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2005

## General Guidance for Installing New Underground Storage Tanks

The following general guidance explains requirements for installation and monitoring of Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) effective July 1, 2004. These requirements for USTs are codified in Section 25290.1 and 25290.2 of the California Health & Safety Code.

### Requirements:

1. The tank system must be “impervious to the liquid and vapors of the substance that is contained, or is to be contained, so as to prevent seepage of the substance from the containment.” This is the definition used in the regulation for the term “product tight”.
2. Sumps must be “product tight” by installing and maintaining either: (a) barriers that extend to grade level, or (b) product tight covers that form a barrier between the sump and the backfill.
3. All secondary containment for the UST system and its components must be designed and engineered to prevent water intrusion into the system in any form or by any method.
4. Any piping that is below grade and attached to a UST is considered part of the UST and must meet the secondary containment requirements of H&S Code 25290.2(j).
5. The UST must be tested after installation, and before being placed into use, using one of the following test methods: (a) enhanced leak detection, (b) third party certified inert gas pressure test, or (c) a test method approved by the State Water Resources Control Board.
6. The UST system must be equipped with a continuous monitoring system using vacuum, pressure or interstitial liquid level measurement. This includes the interstitial space of the tank and piping (including fill, vent, and vapor recovery piping) that is beneath the surface of the ground. All monitoring equipment and components must be approved by the State Water Resources Control Board.
7. The entire pipe length, including piping within sumps, must be double walled and continuously monitored using vacuum, pressure, or interstitial liquid level measurement.
8. Annual compliance verification of the operation of the leak detection system by a certified third party is required.
9. All sumps and piping (product, vent, vapor recovery, and fill pipe) must have sensors that are capable of detecting liquid and vapor release from the primary containment.