

Underground Storage Tank Deadline

December 22, 1998

Underground storage tanks (USTs) must be upgraded with some form of leak detection and, if a steel tank, corrosion protection by December 22, 1998, or the tank must be removed from the ground.

Consumptive Use fuel oil tanks - tanks used exclusively for area heating and hot water on the premises - are exempt from both leak detection and cathodic protection requirements, regardless of the size.

Diesel Generator tanks are exempt from leak detection requirements but not cathodic protection.

Forms of Leak Detection include:

1. Installing an in-tank monitor which at the close of each month shall, continuously for a six hour period, monitor the tank to determine any loss of product. The in-tank monitor must be capable of detecting a loss of 0.20 gallons per hour or more over a six-hour period with the probability of detection of 0.95 and a probability of false alarm of 0.05.
2. Monitor the vapors in the soil through the use of a continuous monitor
3. Monitor the vapors in the soil through the use of a monthly monitoring device.
4. Double-walled tank with an interstitial monitor.

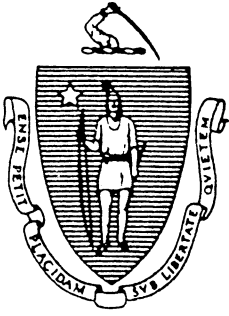
Corrosion Protection

Can only be added to USTs that have been determined to be structurally sound.

If the tank is less than 10 years old - two tightness tests may be used to determine structural integrity. The first test must be conducted prior to installing cathodic protection. The second test must be performed between six and twelve months after adding cathodic protection.

If the tank is over 10 years old - either an internal inspection should be made or an alternative method should be used as outlined in ASTM: ES 40-94 Emergency Standard Practice for Alternative Procedures for the Assessment of Buried Steel Tanks Prior to the Addition of Cathodic Protection (copies available from our office).

Questions re: USTs should be directed to Tom Carr or George Nice in the Office of the State Fire Marshal at (978) 567-3300.



ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
GOVERNOR

KATHLEEN M. O'TOOLE
SECRETARY

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STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

THOMAS P. LEONARD
DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL

July 14, 1998

Dear Chief Executive Officer:

Attached is information on the Environmental Protection Agency's federally mandated deadline of December 22, 1998, regarding the removal of single wall bare steel underground storage tanks. This information details action that must be taken to upgrade tanks or tanks must be removed from the ground.

This regulation affects private enterprise and municipal, state, and federal facilities. The enforcement of this deadline will be a partnership effort by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the municipal fire departments of Massachusetts. Therefore, it is most important that municipalities have all of their tanks in compliance with the appropriate regulations prior to the December 22 deadline.

The head of the fire department is the responsible municipal official for enforcing state regulations regarding USTs. They have been working with our office for several years now to achieve compliance with Massachusetts and federal regulations regarding USTs.

Personnel in the Office of the State Fire Marshal are available to answer questions for municipal officials. As noted on the attached, if you have any questions, please feel free to call Tom Carr or George Nice in the Office of the State Fire Marshal at 978-567-3300.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen D. Coan
State Fire Marshal

SDC/bhs

cc: Head of Fire Department

Consent Communication #5

5835

A communication was received from Stephen D. Coan, State Fire Marshal, transmitting information on the Environmental Protection Agency's federal mandated deadline regarding the removal of single wall bare steel underground storage tanks.

In City Council September 14, 1998

No Action Taken

9/28/98

Referred to the City Manager