



# UST Program Update

## February 2024

### Report 6

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has distributed the Semi-Annual Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program Report (Report 6) forms and instructions for the July 1 through December 31, 2023 reporting period. The completed Report 6 documents are due to the State Water Board no later than March 1, 2024.

This reporting period, Report 6 forms will include two questions pertaining to enforcement of single-walled USTs that were not permanently closed by December 31, 2025. Additionally, the number of airport hydrant systems remaining at the end of the reporting period has been removed. Consistent with the last several reporting periods, Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) will continue to report field constructed tanks, facilities with USTs that have received a red tag, and facilities that have abandoned or temporarily closed USTs.

For additional information regarding Report 6 requirements, contact: Magnolia Busse at (916) 341-5780 or [Magnolia.Busse@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Magnolia.Busse@waterboards.ca.gov).

### Single-Walled UST Enforcement

On December 28, 2023, the State Water Board distributed a [letter to single-walled UST facility owners and operators](#)<sup>1</sup> through the UST email subscription that reiterates the permanent closure requirements and the State Water Board and UPAs role in enforcement of single-walled USTs. State Water Board staff are aware that not all single-walled UST owners and operators are subscribed to the UST email subscription list and may not have received this letter. UPAs are encouraged to attach the letter to UST operating permits and inspection reports for all single-walled UST facilities in their jurisdiction. Additionally, this letter is available on our [single-walled UST webpage](#)<sup>2</sup> under "Available Guidance for the Closure of Single-Walled UST Systems."

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ust/adm\\_notices/sw-closure-req-2023.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/sw-closure-req-2023.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/single\\_walled.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/single_walled.html)

For more information regarding single-walled UST enforcement, contact:  
Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or [Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov).

## **CUPA Performance Evaluation Documents**

The State Water Board updated the UST Program portion of the [Supplemental Questionnaire](#)<sup>3</sup> distributed by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) as part of the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) Performance Evaluation. The Supplemental Questionnaire, provided to UPAs prior to the evaluation kickoff meeting, has been updated to include new and expanded questions regarding single-walled tanks, abandoned tanks, and enforcement procedures. The updated Supplemental Questionnaire will assist State Water Board evaluation staff with a better assessment of UST program implementation.

For more information regarding CUPA Performance Evaluation documents, contact:  
Kaitlin Cottrell at (916) 319-0742 or [Kaitlin.Cottrell@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Kaitlin.Cottrell@waterboards.ca.gov).

## **Underground Storage Tank Leak Prevention January – December 2022 Annual Report**

The State Water Board has posted the [California Underground Storage Tank Leak Prevention January – December 2022 Annual Report](#)<sup>4</sup> on the UST Leak Prevention website. This report was developed in collaboration with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the State Water Board. Report data was sourced through the California Environmental Reporting System and the California GeoTracker database. A few noteworthy data points include single-walled USTs are four times more likely to have an unauthorized release than double-walled USTs; 30% of single-walled facilities have unresolved priority violations; and the removal of single-walled systems continues to be below the target rate to have all single-walled systems closed by the December 31, 2025 deadline.

For more information regarding the annual report, contact:  
Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or [Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov).

## **New UST Leak Prevention Staff**

The UST Leak Prevention Unit is pleased to welcome Michelle Suh to the CUPA Evaluation Team. Michelle has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies and a

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ust/docs/2024/cupa-supplemental-questions-2024.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/docs/2024/cupa-supplemental-questions-2024.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ust/leak\\_prevention/docs/epa-evaluations/2022-jan-dec-leak-prevention-report.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/leak_prevention/docs/epa-evaluations/2022-jan-dec-leak-prevention-report.pdf)

Master of Public Health in Environmental and Occupational Health from Loma Linda University. She previously worked as an Environmental Health Specialist for Orange County Food/Pool Division and more recently as the Senior Inspector for Riverside County Hazardous Materials Management Branch.

Michelle can be reached at (916) 323-0878 or [Michelle.Suh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Michelle.Suh@waterboards.ca.gov).