

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

News You Can Use

DESIGNATED OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

Purpose

The purpose of this Bulletin is to remind owners and operators of underground storage tanks (USTs) that the new Designated Operator requirements will soon take effect.

Issue

Changes to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23CCR) require owners of UST systems to designate an individual as a Designated Operator by January 1, 2005.

What This Means to UST Owners/Operators

Not later than January 1, 2005, UST owners/operators must submit a signed statement for each facility that they own to the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) which states the following:

- The owner/operator understands and is in compliance with all applicable UST requirements;
- Identifies the Designated UST Operator for each UST facility.

The Designated Operator can be the UST owner, operator, employee, service technician, or a third-party individual. However, the selected Designated Operator must have knowledge of the statutes, regulations, and management practices associated with proper operation of an UST system and also possess a current "California UST Operator" Certificate issued by the International Code Council. This certificate can be obtained by passing the "California UST System Operator Exam" which is offered at a test center in the Sacramento area. For more information regarding exam dates, fee and content, see the websites listed at the end of this bulletin.

What This Means to Designated UST Operators

The Designated UST Operator must complete the following tasks at each facility:

- Conduct monthly visual inspections of the UST facility
- Provide basic on-the-job training for facility employees every twelve months starting July 1, 2005

One individual can be the Designated Operator for many facilities as long as he or she can fulfill the requirements listed above.

Failure to Comply

UST owners and operators who fail to comply with these provisions may be subject to administrative enforcement action.

For More Information or Assistance

For more information concerning these requirements, please contact John Elkins at (916) 876-7884 or visit the website of the State Water Resources Control Board at www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/. For additional information on the California UST System Operator exam, please call (800) 423-6587, ext 3419. Additional information can also be obtained by visiting their website at www.iccsafe.org/certification/bulletin/html.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this Compliance Assistance Bulletin is based upon the statutes and regulations and is intended to provide a basic overview to help achieve compliance. This document does not replace or supersede relevant statutes and regulations and is not intended as legal advice. All interested parties should monitor changes to relevant statutes and regulations for updates.

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