



Underground Storage Tank Program

September 2025 Update

Follow-Up Single-Walled UST Survey

On August 29, 2025, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) distributed follow-up surveys to Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) with single-walled underground storage tanks (USTs) in their jurisdiction. The survey requests additional information regarding red tag supplies and each UPA's specific enforcement plan for single-walled emergency tank systems and government owned tank facilities following the closure deadline. The State Water Board requests that follow-up single-walled surveys be submitted by September 12, 2025. The survey results will be posted on our [single-walled UST webpage](#)¹ and the data will be used to allocate resources. The State Water Board will be distributing red tag supplies soon based on the results of the upcoming survey.

For additional information regarding the single-walled UST surveys or red tag supplies, please contact:

Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov

Tank Anchoring Systems and Buoyancy Calculations

The proposed Title 23, chapter 16 regulations will require anchoring on all tanks installed on or after January 1, 2027. Anchors must be designed to ensure that tank flotation does not occur after installation. The proposed regulations do not prescribe specific anchoring methods, only that the tank must be anchored to prevent flotation in accordance with the manufacturer, industry code or by engineering specifications approved by a California registered professional engineer.

Anchors are typically concrete blocks or pads with straps that connect to or hold down the UST. Tank manufacturers may provide concrete anchors, sized for the specific tank being sold, along with the required buoyancy calculations for the permit plan submittal as part of the installation plans. Owners or operators are not required to utilize the anchors provided by the tank manufacturer as other options are available. The State

¹ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/single_walled.html

Water Board is aware of owners or operators utilizing an alternative method of anchoring while also providing the CUPA with the buoyancy calculations from the tank manufacturer that do not align with the actual anchoring method being installed. This inconsistency could result in inadequate protection from tank flotation.

Installing anchoring systems that were not designed or verified by the tank manufacturer can result in costly repairs for buoyant tanks and may also lead to non-compliance penalties. Repairing a floated tank can be nearly as costly as installing a new tank. Individuals performing plan checks should verify that the tank buoyancy calculations are consistent with the UST's anchoring system.

For additional information regarding anchoring systems on USTs, please contact: Austin Lemire-Baeten at (916) 327-5612 or Austin.Lemire-Baeten@waterboards.ca.gov.

Request to Submit Abstracts: 27th Annual CUPA Conference

The California Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) Forum is requesting abstracts for the 2026 CUPA Conference. Abstracts must be submitted through the [CUPA Forum website](#)² by September 26, 2025. Please note that speaker biographies must be submitted and approved prior to submitting an abstract.

The State Water Board recognizes that presenting at the conference is a significant commitment for both UPA management and the individual presenter. UPAs that meet their program obligations while also presenting at the CUPA Conference will be recognized for their outstanding achievements.

For additional information regarding abstracts for the 28th Annual CUPA Conference, contact: Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov

² <https://calcupa.org/index.html>