



## State Water Resources Control Board

October 18, 2024

To: Unified Program Agency Managers

# UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FACILITY COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORTING REQUIRED BY JANUARY 31, 2025

California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16, section 2713(d) requires the Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) submit to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) a list of UST facilities where an annual UST compliance inspection was not performed during the previous calendar year. UPAs only need to report facilities where a UST compliance inspection was not performed during the calendar year 2024. UST compliance inspections are required for all facilities with regulated USTs, including temporarily closed and abandoned USTs. Virtual or desk audit UST compliance inspections without an on-site element do not satisfy the UST compliance inspection requirement. The UST compliance inspection report is due to the State Water Board no later than January 31, 2025.

UPAs can verify UST compliance inspection data using the <u>UST Routine Inspection</u> <u>Frequency</u> <sup>1</sup> search tool found in the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS). The search tool generates a list of UST compliance inspections and the dates they were performed. We strongly suggests UPAs run the CERS <u>UST Routine</u> <u>Inspection Frequency</u> search tool now, and again in mid-December. Common reasons for not having completed an inspection include facilities incorrectly marked as "applicable" in CERS (abandoned USTs and temporarily closed USTs must be marked as "applicable"); facilities improperly closed in CERS, or newly installed UST facilities not yet required to have a UST compliance inspection.

Information submitted by the UPAs is used to certify compliance with the UST provisions of the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct). The EPAct requires states to meet the federal UST facility compliance inspection frequency of once every three years. If a UPA discovers a facility in CERS where a UST compliance inspection has not been performed over the last three years, UPAs must complete a UST compliance inspection no later than December 31, 2024.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

<sup>1</sup> https://cersregulator.calepa.ca.gov/Reports/USTRoutineInspectionFrequencySearch

Compliance with the federal UST inspection frequency of once every three years maintains grant funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Grant funding is critical for projects that sustain and improve the UST element of the Unified Program including but not limited to the Abandoned UST Initiative, the Single-Walled UST Closure Initiative, annual and semiannual UST reports, informational public workshops, UPA training, and contractors assisting UPAs with ongoing CERS training and implementation. UPAs which fail to meet the federal UST inspection frequency jeopardize the State Water Boards' ability to make a positive certification and maintain critical grant funding provided by U.S. EPA.

Please reference the Enclosure for the instructions on how to extract the information from CERS using the *UST Routine Inspection Frequency* search tool. UPAs should extract the inspection data from CERS now to identify any missed inspections, misreporting, or other errors to be addressed.

For questions regarding UST facility compliance inspection reporting requirements, contact Magnolia Busse at (916) 341-5870 or <a href="Magnolia.Busse@waterboards.ca.gov">Magnolia.Busse@waterboards.ca.gov</a>, or me at (916) 319-9128 or <a href="Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov">Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Tom Henderson

Supervisor, UST Leak Prevention

and Tank Tester Licensing

State Water Resources Control Board

Enclosure – Routine Inspection Report Instructions

cc: [via email only]

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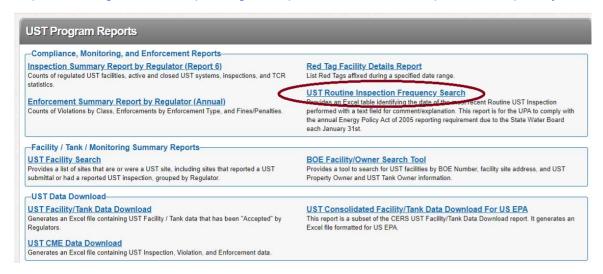
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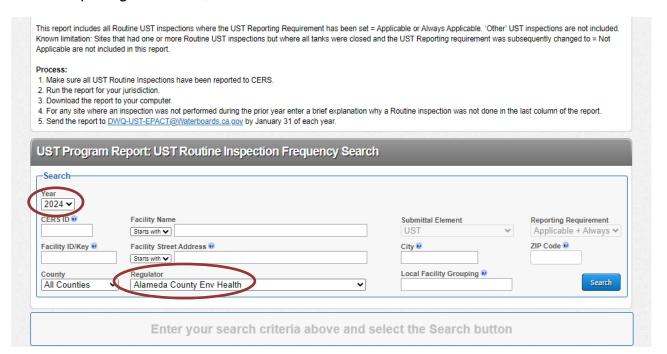
# **Routine Inspection Report Instructions**

Download Excel spreadsheet from CERS for jurisdiction. Report found here:

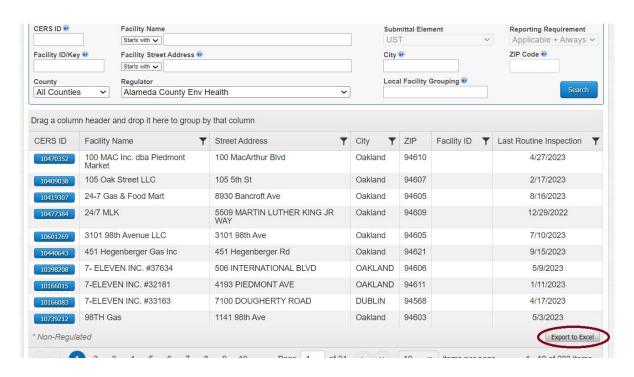
https://cersregulator2.calepa.ca.gov/Reports/USTRoutineInspectionFrequencySearch



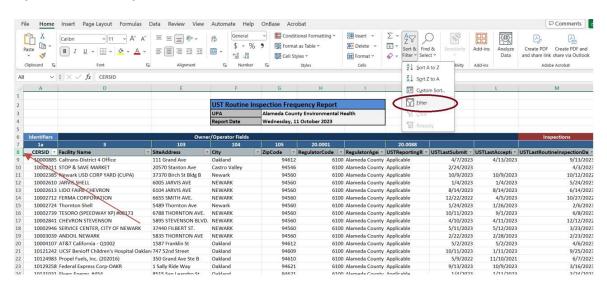
1. Select the jurisdiction from the "Regulator" drop down, ensure that the calendar year of the reporting is selected, and click the Search button.



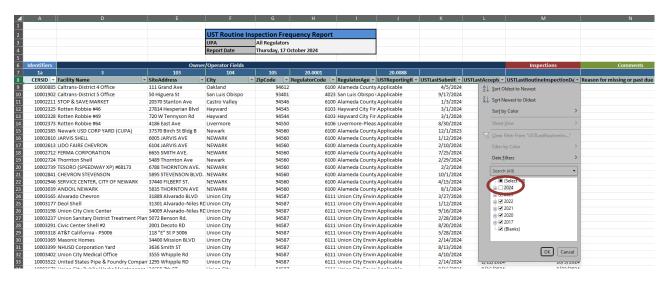
### 2. Export file to Excel



#### Select Row 8 and turn on filter



4. Filter out 2024 (<u>deselect year 2024</u>) from Column M, "Inspections." The remaining list of facilities do not have a compliance inspection listed in CERS for the calendar year being reported. Please confirm the data, then use the "Comment" section in Column N to explain why a compliance inspection was not performed for each facility listed.



5. Once completed, submit the final Excel Report to the State Water Resources Control Board, **no later than** *January 31, 2025* at <a href="mailto:DWQ-UST-EPACT@Waterboards.ca.gov">DWQ-UST-EPACT@Waterboards.ca.gov</a>