



UST Program Update May 2021

Retesting Policy for California International Code Council Examinations

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is aware of International Code Council (ICC) examination results stating that individuals who have failed a California underground storage tank (UST) examination (*California UST System Operator, California UST Inspector, or the California UST Service Technician* examination) could retest up to six times within a six-month period. This is not correct. This error was due to a universal modification to the ICC retesting policy that incorrectly captured the California examinations and has now been corrected. Individuals that do not pass two consecutive California ICC examinations are prohibited from testing for six months from the date of the second failed examination.

For additional information regarding the California ICC examination retesting policy, contact:

Mr. Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov, or
Ms. Laura Fisher at (916) 341-5870 or Laura.Fisher@waterboards.ca.gov.

Removal of UST Reports from the California Environmental Reporting System

The State Water Board is updating the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) [UST Program Reports](#)¹. Currently, several unused reports are scheduled for removal on May 31, 2021. The reports to be removed are:

- Inspection Summary Report by Regulator (Annual)
- Semi-Annual Report
- Statewide Leak Prevention Report
- Facility Summary by Owner Type
- Facility Summary by Construction/Monitoring Type
- Facility Summary by Financial Responsibility Mechanism

¹ <https://cersregulator2.calepa.ca.gov/Reports>

State Water Board staff will continue updating headers and instructions for the remaining reports. The remaining reports are the Inspection Summary Report by Regulator (Report 6), Red Tag Facility Details, BOE Facility/Owner Search Tool, Enforcement Summary Report by Regulator (Annual), UST Facility/Tank Data Download, and UST CME Data Download. The State Water Board will soon be including a new CERS report that allows the Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) to easily report the number of routine inspections performed within their jurisdiction to meet the annual reporting requirement.

For additional information regarding CERS UST reports, contact:

Ms. Jessica Botsford at (916) 341-7338 or Jessica.Botsford@waterboards.ca.gov, or Mr. Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Reuse of Underground Storage Tanks

The State Water Board is aware of USTs being removed from one facility and reinstalled at another facility without prior review and approval by the UPA and certification by an independent testing organization. Further, UST owners are providing UST installation plans to UPAs noting new USTs, however, one or more of the USTs arriving for installation are reused from another facility. As UST manufacturers are struggling with the supply and demand of USTs, the State Water Board expects to see more facilities attempting to reuse USTs.

All USTs must indicate approval by an independent testing organization as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16, section 2631(b). Section 2631(b) requires the exterior surface of a UST to bear a marking, code stamp, or label (collectively referred to as "label") providing specified information, and including identification that the UST has been constructed to specific standards. USTs may only be reinstalled if the UST has been recertified by the independent testing organization. Further, a new UST label must be affixed to the UST certifying that the UST has been tested and meets the current independent testing standards. In California, manufacturers alone cannot recertify used USTs. If an independent testing organization does recertify a used UST, the manufacturer of the UST may assist in the testing process and may install those components necessary to meet current construction standards, such as sump collars.

To avoid used USTs that have not been recertified by an independent testing organization from being delivered for new installation, UPAs should consider modifying their installation permits and plan check policy to address the reuse of USTs and to verify contractor, UST, and independent testing organization status. UST Inspectors are to ensure proper independent third-party testing organization labels are correctly affixed to the tank at installation. USTs without proper labeling cannot be installed as USTs and must be rejected for installation. The State Water Board will post additional information on this topic to our web page shortly.

For additional information regarding the reuse of USTs, contact:
Mr. Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov, or
Ms. Laura Fisher at (916) 341-5870 or Laura.Fisher@waterboards.ca.gov.

New UST Leak Prevention Staff

The UST Leak Prevention Unit is pleased to announce the hire of a Water Resources Control Engineer, Mr. Austin Lemire-Baeten. Austin graduated from University of California, Davis, in 2017 with a degree in Civil Engineering and a focus on water resources. Austin was previously a student intern for the State Water Board, Office of Enforcement, UST Enforcement Unit. He recently worked in Napa Valley developing erosion control infrastructure for vineyards. He also has experience in surveying, public sewer projects, and UST site remediation. Austin can be reached at (916) 327-5612 or Austin.Lemire-Baeten@waterboards.ca.gov.