

Testing Secondary Containment and Piping during UST Installations

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality requires all new and replacement underground storage tank systems and connected piping to be secondarily contained and monitored using the interstitial monitoring leak detection method. DEQ also requires product-compatible under dispenser containment for each new, moved or replaced product dispenser.

Secondary containment is a release prevention system made up of inner and outer piping. Between these two pipes is a space for monitoring for a release of regulated substances, such as motor fuels and hazardous substances. The release detection method is called interstitial monitoring.

What are the installation testing requirements?

For double-walled piping, DEQ expects that both the inner pipe and outer pipe be pressure tested and shown to be tight. The tank owner must demonstrate that the interstitial space between the two pipes will contain a leak from any portion of the underground piping that contains a regulated substance. Both the inner piping and outer piping must be tested and shown to be tight at the time of installation.

If new tank-top or under-dispenser containment systems are to prevent a release into the environment, these containment systems must also be tight at the time of installation, including around all penetrations. Testing must be completed according to the

manufacturer's requirements and codes of practice developed by nationally recognized associations or independent testing laboratories. The codes and standards are listed in Oregon Administrative Rules 340 - Division 150, Appendix A.

Do I need to submit copies of the test results?

Yes, you must submit to DEQ copies of all test results as attachments to the DEQ installation or modification checklist. The agency's underground storage tank inspectors will review the checklist and all attachments to determine if the UST system is in compliance with the installation requirements before DEQ issues an operating certificate for the new installation. DEQ issues a field citation to the tank owner, and takes enforcement action against the UST service provider, if DEQ does not receive these checklists within 30 days of completion of the installation or modification.

Do I need to keep copies of the test results?

Yes, keep copies of all leak detection test results for the operating life of the equipment. UST inspectors may request to see these records during an UST facility inspection or as part of a suspected or confirmed release investigation. You must pass these records on to the new tank owner upon sale of the facility.



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What action will be taken if these tests haven't been run?

If this is a new installation, DEQ may delay issuing the facility's operating certificate until the testing is completed. Without an operating certificate, fuel cannot be dropped into the tanks or sold. If this is an operating facility, DEQ requires the tests to be performed before reopening. Failure to complete testing prior to opening the facility results in a field citation or a formal enforcement action for failing to install an UST system in accordance with an accepted code of practice or failing to follow manufacturer requirements.

Who can I talk to about these testing requirements?

DEQ tank staff are available at the following offices:

In Northwest Oregon (Clatsop, Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Tillamook and Washington counties):

- Portland, 2020 SW Fourth Ave., Suite 400, 503-229-5263

In Western Oregon (Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties):

- Salem office: 750 Front St. NE, Suite 120, 503-378-8240
- Eugene office: 165 East 7th Ave., Suite 100, 541-686-7838
- Coos Bay office: 381 N. Second St., 541-269-2721

In Eastern Oregon (Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler counties):

- The Dalles office: Columbia Gorge Community College, 400 E. Scenic Drive, Building 2, 541-298-7255

Alternative formats

Alternate formats (Braille, large type) of this document can be made available.

Contact DEQ's Office of Communications and Outreach, Portland, at 503-229-5696, or call toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696. Hearing impaired persons may call 711.