



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK NEW CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

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Purpose

This document has been prepared as a guide for underground storage tank owners and other interested parties. The goal of the new construction process is to ensure that:

1. The underground storage tanks are installed safely and in accordance with California Underground Storage Tank Regulations.
2. Proper permits are obtained prior to initiating any work on the property.
3. All paperwork is submitted in order, to the appropriate agencies.

Section 1: General Criteria

It is the underground storage tank owner's responsibility to ensure the new construction process is completed in a lawful manner. In most circumstances, the owner will retain a qualified and licensed contractor to perform all work at the site.

1.1 Contractor Licensing Requirements

Any work to upgrade, install, or remove USTs is subject to contractor licensing if the total cost of such work is \$300 or more. Under current Contractors State License Board (CSLB) policy, only those contractors holding one of the following classifications are properly licensed to contract for such work:

Plumbing Contractors (C-36) - Plumbing Contractors may work on any underground storage tank that provides a service to a building. This includes storage tanks for service stations. Any other type of underground storage tank may only be worked on by a General Engineering Contractor (A).

Limited Specialty Contractor (C-61-D-40) - Service Station Equipment Contractors may work on underground fuel storage tanks at service stations or any other site where storage capacity does not exceed 20,000 gallons. This license is not currently being issued by the Contractors State License Board.

General Engineering Contractors (A) - General Engineering Contractors may work on an underground storage tank for any purpose and at any location.

General Building (B) - General Building Contractors may work on an underground storage tank only if such work is performed under a *contract to construct or remodel a*

building which housed people, animals or personal property, and the work involves the use of at least two or more unrelated trades, or is subcontracted to the appropriate license.

A contractor possessing any one of the above licenses may contract to apply interior lining to a UST. In accordance with LG 136-1, Interior Lining and Cathodic Protection of Underground Storage Tanks, a contractor may also apply interior lining if possessing one of these licenses:

- Painting and Decorating (C-33)
- Limited Specialty/Synthetic Products (C-61/D-12)
- Limited Specialty/Protective Coating (C-61/D-51)

Only those contractors holding one of the following classifications are properly licensed to contract for installation of bladders:

- General Engineering Contractor (A)
- Plumbing Contractor (C-36)
- Limited Specialty/Protective Coating (C-61/D-51)

For information regarding the qualifications necessary to design, certify, install, and test corrosion protection systems see LG 145, Clarification of Corrosion Specialist and Cathodic Protection Tester.

Summary of Licensing Requirements

	General Building (A)	General Building (B)	Painting and Decorating (C-33)	Plumbing (C-36)	Limited Specialty/Synthetic Products (C-61/D-12)	Limited Specialty (C-61/D-40)	Limited Specialty/Protective Coating (C-61/D-51)
To install or remove USTs if the aggregate costs of such work is \$300 or more	X	X		X		X	
To contract to apply interior lining	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
To contract for installation of bladders	X			X			X

Hazardous Substance Certification

In accordance with Business and Professions Code Section 7058.7, a contractor must possess a Hazardous Substance Certification issued by the CSLB to:

1. **install or remove** an underground storage tank. However, a contractor who is not certified may bid on or contract for the installation or removal, as long as the work is performed by a contractor who is certified.
2. **upgrade** an underground storage tank. Upgrading means installation of a bladder system, application of interior lining, and installation of striker plates that are permanently bonded to the tank bottom. A contractor does not need to possess this certification to install spill containment or overfill prevention devices, fill pipes, vapor recovery systems, or leak detection equipment. Again, a contractor who is not certified may bid on or contract for the installation or removal, as long as the work is performed by a contractor who is certified.
3. engage in **removing or remediating the release of a hazardous substance** at the site or to correct the conditions that threaten the release of a hazardous substance (pursuant to Sections 25355.5 and 25356 Health and Safety Code). Per Section 7058.7, removal or remedial action refers to work in which the contractor digs into the ground surface, removes the material, and the work is at a hazardous substance release site as identified in Section 25356 of the Health and Safety Code. These provisions of the Health and Safety Code apply to hazardous substances other than petroleum. The hazardous substance certification is not required for corrective action at petroleum UST sites.

All questions on this issue should be directed to the Licensing Staff of the Contractors State License Board at (916) 255-3900 or (800) 321-2752.

1.2 Site Security

Excavations opened during or after tank installation operations shall be safeguarded by fencing until backfilled. The contractor may use barricades during excavation, however, the site shall be supervised continuously.

