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## State Water Resources Control Board

January 20, 2026

*(Via Certified Mail Only)*

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF SINGLE-WALLED UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) ENFORCEMENT**

To Single-Walled UST Owners and Operators:

Beginning January 1, 2026, owners and operators are prohibited from operating single-walled underground storage tanks (UST) and non-exempt single-walled piping. Owners and operators that have not permanently closed their single-walled USTs and non-exempt single-walled piping are in violation of Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 25292.05. This violation constitutes a significant violation as defined in the California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 (UST Regulations), section 2611 for failing to meet the construction requirements of HSC section 25291(a)(1) – (6). Additionally, owners and operators that continue to operate their single-walled USTs are in violation of operating a UST without a valid permit to operate from the Unified Program Agency (UPA).

Single-walled USTs must be permanently closed either by removal or closure-in-place.<sup>1</sup> As part of the permanent closure process, soil samples and groundwater samples (if water is present in the excavation) must be collected and analyzed.<sup>2</sup> Owners and operators that have not submitted a proposal for permanent closure to the UPA should do so immediately.

Owners and operators that have not permanently closed their single-walled USTs are subject to enforcement by the UPA, including affixing red tags and assessing civil penalties of \$500 to \$5,000 per tank, per day of violation. The State Water Resources Control Board also has authority to take enforcement actions, including red tagging facilities (in consultation with the UPA) and assessing civil penalties.

If you have any questions, please contact me via phone at (916) 327-8563 or via email at [ooe-ustunit@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ooe-ustunit@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Jenna Hartman, REHS  
UST Enforcement Unit Supervisor  
**Office of Enforcement**

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<sup>1</sup> UST Regulations, § 2681, subd. (e) – (f).

<sup>2</sup> UST Regulations, § 2681, subd. (g) – (h).