

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA ♦ FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1042 (805) 681-5500 Fax (805) 681-5553

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION / MODIFICATION OF UNDERGROUND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS STORAGE TANKS

Underground hazardous material storage systems constructed in Santa Barbara County must conform to standards approved by the County Hazardous Materials Unit. Written approval must be obtained prior to the installation of any new or replacement storage facility. Inspections will normally be conducted within one week of notice provided an approved application is on file with the Department.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to show that the proposed site, with its existing and potential soil and groundwater conditions, is suitable for the construction of the proposed storage systems. The Department shall require plans to be prepared by a registered civil engineer if structural or physical features of the installation are determined to require special considerations.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

Written approval of plans is required prior to construction. Application and plans shall be submitted to the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, 4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

Application and plans shall contain the following:

1. A complete application signed by the property owner, or in the case of a corporation, by a responsible officer of the corporation.
2. A fee in the amount of \$ 1,250.00 for each tank being installed at the location **or** \$ 603.00 for each tank being modified.
3. **Two copies** (11 x 17 inch) of the plans should be submitted for approval.
4. A scale of 20 to 100 feet per inch for the plot plan, with a suitable scale for details of the storage facility system to be installed.
5. Show the following:
 - North arrow
 - Plot plan scale and key of symbols used
 - Vicinity map
 - Location of all tanks and piping and their secondary containment
 - Distances from all property lines, proposed and existing buildings, basements, sumps, utility vaults, etc.
 - Fire Department access: road widths, turning radius and/or cul de sacs within a proposed complex, adjoining public streets, intersections, fences and gates.
 - Closest fire hydrant(s) and distance(s)
 - Water supply well(s) and/or water service lines within 200 feet
 - Sewage disposal system and/or sewer lines
 - Any surface water within 200 feet of the site
 - Location of fill connections
 - Location of manual gauging site
 - _____
6. Draw installation cross-section and elevations showing the following:
 - Spacing between tanks if more than one
 - Depth of tank(s)
 - Types and dimensions of back fill material
 - Thickness of soil cover
 - Depth of concrete or asphalt cover plate
 - Indicate whether tanks will be subject to overhead traffic

7. Provide details and description of the following:
- Equipment summary (for both new and existing)
 - Leak detection system
 - Automatic turbine shutdown
 - Overfill protection system
 - Vapor recovery system
 - Design of piping - indicate pipe support system, swing joints, valve types and locations, size of pipe
 - Rainwater collection system if needed

Construction approval shall be issued upon review and approval of a completed application and satisfactory plans. Each site plan will be stamped to show compliance with Department requirements. Approval is valid for **90 days** from date of issuance.

The Department shall require plans to be prepared by a registered civil engineer if structural or physical features of the installation are determined to require special considerations.

PROCEDURE FOR FIELD INSPECTIONS

A Hazardous Materials Specialist is required on-site during certain phases of new or replacement installations. These phases are listed below. Each inspection requires one week prior notice in order to schedule inspections.

Required Inspections:

1. Holiday test of fiberglass coated steel tanks prior to placement in the excavation.
2. Placement of the tanks in the excavation. The manufacturer's specifications for installation shall be followed.
3. Pressure test on the primary and secondary tanks after the excavation has been backfilled at 3 to 5 psi¹.
4. Pressure test of the primary piping at 75 to 80 psi, secondary piping at 3 to 5 psi¹ for a minimum of 30 minutes and verification of proper fall of all piping.
5. Liquid tightness test of other forms of secondary containment (e.g. fiber trench, concrete vaults, manways, etc.)
6. Final inspection to test leak detectors, automatic turbine shutdown and verify construction was completed as indicated on the plans and within scope of conditions of permit.

Questions concerning underground storage tanks should be directed to the office which will be handling the application.

¹ 3 - 5 psi testing must be done with gauges having a maximum range of 15 psi.

