



July 20, 2015

To whom it may concern:

The Santa Barbara County Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) has rescinded any UST policies that were more stringent than standards established by state law and/or regulation, and are not supported by locally adopted ordinance. These policies were not being enforced and are no longer in effect. All UST plan review, installation inspection, start-up verification, and operational certification shall be performed in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations unless different standards have been adopted in local ordinance.

To date, no UST policies more stringent than those established by State law and/or regulation are adopted in local ordinance. The CUPA has no intention of instituting any new UST policies or other policies that are more stringent than the State's. The CUPA management and personnel have determined the State's requirements are adequate.

This notice is being directed to the testing companies conducting work on UST facilities within the County. In addition, this notice will be placed on our website for review by the general public, business owners, and any technicians or testing companies new to the area.

Please note: When any UST plan review, installation inspection, start-up verification, or operational certification needs to be scheduled with a CUPA inspector, email the information to USTNotification@sbcphd.org. This method allows us to monitor our workload, direct the work to the appropriate inspector, and provide better service.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, contact me at 805-681-4044 or Erin.O'Connell@sbcphd.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin O'Connell".

Erin K. O'Connell, P.G., C.E.G.
Hazardous Materials Supervisor
Santa Barbara County CUPA



UST GUIDANCE LETTER COLD STARTS

"Cold starts" of underground storage tank (UST) monitoring systems can be required for various reasons: power outages, replacement of circuit boards, upgrading software, reinstalling software to remedy system glitches, etc. While it is possible in some cases for technicians to capture and preserve data in flash memory, cold starts frequently result in the loss of alarm history data and system setup programming. System setup programming is fundamental to proper performance of leak detection systems, therefore, it is important that this Department's Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) be notified of all instances where a monitoring system is programmed or reprogrammed. If a facility's underground storage tank (UST) monitoring system fails in such a manner requiring reinstatement of archived data, then the system has experienced a "cold start". To facilitate restarting the monitoring system and to ensure it is properly programmed, the UST owner/operator is required to:

1. Notify CUPA immediately prior to starting any work. A voice message to 805-681-4927 is acceptable. Provide your name and a call back number, the name and address of the facility, and a brief description of the problem that caused the failure of the monitoring system.
2. Weekend or after-hours repairs for cold starts may be conducted provided at the time of the repair notification is made to CUPA. A message may be left on any of the Branch office phones. You are required to contact the office the next business day to determine if a Plan Check and/or any additional testing is needed.
3. Have only a properly licensed California UST Service Technician, with appropriate manufacturer component certification, reprogram the monitoring system.
4. Submit a monitoring certification signed by the California UST Service Technician (certification does not need to include the spill buckets) and a copy of the service invoice to the CUPA. The facility shall also keep a copy for their records.
5. Maintain the facility's established annual UST monitoring system certification anniversary date.

Provided you follow the above conditions you are **not required** to: complete an Underground Storage Tank Plan Check Application, wait for the Department's approval to recertify the underground storage tank monitoring system, or have a CUPA-UST Inspector present for the underground storage tank monitoring system recertification.

Please Note: Any additional repairs apart from the above may require the submittal of an Underground Storage Tank Plan Check Application and payment of any applicable fees. Failure to follow these instructions can result in enforcement action

Reference: Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 16, Sections: 2638, 2712, and 2715.
California Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.7 Sections 25280.6 and 25293