

APHIS DIRECTIVE 1060.5
5/21/93

APHIS UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM

1. PURPOSE

This Directive establishes the Underground Storage Tank Program for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and states the policy, guidelines and responsibility for compliance with environmental protection standards.

2. BACKGROUND

On September 23, 1988, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) issued its Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements for Owners and Operators of Underground Storage Tanks (UST). The standards established the requirements for registration, operation, removal, disposal, and installation of UST systems. Further legislation and regulation on all aspects of UST management has been published at State and local levels.

3. AUTHORITIES/REFERENCES

- a. Title 40 CFR Part 280, Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements for Owners and Operators of Underground Storage Tanks.
- b. Title 40 CFR Part 281, Approval of State Underground Storage Tank Programs.
- c. USEPA Publication, EPA/530/UST-88/006, August 1988; Leak Lookout, Using External Leak Detectors to Prevent Petroleum Contamination for Underground Storage Tanks.
- d. USEPA Publication, EPA/530/UST-88/008, July 1990; Musts for USTs, A Summary of the Regulations for Underground Storage Tank Systems.

4. POLICY

The environmental and economic impact of a leaking UST could be disastrous. Leaking underground tanks can contaminate soil and ground water far beyond property boundaries. It is APHIS policy to prevent possible site contamination and damage to the environment by strictly monitoring UST systems and upgrading or removing those systems believed to be unsuitable for chemical storage.

5. GUIDELINES

APHIS-owned facilities which have UST systems must:

- a. Comply with Federal, State, and local regulations to ensure protection of the environment.
- b. Register regulated tanks with the APHIS Policy and Safety Management Branch (PSMB) and State or local agencies.
- c. Closely monitor tanks to identify possible leaks.
- d. Report any leaks or spills to PSMB, and to any regulating State or local agency, in accordance with regulatory standards. Take immediate action to stop and contain leaks or spills.
- e. Properly remove or dispose of in place all underground storage

tanks that are no longer needed or suitable for product storage.

- f. Ensure that new UST systems are installed in accordance with industry codes. When required, these systems must be equipped with leak detection, corrosion protection, and spill/overflow protection.
- g. Justify the need and cost effectiveness of installing and operating a fuel-dispensing facility (Agriculture Property Management Regulations, Subpart 104-38.6200). The justification must be submitted to the Management Services Division, Facilities Management Branch, prior to the installation of any new OST system designed to dispense fuel for use in motor vehicles, farm equipment, and other machinery.

6. RESPONSIBILITY

Facility supervisors are responsible for ensuring that underground storage tanks present at their facilities are in compliance with Federal, State, and local standards.

7. INQUIRIES

Inquiries regarding UST program requirements should be directed to the Management Services Division, PSMB, through FTS 2000 on (301) 436-5991.

Signed by:

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