ACT NOW!

All Underground Storage Tank (UST) Facilities Must Have a “Designated UST Operator” by January 1, 2005.

1) What is my responsibility as an UST owner? The UST owner must submit a signed statement to the local agency by January 1, 2005 indicating that: (1) the owner understands and is in compliance with all applicable UST requirements; and (2) identifies the Designated UST Operator(s) for each facility owned.

2) What is a Designated UST Operator? A Designated UST Operator is an individual who has demonstrated he/she is knowledgeable in the statutes, regulations, and management practices associated with proper operation of an UST system. UST owners must submit, in writing, to the local agency the identity of the Designated UST Operator(s) for each facility owned. Designated UST Operators must possess a current “California UST Operator” certificate issued by the International Code Council (ICC). More information on the ICC can be found at: www.iccsafe.org.

3) What tasks is a Designated UST Operator required to perform? The Designated UST Operator has two primary responsibilities: 1) conduct monthly visual inspections of the UST facility, and 2) provide basic on-the-job training for facility employees every twelve months, starting July 1, 2005. These tasks must be performed by the Designated UST Operator, and cannot be delegated.

4) How does a Designated UST Operator become certified? A Designated UST Operator becomes certified by passing the “California UST System Operator” exam. This exam is offered at test centers throughout California. For information on exam content and how to sign up for the exam, visit the ICC website (http://www.iccsafe.org/certification/bulletin.html) and click on the “AST/UST (National and State specific)” Candidate Bulletin link.

5) Who can serve as a Designated UST Operator? There is no restriction on who can serve as a Designated UST Operator. As long as the individual is certified by ICC, the Designated UST Operator could be the UST facility owner, operator, employee, service technician, or a third-party.

6) How many UST facilities can an individual be the Designated UST Operator for? There is no restriction on the number of facilities an individual can be the Designated UST Operator for. However, the Designated UST Operator must be able to perform the required tasks on the timelines specified in regulation. (See question #3.)

Owners and operators who fail to designate a Designated UST Operator by January 1, 2005 may be subject to enforcement action. For additional information on the “Designated UST Operator” requirements, please visit our website at www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/ or contact your local agency (see list on reverse side).

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Please disregard this notice if you do not own/operate an UST.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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1 The State Water Resources Control Board was required to develop training regulations for UST owners/operators. [Health and Saf. Code, §25281.1(a)(4)(A)(1).] The Designated UST Operator requirements can be found in section 2715(a)-(f) of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.
Underground Storage Tank Local Agency Contact List

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