Updates to Title 23 UST Regulations for Meeting Federal UST Requirements

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) issued revised federal underground storage tank (UST) regulations on July 15, 2015. The compliance deadlines for the new requirements in the federal UST regulations range from October 13, 2015 to October 13, 2018. Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) require the authority to inspect for and enforce the new federal UST regulations, therefore the State Water Resources Control Board’s (State Water Board) staff, in conjunction with the U.S.EPA, are updating the California Code of Regulations to include the new requirements in the federal UST regulations. Staff is currently reviewing and drafting language to meet the new federal UST regulations that are more stringent than California requirements. The informal drafted text will be shared sometime after the first of the year to the UST Steering Committee for discussion and informal comment.

September 2016 Quarterly UST Status Report

The September 2016 Quarterly UST Status Report was submitted to the U.S. EPA September 16, 2016 and posted to our website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/updates/index.shtml. The report outlines the status, by UPA, of the effort to enter UST related business and compliance, monitoring, and enforcement data into California Environmental Reporting System (CERS). The report shows continued progress by many UPAs.

If you have any questions please contact Dan Firth at daniel.firth@calepa.ca.gov or (916) 445-5049.

Single Walled Tanks Workshops and Information about Closure Requirements

The State Water Board UST Program staff held informational workshops on the permanent closure of single-walled USTs in Sacramento on December 1, 2015, Los Angeles on March 29, 2016, Fresno on April 26, 2016, Redding on May 17, 2016, Cupertino on September 19, 2016, and a webinar on September 26, 2016. The workshops focused on Senate Bill 445, which requires the permanent closure of all single-walled USTs. UST Leak Prevention Program staff discussed in detail the design and construction requirements, as well as the closure requirements, imposed by Senate Bill 445. Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks (RUST) Program staff discussed loan and grant funding opportunities available to assist eligible small business owners/operators to meet the single-walled UST removal requirement.
Lastly, UST Cleanup Fund staff presented information regarding cleanup funds available to assist eligible owners/operators with cleaning up petroleum-related contamination from the UST.

If you missed any of the workshops or the webinar, information about them can be found on our website at http://waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/single_walled/. The website has all the presentations from the UST Leak Prevention staff, RUST Program staff, and UST Cleanup Fund staff. If you have any other questions about the closure of Single Walled USTs please contact Jessica Botsford at Jessica.botsford@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-7338.