REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REMOVAL OF UNDERGROUND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS STORAGE TANKS

The following guidelines must be followed to satisfy Santa Barbara County CUPA requirements when removing underground hazardous material storage tanks in Santa Barbara County. Please note local fire agency, Cal OSHA, Building/Planning Department, and Air Pollution Control District requirements also apply to this activity.

1. **PERMIT APPLICATION** - The tank owner/contractor must fill out the "Application to Permanently Close/Remove an Underground Hazardous Materials Storage Tank" (UST Form 307), and return the form with the permit fee to the CUPA. An approved application is valid for 90 days from date of issuance. All laws, regulations and Departmental policies in effect at the time the tanks are actually removed must be adhered to. The application packet must include:
   a. Either UST Form B, or printouts of the UST submittal elements on CERS. If no CERS submittals exist, utilize UST Form B. Abandoned/discovered USTs at sites without CUPA permits may submit Forms A & B.
   b. A site specific Health and Safety Plan
   c. A Sampling Plan
   d. A plot plan/site plan meeting the requirements of 23 CCR 2711(a)(8)

2. **SCHEDULING THE REMOVAL** - After the application has been approved, the owner/contractor shall arrange a time with the assigned Santa Barbara County CUPA Hazardous Materials Specialist to witness the removal of the tank(s). Please allow one week lead time for an appointment. The tank(s) shall be excavated, isolated, cleaned, purged (but not inerted), and ready to pull at the appointment time and when the Hazardous Materials Specialist arrives. Ensure a representative from the applicable local fire agency is on-site during tank removal.

3. **EQUIPMENT USE - WORKER SAFETY** - A safety/maintenance check of all equipment shall be conducted just prior to the start of work. All cables or chokers, grounding equipment, lifting machinery, etc. shall be of sufficient grade or rating to handle the weights and conditions at the tank site. Employers and workers at the site shall comply with all Cal OSHA/Federal OSHA requirements including personal protection, safety, training, and safety planning rules. The Hazardous Materials Specialist will not permit removal activities that pose imminent hazard to the public or site personnel.
4. **REQUIRED ON-SITE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**
   a. Smoking, use of open flame, and tools or other sources of ignition shall be prohibited within 50 feet of tank areas.
   b. Use of chains to pull UST(s) will not be allowed. Chokers or wire cables shall be used.
   c. Tools used during removal process shall be of non-sparking materials.
   d. A minimum of two State Fire Marshal approved 2A-40 BC rated fire extinguishers shall be on-site with certification of service within the previous 12 months attached.
   e. The UST excavation area shall be barricaded/fenced to prohibit access by unauthorized persons.
   f. Prior to removal of the tank(s), the applicant shall be responsible to provide a properly trained, qualified individual to use an intrinsically safe, UL listed approved flammable vapor indicator to test for flammable vapors (LEL) present within the excavation area and at UST openings. The LEL taken at the UST opening shall be below 5% prior to application of an inerting media.

5. **CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS** - All tanks/piping must be removed by a State licensed contractor as stated in the State Water Board LG 48-5 letter with the following exception: Tanks 550 gallons or less may be removed by tank owners doing the work themselves without the aid of a contractor at the discretion of the Hazardous Materials Specialist.

6. **TANK CLEANING** - All hazardous materials must be removed from the tank prior to removal. This usually will entail washing the tank with an appropriate solvent to dissolve or float any residual hazardous material. A hot water/soap mixture shall be used to clean fuel tanks. A minimum of one percent (1%) of the tank capacity shall be used to back flush product piping into the tank and another three percent (3%) shall be sprayed into the tank to clean all surfaces using a high pressure multi-directional nozzle.
   
   All wash water contaminated with hazardous material shall be handled, transported and recycled/disposed of as a hazardous waste. A State Department of Toxics Substances Control registered hauler and hazardous waste manifests must be used in this process.

7. **TANK INERTING** - Tanks containing residual flammable vapors or that had contained flammable liquids must be inerted and monitored via one of the following methods:
   a. **Dry Ice Method:** For each 100 gallons of UST capacity, two pounds of dry ice shall be placed in the UST through the fill opening. All UST openings shall be capped/plugged. One opening shall have a maximum of ¼ inch and minimum of 1/8 inch opening for pressure equalization.
   b. **Carbon Dioxide (CO2) or Nitrogen (N2) Method:** One cubic foot CO2 or N2 per gallon of tank capacity. Triple grounding shall be used with compressed cylinders. It will be the contractor’s responsibility to ensure that the cylinder hose fits into a non-conductive plug which screws into the UST. Hoses will not be allowed to dangle into the UST.
   c. Pursuant to local fire agency requirements.

8. **PIPING** - All piping must be uncovered but remain in place until the Hazardous Materials Specialist approves the removal of the piping.
9. **CONTAMINATED SOILS HANDLING** - All excavated soils contaminated with hazardous materials must be stockpiled on-site in a secure, contained, and covered fashion to prevent public assess and release of the contaminant to the environment.

Contaminated soils shall be segregated from clean soils and sampled within 24 hours of excavation by a representative of a State Health Services certified hazardous waste laboratory or a State licensed geologist/hydrologist/qualified engineer (or other licensed professional as approved by the CUPA), who will transport the sample under chain of custody to a certified lab following EPA SW846 protocol.

10. **SAMPLING OF SOILS** - Verification soil samples shall be collected by approved samplers/lab for all tank removals as follows:

   a. **Sites with no apparent contamination and no holes in tanks or pipes** - a minimum of **two samples per tank** from the bottom of the excavation, **two feet into native soil**. At the discretion of the Hazardous Materials Specialist, additional samples may be required. Also, a minimum of one sample per every **20 feet** of piping and **one sample below each pipe joint and each dispenser** is required.

   b. **Sites with no apparent contamination but with holes in tanks/pipes** - In addition to sampling as described in (a) above, additional samples taken directly beneath the observed holes.

   c. **Sites with stained soil/odors present** - Same as (a) and (b) above with additional sampling directly in the stained soil areas.

11. **SITE ASSESSMENT/MITIGATION** - Tank sites that have environmental contamination will be referred to the Site Mitigation Unit (SMU)/Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) program.

12. **TANK RECYCLING/DISPOSAL** - Cleaned tanks shall be removed from the site immediately to a facility zoned for this activity and is in compliance with local fire prevention codes for recycling/disposal. Dispensers and piping must also be removed if tank system is removed.

13. **CLOSURE REPORT** - A report containing, at a minimum, the following information shall be submitted by the responsible party within 30 days of removal:

   a. Site background
   b. Removal activities
   c. UST certificate of destruction or other approved disposition
   d. Sampling protocols including chain-of-custody for all samples collected
   e. Sampling results including the raw data and chain-of-custody documentation from all labs used
   f. Drawings, sized 11 x 17 inches or larger, folded to 8.5" x 11", and drawn to a suitable scale for details of the former tank system. The scale must be one of the following: 1"=10', 1"=20', 1"=30', 1"=40', 1"=50', 1"=60', 1"=100', 1"=200'.
   
   i. Limits of the excavation
   ii. Depths and location of all samples
   iii. Property lines and adjacent property usage
   iv. Any structures at facility
   v. North arrow, scale, and key of symbols used