



UST Program Update January 2014

UST Leak Prevention – CERS Coordinator

The State Water Board UST Program is pleased to announce that Dan Firth is now working for us part time on 'all things CERS'. Dan will be the point of contact at the State Water Board for managing the various UST improvements to CERS. Any glitches, changes, or suggested improvements should be directed to Dan for compilation. Dan will work with prioritizing those items with UST Staff and Cal EPA. It is our hope that with one point of contact and one channel of communication that we can meet we can better meet both our and your needs with CERS. For simplicity Dan will continue to use his CalEPA email and phone number, and can be reached at 916-445-5049/daniel.firth@calepa.ca.gov. Dan will be speaking at the CUPA Conference in the UST Track on Tuesday at 10:00 am – UST One Stop Shop, where he will discuss the planned activities he will be working on over the next year. Additionally, Dan will be at the Statewide UST TAG on Wednesday at 1:00 pm and will be available for questions. Welcome aboard Dan!

Current Reporting Status of the Semi-Annual UST Program Reporting (Report 6) Requirement

In consultation with CalEPA and until further notice, it has been determined that Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) must continue to submit the "paper" version of Report 6 to the State Water Board until all necessary UST data can be inputted by businesses, the UPAs, and until CERS can accurately and correctly report this information. Both the State Water Board and CalEPA are diligently working with contractors to develop the tools necessary for capturing the Report 6 criteria within CERS. It is expected that this "paper version" of Report 6 will be needed through the September 2015 reporting period.

Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Initiative

The Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Initiative (Initiative) continues to progress. Sullivan, USEPA, and the State Water Board are currently defining the universe of specific non-compliant sites with abandoned USTs and addressing any identified risks such as leaking fuels to bring these sites into compliance. As identified in the Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Initiative Report (April 2013) USTs are considered abandoned when regulated substances are no longer stored within those USTs and/or monitoring requirements of the Operating Permit and of Title 23, California Health and Safety Code 25298, are not being implemented, including maintenance of the UST system. Local agencies have reported a total of 323 sites with abandoned USTs across the State of California. Ninety-six notices of Non-Compliance (NONCs) from the State Water Board have been issued since July of 2013. Below is a summary of information regarding the Initiative.

Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Initiative (continued)

Abandoned UST Site Status in GeoTracker	# of Sites	% of Total Sites
Out of Compliance		
Out of Compliance - USTs with Product	38	11.8%
Out of Compliance - USTs without Product	25	7.7%
Out of Compliance - USTs with Unknown Product	159	49.2%
Out of Compliance - Managed Under LUST Case	7	2.2%
<i>Subtotal - Out of Compliance</i>	229	70.9%
In Compliance		
In Compliance - USTs Removed	14	4.3%
In Compliance - USTs in Service	5	1.5%
In Compliance - Closed in Place	2	0.6%
In Compliance - Temporary Closure	6	1.9%
<i>Subtotal - In Compliance</i>	27	8.4%
Data Cleanup		
Unknown - Further Research Needed (Presence of USTs suspected but not confirmed)	41	12.7%
USTs Closed or Removed Historically	23	7.1%
No Evidence of USTs Ever Present	3	0.9%
<i>Subtotal - Data Cleanup</i>	67	20.7%
Total	323	100%

Strategy to Obtain/Confirm Compliance	# of Sites	% of Total Sites
State Water Board Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC)	145	44.9%
Local Oversight	40	12.4%
Local Enforcement	8	2.5%
File Review/ Conduct Research to Confirm UST Status*	71	22.0%
No Work Needed	59	18.3%
Total	323	100%

*Includes sites which have GeoTracker cases and sites for which USTs are suspected but not confirmed. No work may need to be conducted.

Abandoned Underground Storage Tank Initiative (continued)

Status on State Water Board NONC Strategy (for 145 Sites)	# of Sites	% of Sites to Receive NONC
State Water Board NONCs issued week ending 01/05/13	12	8.3%
State Water Board NONCs issued since 7/23/13	96	66.2%
NONCs that remain to be issued	49	33.8%
Total	145	100%
Responses to NONC	# of Sites	% of Sites Issued NONC
Responses received	33	34.4%
Owners willing to comply	12	12.5%
Owners claiming no USTs present or closed in place	10	10.4%
Owners claiming financial hardship	11	11.5%
No responses received	63	65.6%
Undeliverable - NONCs returned	6	6.3%

Assistance Provided to Owners and/or Agencies	Cumulative # of Sites	% of Total Sites
At least one type of assistance provided	27	8.4%
Site inspection, geophysical survey	5	1.5%
Administrative/technical guidance	27	8.4%
Facilitated entry into funding program (USEPA Brownfields and LUST Trust Fund)	4	1.2%
Product removed from USTs	0	0.0%
Fieldwork conducted (environmental data collected)	1	0.3%
No assistance provided	296	91.6%
Total	323	100%