regarding the modified proposed UST Regulations, contact Austin Lemire-Baeten at (916) 325-5612 or Austin.Lemire-Baeten@waterboards.ca.gov, or Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Red Tag Data

The results from the July – December 2024 Report 6 are now available on the <u>UST</u> <u>Leak Prevention</u>⁴ webpage. Additionally, the red tag application data from this report has been updated on the <u>UST Red Tag Requirements and Guidance</u>⁵ webpage.

For additional information regarding Report 6 or the red tag application data, contact: Magnolia Busse at (916) 341-5870 or Magnolia.busse@waterboards.ca.gov.

² https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=ust

³ https://waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/leak_prevention/chapter16/rewrite.html

⁴ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/leak_prevention/

⁵ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/enforcement/red_tag_regs_index.html

Office of Tank Tester Licensing Webpage Update

The Office of Tank Tester Licensing (OTTL) has updated <u>Local Guidance (LG) 105</u>6 on the <u>OTTL website</u>⁷ to reflect the current list of State Water Board licensed tank testers. In addition to LG-105, the OTTL website includes links to OTTL Regulations, OTTL testing notification forms, and LG-113. The OTTL website also provides licensing information for applicants and study materials for the exam.

For additional information regarding the OTTL website updates, contact: Kaitlin Cottrell at (916) 319-0742 or Kaitlin.Cottrell@waterboards.ca.gov.

27th Annual CUPA Conference – UST Prevention Presentations

Penalty Assessment Panel

Jenna Hartman presented in a penalty assessment panel discussion with the Department of Toxic Substances, Office of the State Fire Marshal, and Orange County CUPA. The panel covered similarities and differences in the enforcement process between the state and UPA agencies, shared tips for assessing penalties, and responded to questions about navigating the formal enforcement process.

UST Regulations Stakeholder Impacts

Greg Breshears and Austin Lemire-Baeten spoke on how the proposed changes to the UST Regulations will affect different UST personnel, including owners, operators, service technicians, installers, and UPAs. Additional resources related to the UST Regulations Rewrite are available on the Proposed Chapter 16 Rewrite Regulations website.

Preparing for 2026- The UST Leak Prevention Program Update

Tom Henderson presented the State Water Board's annual update on the UST Program, covering program statistics, expectations for permanent closure of single-walled tanks, the UST Regulations rewrite, and UPA UST evaluation updates.

TCR & Report 6: How to Thrive & Survive your UST Evaluation

Magnolia Busse, Kaitlin Cottrell, and Michelle Suh presented the connection between UST inspection reports, Report 6, and Technical Compliance Rate (TCR), highlighting their impact on CUPA performance evaluations. The presentation also included an overview of the <u>CUPA Evaluation Process</u>⁸ website and highlighted available resources

⁶ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water issues/programs/ust/leak prevention/lgs/105 12.html

⁷ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/tank testers/

⁸ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/leak_prevention/performance-evaluations/

to help managers and UST inspectors understand the data reviewed by the evaluation staff.

The CUPA Performance Evaluation and Assessment Process

Magnolia Busse, Michelle Suh, and other state agency evaluators presented on the CUPA performance evaluation process. The presentation covered the State Water Board's UST program assessment, including recent changes to the Supplemental Questionnaire, available training opportunities, and improvements to the overall UST evaluation process. Additionally, it included a walkthrough of the CUPA Evaluation Process website.