1.3 Site Safety

Ensuring that all work is performed safely is the contractor's responsibility. **All contractors must have an established safety program and safety manager onsite during all work.** All contractors performing work must implement all safety standards established by the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal OSHA). Specific Safety Orders include, but may not be limited to, the following:

Health and Safety Training

- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response
- Hazard Communication

Construction Safety Orders

- Code of Safe Practice for Contractors
- Trench/Excavation Safety Orders
- Heavy Equipment Operation
- Traffic Control

General Industry Safety Orders

- Confined Space Entry
- Permissible Exposure Limits
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Proper Hand Tools for Possible Explosive Environment

For more specific details contact Cal OSHA at (559) 454-1295.

1.4 Traffic Control Permits or Encroachment Permits

In some cases, installing a tank safely may require traffic control, land closure, or other site-specific issues of concern to local law enforcement or public works departments. The owner or contractor shall ensure that all necessary notifications are made in advance of the installation.

Section 2: Permit and Plan Check Submittal

Prior to conducting any activity associated with an underground storage tank installation, a permit shall be obtained from the Fresno County Department of Community Health. Additional permits may be necessary from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Fire Department, Building Department, or Law Enforcement Agency which has site jurisdiction.

2.1 Fresno County Department of Community Health New Construction Permit Application

The permit application shall be obtained in person by the tank owner or the owner's representative. An example permit is enclosed in "Attachment A." The permit requires the following information:

- Name, address, and license number of all contractors working on the project.
- Name, address, and phone number of the site/tank owner.
- Tank size and product to be stored.

All companies hired to work on the site must have current copies of valid Worker's Compensation Insurance, Contractor's licenses, and a Statement of Qualifications on file with the Fresno County Department of Community Health.

2.2 Plan Submittal and Permit Approval

Permit fee payment and three (3) sets of plans shall be submitted along with the permit application. Plans submitted without the completed permit application or fee payment will not be reviewed. The plan review process will take approximately ten working days to complete. After the plans are reviewed, either they will be approved or additional information and/or changes to the plans may be requested. In order to conduct an efficient plan review, the plans must include the following:

- Scaled site plan, including all tanks, piping runs and existing structures.
- A complete equipment list which includes manufacturer name and model number. Refer to the New UST Installation Checklist, "Attachment B," for a detailed list of information that shall be included on the plans. This checklist may be completed and submitted with the plans; however, it is not a requirement for submittal.

Once the plans are approved, this office will notify the permit applicant. The permit applicant shall maintain the new construction permit and an approved set of plans on the construction site during all phases of construction.

2.3 Required Inspections

Several inspections will be required during construction. Refer to the Underground Storage Tank Installation Inspection Record, "Attachment C," which indicates all items that are to be inspected during construction. The inspections are generally conducted in the following four phases:

1. Tank Installation

- The tank shall be tested upon delivery according to the manufacturer specifications.
- The tank shall be placed at an approved slope towards the interstitial monitor. A transit shall be present in order to verify proper slope.

2. Primary Piping

- Product piping shall be tested for tightness hydrostatically at 150 percent of design operating pressure or pneumatically at 110 percent of design operating pressure. The pressure shall be maintained for a minimum of 30 minutes and all joints shall be soap tested.

3. Secondary Piping

- Secondary, vent and if applicable, vapor recovery piping shall be tested for tightness hydrostatically or pneumatically at 3-5 psi. The pressure shall be maintained for a minimum of 30 minutes all joints shall be soap tested. A pneumatic test on the complete tank and product delivery system shall be conducted. The pressure shall be 3-5 psi and shall be maintained for a minimum of 30 minutes and all unused openings and risers at the tank shall be soap tested.
- Once tested, all unused openings, risers, monitoring ports and metal parts shall be

wrapped and/or fiberglass sealed for corrosion protection.

- Dispenser pans and sumps are to be filled with water to the level of the highest perforation in order to test for tightness.
- Monitoring ports and risers are to be brought to grade and spill protection installed at the fill pipe.
- **Any changes to the original plan must be approved by this department prior to implementation, and as-built plans must be submitted to this department prior to scheduling a secondary piping inspection.**

4. Final

- The presence of overfill protection shall be verified.
- All monitoring equipment shall be tested.
- The following documents shall be submitted:
 - a) Unified Program Consolidated Forms (Formerly SWRCB Forms A, B, and C). See "Attachment D."
 - b) Passing tank, line, and if applicable line leak detector tests.
 - c) UST Monitoring/Emergency Response Plan.
 - d) Evidence of Financial Responsibility. See "Attachment E."

Appointments must be scheduled with this department 48 hours prior to the inspection. All equipment shall be tested prior to the inspection in order to prevent reinspections. Reinspection fees will be charged if multiple reinspections become necessary.