



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
E C O L O G Y

Regulatory Interpretation Manual for Underground Storage Tank Regulations [Chapter 173 – 360 WAC]

May 2004

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Publication and Contact Information

This report is available on the Department of Ecology's website at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/0409088.html>

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Note: Language and WAC references in this document have been updated to reflect current regulations. This 2014 manual is being revised and does not contain all the interpretations found in the 2004 version.

For EPA UST interpretations, visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/swerust1/compend/index.htm>

If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Toxics Cleanup Program at 360-407-7170. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.

Regulatory Interpretation

350 (3)(c) Interstitial Monitoring for Piping May 2013

Issue:

Do both the inner pipe and the outer pipe used for interstitial monitoring have to follow the performance standards for piping, if the method is using a dry interstice with liquid sensors downhill in a sump?

Applicable Sections in UST Rules:

305 (2) “The piping that routinely contains regulated substances and is in contact with the ground shall be properly designed and constructed with material that is compatible with and impermeable to the stored substance ...in accordance with a code of practice developed by a nationally recognized association or independent testing laboratory as specified below....UL Subject 971..”

350 (3)(c) “...they are designed to detect a release from any portion of the underground piping that routinely contains regulated substances.”

345 (6)(h)(i) “For double-walled UST systems, the sampling or testing method can detect a release through the inner wall in any portion of the tank (*sic pipe*) that routinely contains product...”

Interpretation:

305 (2) “The piping that routinely contains regulated substances and is in contact with the ground shall be properly designed and constructed with material that is compatible with and impermeable to the stored substance ...in accordance with a code of practice developed by a nationally recognized association or independent testing laboratory as specified below....UL Subject 971..”

350 (3)(c) “...they are designed to detect a release from any portion of the underground piping that routinely contains regulated substances.”

345 (6)(h)(i) “For double-walled UST systems, the sampling or testing method can detect a release through the inner wall in any portion of the tank (*sic pipe*) that routinely contains product...”



Photo 1. Non UL listed chase pipe (not allowed for interstitial, must use line tightness testing, electronic ALLD monthly 0.2 gph test, or SIR, if applicable)



Photo 2. UL Canada listed (ULC 1993) old TCI Enviroflex chase pipe with corrugated interior (allowed for interstitial)



Photo 3. UL 971 listed (2005) new chase pipe with black smooth interior (allowed for interstitial)

ULC Listing

This card issued by Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada

Guide 315 I14

December 6, 1993

File CMH1385/CMH1422

Nonmetallic Piping, Flammable Liquid, Underground

TOTAL CONTAINMENT INC., Oaks, PA 19456.

Flexible Primary Piping: Flexible pipe in 38 mm diameter size (NPS 1-1/2) rated at 345 kPa and fittings.

The pipe is intended for the underground transfer of petroleum products at temperatures between -40°C and 49°C when installed:

- a) in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions; and
- b) within ULC labelled T.C.I. flexible secondary containment pipe and ULC labelled access chambers and sumps.

The pipe is to be installed only when temperatures are above -18°C.

Secondary Containment: High-density polyethylene pipe, flexible pipe and fittings, designation "Pipe Jacket" and "Enviroflex® Secondary Pipe", nominal pipe sizes 4 and 5. When installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions, the resulting system may be used for the secondary containment of flammable liquids in NPS 2 and 3 steel and non-metallic piping.

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Regulatory Interpretation

Section 600 Exemption for Site Assessors

June 2013

Issue:

Does a licensed Geologist (or Hydrogeologist) need an ICC Site Assessor Certification to conduct Site Assessments during regulated UST permanent tank closures?

Applicable Sections in UST Rules:

Section 600 “Purpose of Part VI. After the effective date of these regulations, individuals who perform tank services must be certified by the International Fire Code Institute, or other nationally recognized association that the department has determined provides an examination and credentials whereby individuals can demonstrate their knowledge of various regulatory codes, standards and practices pertaining to underground storage tanks, or have passed another qualifying exam approved by the department. Washington registered professional engineers who are competent, by means of examination, experience, or education, to perform site assessments, are not required to be certified for site assessment work.”

Section 620 “Types of certifications.

The department requires certifications in the following areas:

- (1) Tank installation and retrofitting;
- (2) Tank decommissioning;
- (3) Tightness testing;
- (4) Cathodic protection installation and testing; and
- (5) Site assessment associated with tank closure.”

Interpretation:

Yes, a licensed Geologist (or Hydrogeologist) needs either an ICC Site Assessors Certification or be a Washington registered professional engineer to perform site assessments during regulated UST permanent tank closures. The International Fire Code Institute (IFCI) changed its name to the International Code Council (ICC) after the UST regulation was written. Ecology worked with the IFCI, and later the ICC, on the exam questions for the 5 UST certifications. Ecology approved the 5 exams, including the Washington Site Assessors ICC examination, which is a Washington State specific exam.

The first sentence in section 600 deals with all 5 certifications (installation, decommission, site assessment, cathodic protection, and tightness testing). Ecology has not approved a licensed Geologist exam. The last sentence in section 600 deals only with the Site Assessment exemption, for Washington professional engineers.

The UST program recognizes there are some licensed Geologists (or Hydrogeologists) who are competent, by means of examination, experience, or education, to perform site assessments, so draft language was prepared for the next re-write of the UST regulations, to exempt them along with Washington registered PEs. It is not written in the current revision of the UST regulations.

Regulatory Interpretation

Operator Training Reciprocity

January 21, 2014

ISSUE:

Does Washington allow “site-specific” Class A, B or A/B UST training?

Applicable Sections in UST Rules:

Section 730 Class A and B Operators. Each Class A and Class B operator must successfully complete a classroom, computer, or field-based training program or examination that...covers the following subject areas and associated requirements of this chapter.” A full list of topics is included in WAC 173-360-730(1).

Interpretation:

Yes, the Washington UST regulations allow “site-specific” training for Class A, B or A/B operators if the “site” the operator training covers is a site in Washington State that the Class A/B operator oversees. This assures that subject areas and associated requirements relevant to a specific site are included in the training, as required under Section 730. For example, if an owner took a “site-specific” Class A/B training for a site at 123 Main Street in another state, he could not use that training to cover the operator training requirement for a site located at 456 First Street in Washington.

Class A, B or A/B certificates obtained at trainings that are general in nature and cover all UST-related subject areas and associated requirements are acceptable at any site located in Washington.

The vendors providing these courses have previously been approved by Ecology. A list of Ecology-approved vendors can be found on the web at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/ust-lust/OperatorTraining/UST-training-providers.html>

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