

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK SYSTEM MONITORING SYSTEM CERTIFICATION TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Authority Cited: California Health and Safety Code (HSC); Title 23 California Code of Regulations (23 CCR)

A. Scope

This document addresses periodic testing of underground storage tank (UST) leak detection monitoring equipment. It supplements State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Local Guidance Letter LG-163-1, which is available online at www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/leak_prevention/lgs/. For compliance purposes, refer to the actual text of the regulations since the wording in this document summarizes requirements. All Unidocs forms and documents are available at www.unidocs.org.

B. General Requirements for Monitoring Equipment Testing

1. All monitoring equipment used to satisfy the requirements of California UST Regulations must be installed, calibrated, operated and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, and certified every 12 months for operability, proper operating condition, and proper calibration. [23 CCR §2638(a)]
2. Periodic testing must be completed anytime before or during the month the testing is required.¹ [23 CCR §2620(e)]
3. Installation, repair, maintenance, calibration, and certification of UST monitoring equipment must be performed by a UST Service Technician meeting the requirements of 23 CCR §2715(f). [23 CCR §2638(b)]
4. UST Service Technicians conducting installation, repair, maintenance, calibration, or certification of UST monitoring equipment must be trained and certified by the manufacturer of the monitoring equipment. [23 CCR §2715(f)(2)(B)]
5. In the event that no training or certification exists that would satisfy the above criteria, the local UST Program Unified Program Agency (UPA) may approve comparable alternate training or certification. [23 CCR §2715(f)(2)(E)]

C. Test Methods and Procedures

1. Monitoring system certification testing consists of one or two parts, depending of the type(s) of interstitial monitoring used:
 - Confirming proper installation, calibration, and functionality all monitoring equipment identified in the facility's UST Monitoring Plan(s);
 - For components monitored by vacuum, pressure, or hydrostatic (VPH) monitoring, confirming interstitial communication.²
2. Unless specified otherwise by the manufacturer, testing of sensors should be done in accordance with SWRCB Local Guidance Letter LG-163-1.
3. The UST Service Technician conducting UST monitoring equipment certification must affix a tag/sticker on each monitoring equipment component that is being certified, repaired, or replaced. The tag/sticker

¹ A UST owner or operator may change the due date of the test by performing testing early, but a test conducted late will not change the due date. A UST owner or operator that performs a test early may not return to the original due date and must perform the next test before the end of the new 12 calendar month period.

² Verification of interstitial communication for non-VPH monitored secondary containment is done during the every-36-month secondary containment (SB 989) testing.

must be placed in a readily visible location and must include the date the UST component was certified, repaired, or replaced, and the contractor's or tank tester's license number. [23 CCR §2638(f)]

D. Notification and Reporting

1. The UST owner/operator must notify the local UST Program Unified Program Agency (UPA) at least 48 hours prior to conducting the installation, repair, replacement, calibration, or certification of monitoring equipment. [23 CCR §2638(e)]
2. Monitoring equipment certification must be made on the *Monitoring System Certification Form* located in Appendix VI of Title 23 California Code of Regulations. [The Unidocs document number is UN-107.] [23 CCR §2638(c)]
3. The following must be attached to the *Monitoring System Certification Form*: [23 CCR Appendix VI]
 - A copy of the monitoring console's system setup report including all relevant sections [i.e., sensor setup, output relay setup, line leak detector setup, in-tank setup (single-wall tanks only), etc.];
 - A copy of the monitoring console's alarm history report documenting alarms activated during the certification testing;
 - Copies of manufacturer's checklists (if applicable);
 - A Monitoring Site Plan showing the layout of the UST system and locations of monitoring equipment as specified in the instructions on the *Monitoring System Certification Form*.
4. Pass or fail, the UST owner/operator must submit a copy of the *Monitoring System Certification Form* and attachments to the local UPA within 30 days of completion of the test. [23 CCR §2638(d)]

E. Record Keeping

The UST owner/operator must maintain release detection system calibration and maintenance records on-site, or off-site at a readily accessible location *if approved by the local UPA*, for at least 60 months. These records must be made available, upon request within 36 hours, to the local UPA or the State Water Resources Control Board. [23 CCR §2712(b)(2)]

F. Repairs and Retrofits

1. Check with the local UPA regarding plan check and permit requirements before repairing or retrofitting monitoring containment.
2. Monitoring equipment must be installed and maintained so as to be capable of detecting a leak from all portions of the UST system at the earliest possible opportunity. Liquid sensors must be located at the low point of the secondary containment system they monitor. Valve stems on piping secondary containment test boots must be open and pointed downward (between the 3:00 and 9:00 position) if the test boots are not pulled back from the secondary piping. [23 CCR §2630(d), 2641(a)]
3. Equipment and methods used to monitor UST systems must be certified by an independent third-party as complying with the performance standards specified in 23 CCR §2643(f). Approved equipment is listed in SWRCB Local Guidance Letter LG-113. Sensors are only approved for use with specified monitoring consoles. For this reason, sensors connected to a different manufacturer's console cannot be certified as operational per the manufacturer's specifications. [23 CCR §2630(d), 2632(c)(2)(A)] [Exception: Comparable models of Veeder-Root and Gilbarco branded equipment are interchangeable.]