



UST Program Update January 2024

Facility Compliance Inspection Reporting

California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 (UST Regulations), section 2713(d) requires the Unified Program Agency (UPA) to report to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), no later than January 31st each year, the number of underground storage tank (UST) facilities where a compliance inspection was not performed over the previous calendar year. The State Water Board is required to report annually to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on several performance measures as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct). One of the EPAAct performance measures requires states to certify that a UST facility compliance inspection has been conducted at every UST facility at least once during the past three years, thereby meeting the federal inspection frequency. At the direction of U.S. EPA, the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) will be used to verify each UPA has complied with the federal UST inspection frequency.

To assist UPAs in verifying the accuracy of UST facility compliance inspections, UPAs should use the [UST Routine Inspection Frequency](#)¹ search tool in CERS. The State Water Board sent a [letter to UPA managers on October 25, 2023](#)² which included instructions on how to use the UST Routine Inspection Frequency search tool. UPAs should use this tool early to identify facilities where a compliance inspection has not been performed during the 2023 calendar year, or to ensure the correct data has been properly uploaded to CERS. This report will assist UPAs in identifying missing inspections or inaccurate data.

For more information regarding compliance inspections reporting requirements, contact: Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov.

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

² <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/docs/ust-compliance-inspection-2024.pdf>

Single-Walled UST Deadline and Enforcement

The State Water Board has fielded numerous questions on the enforcement role of the UPAs in preparation for the single-walled UST closure deadline. State Water Board staff [distributed a letter to the UPAs](#)³ on December 20, 2023 discussing enforcement expectations of single-walled UST systems now and after the closure deadline.

Additionally, several single-walled UST owners and operators have assumed that the single-walled UST closure deadline was extended due to the extension of the UST Cleanup Fund. State Water Board staff [distributed a letter to single-walled UST facility owners and operators and stakeholders](#)⁴ on December 28, 2023 reiterating the permanent closure requirements and the State Water Board and UPAs role in enforcement of single-walled USTs.

For additional information regarding enforcement of single-walled USTs, contact: Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or Jenna.Hartman@Waterboards.ca.gov.

Report 6

The State Water Board will soon distribute the Semi-Annual UST Program Report (Report 6) forms and instructions for the July 1 through December 31, 2023 reporting period. The completed Report 6 documents are due to the State Water Board no later than March 1, 2024.

This reporting period, Report 6 forms will include two questions pertaining to enforcement of single-walled USTs that were not permanently closed by December 31, 2025. Additionally, the number of airport hydrant systems remaining at the end of the reporting period has been removed. Consistent with the last several reporting periods, UPAs will continue to report field constructed tanks, facilities with USTs that have received a red tag, and facilities that have abandoned or temporarily closed USTs.

For additional information regarding Report 6 requirements, contact: Mr. Steven Mullery at (916) 341-5850 or Steven.Mullery@waterboards.ca.gov or Magnolia Busse at (916) 341-5780 or Magnolia.Busse@waterboards.ca.gov.

³ <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/docs/2023/upa-sw-enforcement-2023.pdf>

⁴ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/sw-closure-req-2023.pdf

Office of Tank Tester Licensing Webpage Updates

The Office of Tank Tester Licensing (OTTL) has updated [Local Guidance \(LG\) letter 105⁵](#) on the [OTTL website⁶](#) to reflect the current list of State Water Board Licensed Tank Testers. In addition to LG- 105, the OTTL website offers links to OTTL Regulations, OTTL testing notification forms, and LG-113. The OTTL website also provides licensing information for applicants and study materials for the exam.

For additional information regarding the OTTL website updates, contact: Kaitlin Cottrell at (916) 319-0742, or Kaitlin.Cottrell@waterboards.ca.gov.

⁵ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/leak_prevention/lgs/105_12.html

⁶ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/tank_testers/