



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

Release Detection Recordkeeping Fact Sheet

Title 18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 78, *Underground Storage Tanks*, requires owners and operators of regulated underground storage tank (UST) systems to monitor release detection at least once every 30 days, and to retain the records for at least one year (18 AAC 78.060(e), 78.065(h), 78.070(d), 78.072(c)). Owners and/or operators must provide the last 12 months of leak detection records, during a third-party inspection, to be in compliance (18 AAC 78.056(a)(2)).

LEAK DETECTION PROBATION:

- If 12 months of acceptable records are not available to review, then the operator fails the inspection's recordkeeping section, and the UST system is placed on Leak Detection Probation (LDP) for one year; the inspector and the owner or operator may then sign a 12-month LDP Agreement:
 - The owner and/or operator agrees to submit monthly records to the UST inspector;
 - Inspector monitors compliance progress and provides technical assistance for the year;
 - Inspector notifies the department that LDP is complete, submits the 12 months records;
 - The department reviews the documentation to ensure compliance, then may issue a current decal for the compliance tag.
- **Repeated non-compliance with leak detection:** failure to monitor, or failure to provide a rolling 12 months' records to meet requirements of a subsequent UST operations inspection, means:
 - Implementation of the 30-day fuel authorization program, for a minimum of 12 months;
 - The department issues a *Fuel Authorization Letter*, on a 30-day basis, dependent on timely receipt of acceptable monthly release-detection records;
 - Acceptable records include: printouts of automatic tank gauge (ATG), sensor liquid status, and automatic line-leak detectors (ALLD); third-party vendor statistical inventory reconciliation (SIR) reports; precision line-tightness test (LTT) results; monitoring logs of annular and/or interstitial spaces (manual or photo); other methods which meet third-party certification of regulatory and industry standards (18 AAC 78.065(h)-(k), 78.070);
 - After successful completion of the 30-day fuel authorization period of LDP (12 months), the UST system will be placed on a one-year LDP, to be completed when a full 12 months of acceptable records are submitted with the LTT and annual ALLD functional test results; a current compliance tag decal may then be issued.
- Failure to comply with LDP may result in implementation of delivery prohibition (18 AAC 78.018).
- UST systems without a current fuel authorization are listed on the *Tanks Without Tags* webpage: <https://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/UST/TanksWithoutTags>.
- Fuel distributors *are prohibited* from transferring fuel to a UST system without a current decal or fuel authorization letter, and notified to check the *Tanks Without Tags* webpage prior to delivery.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- If a leak detection test is erratic or fails, the operator must address it within seven days:
 - Remove liquids from annular spaces, piping interstitial sumps, and/or under-dispenser containment; if cleaning fails to clear alarms, or restore a passing result, *then*:
 - Call your UST service provider to troubleshoot, repair, replace, and retest the failed component;
 - If the issue is not addressed within seven days, you **must report** the anomaly to the ADEC UST unit.
- If a UST system component fails a third-party inspection, it must be upgraded or repaired within **60 days** of the inspection (18 AAC 78.059(h)(4)). To request an extension, submit proof of contract with a detailed schedule of the work to be done and timeline; a fuel authorization may be approved up to 60 days.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT YOUR UST REGULATOR	Curtis.Kiesel@alaska.gov 907-465-5283	Cheryl.Paige@alaska.gov 907-269-7679	Susan.Young@alaska.gov 907-269-3052
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