

ABOVEGROUND TANK SYSTEM CLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

*For use by Unidocs Member Agencies or where approved by your Local Jurisdiction
Authority Cited: Local Fire Code Amendments or Hazardous Materials Storage Ordinance*

A. General Information

This document has been prepared to assist owners/operators of facilities or properties located in jurisdictions where the local hazardous materials regulatory agency requires a permit for closure of aboveground hazardous materials storage tank systems. Check with your local agency to see if these requirements apply to you. All Unidocs documents are available at www.unidocs.org.

1. Aboveground storage tanks (AST) that have contained a hazardous material and which are no longer in service must be closed according to these requirements. Re-use of a tank is permitted only if the re-use is compatible with the tank and is approved by the local agency. Re-use of a tank which previously held a hazardous material for water storage, fire suppression, or irrigation is not allowed unless the tank has been cleaned and certified as non-hazardous in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 32 [refer to the Unidocs Tank System On-Site Cleaning Requirements (UN-065) guidance document for details]. If re-use of the tank requires moving the tank to another location in or out of the local jurisdiction, the local hazardous materials compliance agency having jurisdiction in the intended destination must approve the use of the tank. Check with the California Highway Patrol regarding transportation requirements before moving any tank.
2. A *Tank Closure Permit* will be issued upon approval of an Aboveground Storage Tank System Closure Permit Application (UN-064) by the local agency having responsibility for hazardous materials compliance.
3. Upon satisfactory review and approval of the closure permit application by the local agency, the owner of the tank system shall carry out the proposed actions. Unless stated otherwise by the local agency, tank removal activities shall be witnessed by a representative from the local agency. Closure inspections must be scheduled at least two (2) working days in advance.

B. Tank Removal

1. Upon approval of the closure permit application, the tank owner/operator shall carry out the proposed actions. Tank removal and sampling activities (if required) must be witnessed by a representative of the local agency.
2. Tank removal or relocation may commence only after the local agency has given approval.
3. Hazardous materials shall be removed from tanks and piping prior to tank removal and must be properly managed. Materials generated as the result of the rinsing or decontamination of tanks shall be managed as hazardous wastes unless a written hazardous waste determination per Title 22 California Code of Regulations §66262.11 demonstrates that the waste is non-hazardous.
4. All pumps and associated piping shall be removed.
5. The person removing the tank(s) shall provide tank removal/lifting equipment of a size adequate to safely lift the tank(s) onto the transport vehicle without dragging them or otherwise causing an unsafe condition.

6. For tanks previously containing flammable/combustible materials, the person closing the tank(s) shall provide, on-site and readily accessible, at least one 40BC rated portable fire extinguisher and a properly calibrated meter capable of measuring LEL (Lower Explosive Limit) and oxygen levels.
7. Tanks previously containing flammable/combustible materials shall be made safe for removal by the addition of dry ice (carbon dioxide) — or other methods approved by the local agency — sufficient to achieve an atmosphere of either less than 10% oxygen or less than 20% LEL. *(Note: At a minimum add 22.2 pounds of dry ice per each 1,000 gallons of tank volume; however, highly volatile materials may require more.)*
8. The person closing the tank(s) shall be responsible for ensuring that conditions at the site provide for workplace safety, protection of the environment, and maintenance of integrity of nearby structures.
9. All tanks and piping shall be manifested and hauled by a licensed hazardous waste transporter to a permitted hazardous waste facility, whether or not they have been rinsed on site. *[Note: This does not apply to tanks which have been cleaned on-site and certified as non-hazardous in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 32.]*
10. If soil sampling is required by the local agency, sampling must be completed by an approved third-party. Soil samples shall be analyzed by a laboratory State-certified for the required analyses and handled under a Chain-of-Custody form. Sample results without a Chain-of-Custody form shall be considered invalid and re-sampling will be required.
11. If contamination of any detectable concentration is found, further soil and groundwater investigation may be required.
12. The following information shall be submitted to the local agency within 60 days of tank removal: Analytical results from samples; copy of completed sample Chain(s)-of-Custody; site drawing(s) showing tank location(s), pipeline runs, sampling locations, and sampling depths; and a photocopy of the TSDF-signed copy of each hazardous waste manifest used to transport tanks, piping, tank contents (if managed as hazardous waste), and rinseate.

C. Summary of Requirements to Obtain Final Tank System Closure

1. The operator of the facility at which the tank was located shall update the facility's Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) within 30 days of tank removal by electronically submitting revised Hazardous Materials Inventory information and a revised Storage Map via the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) at cers.calepa.ca.gov or the local Unified Program Agency (UPA) electronic reporting portal, if applicable.
2. The following information shall be submitted to the agency overseeing closure within 60 days of tank removal: Analytical results from samples, sample Chain(s)-of-Custody, and site drawings showing tank location(s), pipeline runs, sampling locations, and sampling depths (if sampling was required); and a copy of the TSDF-signed copy of any Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest or Consolidated Manifest used to transport tanks, piping, tank contents, and tank/piping rinseate.