The Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) would like to provide updates to underground storage tank (UST) owners, operators, contractors, consultants, and other interested parties concerning changes in the UST inspection program and recent changes in State Law.

**UPDATE SUMMARY**

Updates within the HMD tank inspection program include:

- UST plan review and inspection fees for Fiscal Year 2013-2014
- Changes to “cold start” permitting requirements
- Changes to Plan Check Permitting Process
- California Environmental Reporting System (CERS)
- Regulation for Alternative Compatibility
- PEI/ RP 1200
In accordance with the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances, Division 5, Section 65.107, the following UST Plan Review & Inspection Fees are unchanged for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

**UST Plan Review & Inspection Fees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Fees for Fiscal Year 2013-2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>New UST Construction</strong>¹</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation Fee for First Tank</td>
<td>$1,420.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee for each additional tank</td>
<td>$412.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishment Base Fee (Applies to establishments not currently under permit with DEH)</td>
<td>$228.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Permit Fee per Tank (May not apply to replacement tanks)</td>
<td>$433.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UST Upgrade/Repair</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrade/Repair - 1 Inspection and no soil sampling²</td>
<td>$1,123.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrade/Repair - simple (minor permit)</td>
<td>$709.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrade/Repair - 2 Inspections (including soil sampling)³</td>
<td>$1,656.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UST Closure</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure Fee for first tank</td>
<td>$886.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each additional tank</td>
<td>$384.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER FEES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation Fee/per hour (Minimum 2 hours)</td>
<td>$142.00/hr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan Re-Review</td>
<td>$452.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each additional inspection⁴</td>
<td>$568.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-inspection Fee</td>
<td>$709.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUPA Surcharge - Program Oversight-Hazmat (Per Facility)</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUPA Surcharge - Underground Storage Tanks (Per Tank)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Fees will also apply to all tank repairs, interior lining and bladder installations.
² This fee will apply only to permit projects where only one inspection by DEH is required. Inspections lasting longer than 4 hours will be subject to an additional $142.00/hr fee. Typical projects where only one inspection is required are:
   - Installation of new UST monitoring system
   - Any pipe repair
   - Repair to secondary containment components
   A lower fee may be charged on very minor project (simple) permits as determined by HMD on a case by case basis.
³ This permit fee will apply to projects where more than one inspection by DEH will be required. The fee includes two inspections.
⁴ Any additional inspection required by HMD will be subject to an additional fee of $568.00.
If you are unsure as to how many inspections are required for a particular project, please contact the Plan Check Specialist at (619) 454-9915.
**Changes to “Cold Start” Permitting Requirements**

Effective **July 1, 2013**, permits will **no longer be required** for UST monitoring system “cold starts” resulting from internal battery replacements or sudden system power outages. All cold starts must be performed by a Certified Technician and must be documented on the Designated Operator Monthly Reports. Cold start notifications can be sent to USTNotifications.LUEG@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Permits **will still be required** for new CPU board replacements or software upgrades. The 1 inspection upgrade/repair fee for the 2013-2014 fiscal year will be $1,123.00.

If you have any questions regarding work scope or fees, please contact Cecilia Lewallen at the UST plan check desk at cecilia.lewallen@sdcounty.ca.gov; or at (619) 454-9915.

**Changes to Plan Check Permitting Process**

- The County Ordinance has recently been modified to reflect a change in the validity timeframe of a plancheck permit. The plancheck permit will now only be valid for **180 days** from the date of issue. The permit expiration date will be stated on the permit card. Any permit extension requests must be received prior to the expiration date. Fees paid are not refundable after this 180-day period.

  Additionally, the permit will now include a deadline for required inspections to be completed by the owner or operator. Failure to complete the inspection by the deadline is a violation of the County Ordinance and shall also be grounds for revocation of the UST Operating Permit.

- The County of San Diego recently upgraded to a new Business Case Management System which has affected our business process for handling permit fees for UST plancheck. Plan check permit fees are no longer required to be paid at the time of permit application submittal. Fees will be assessed and invoiced after completion of the plan review process. Fees are required to be paid in full prior to permit release.

If you have any questions regarding the new permitting process, please contact Cecilia Lewallen at the UST plan check desk at cecilia.lewallen@sdcounty.ca.gov; phone: (619) 454-9915 or Robert Rapista at robert.rapista@sdcounty.ca.gov; phone: (858) 505-6818.

**California Environmental Reporting System (CERS)**

**Attention - CERS is now Available:** As of January 1, 2013 all CUPA regulated businesses are required by law (Assembly Bill 2286) to submit business information electronically through the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS). Many of the Unified Program forms are no longer available on our website and instead must be completed online in CERS. This includes information related to Underground Storage Tanks (UST), hazardous waste tank closures, and Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) documentation. For more information on creating a CERS account and submitting your UST documents electronically...
please visit our CERS information page at http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/hmd-cers-info.html. All UST information is required to be in CERS by January 1, 2014.

Additional Resources

- CERS Homepage: http://cers.calepa.ca.gov/
- Business user training materials: http://cers.calepa.ca.gov/business/training
- Information for businesses about CERS: http://cers.calepa.ca.gov/business

**NEW UST REGULATION FOR ALTERNATIVE COMPATIBILITY**

The variance for the provisional storage of biodiesel blends up to B20 has expired. On June 1, 2012, new permanent California Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulations became effective to allow the storage of all biodiesel blends, including B100, in double-walled systems. If the manufacturer of the UST containment system and related components does not have the required compatibility approvals from the appropriate independent testing organizations, under the new regulations, the owner or operator may submit a written affirmative statement of compatibility for the specific hazardous substance from the manufacturer(s). The written affirmative statement of compatibility shall satisfy the requirements under CCR Title 23, Section 2631(b) and applies to all alternative fuels.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED, THE MATERIALS COMPATIBILITY LETTERS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED FOR THE VARIANCE APPROVAL MAY NOT MEET ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE NEW REGULATIONS.**

Steps to follow to assure UST compliance under the new UST regulations:

1) The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has posted on their website several manufacturers of UST equipment, with their Manufacturer’s Affirmative Statement of Compatibility, including the current UL standard listing (for petroleum) required by the new law. Those documents are available: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/alt_comp_opt/soc.shtml. Locate the applicable Manufacturer’s Affirmative Statement(s) of Compatibility for your UST equipment. If the manufacturer of your UST equipment is not listed, you must contact the manufacturer of your UST equipment to obtain and submit a written affirmative statement of compatibility for the specific hazardous substance from the manufacturer(s).

2) In addition, HMD requires that you determine functionality of the leak detection equipment used to monitor the alternative fuel stored. The leak detection equipment must be listed in the “SWRCB LG-113 approved listings” and the manufacturer must indicate that the leak detection equipment can function with the identified alternative fuel stored. The SWRCB has a separate list of acceptable biodiesel and ethanol leak detection equipment on their website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/leak_prevention/lg113/index.shtml.

3) Submit form numbers HM-9325 and HM-9326 to HMD if you wish to store biodiesel in your UST system(s). The forms will be used to demonstrate compliance for compatibility under the new regulations. Since the new regulations apply to all hazardous substances, please also include other alternative fuels you plan to store. The forms are available on our website at http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/hmd_forms.html#ustforms.
Once HMD has determined that the UST system storing the alternative fuel(s) has met all the requirements of the new regulations for compatibility and leak detection functionality, a new UST Operating Permit will be issued.

If no documentation can be provided that supports the UST system as having approved compatibility and leak detection equipment functionality, HMD will require the alternative fuel to be removed from UST system immediately.

If you have any questions, please contact Cecilia Lewallen at: cecilia.lewallen@sdcound.ca.gov; ph: (619) 454-9915 or Robert Rapista at: robert.rapista@sdcount.ca.gov; ph: (858) 505-6818.

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**PEI/ RP 1200**


The purpose of the document is to provide a concise summary of general guidelines for the inspection and testing of leak detection, spill/ overfill prevention and secondary containment equipment at UST facilities.

The County of San Diego HMD recognizes the PEI/RP1200 as the recommended industry testing standard. HMD will no longer require the submittal of a secondary containment testing protocol in order to conduct secondary containment testing in our jurisdiction. All secondary containment testing performed within the County of San Diego must be done in accordance with RP 1200 or HMD approved secondary containment testing protocols.


If you have any questions about the information contained in this bulletin, please contact Robert Rapista, Underground Storage Tank Program Supervisor at (858) 505-6818.