

# PROCEDURES FOR PLACING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK SYSTEMS IN TEMPORARY CLOSURE AND RETURNING THEM TO SERVICE



N.C. Department of Environmental Quality  
 Division of Waste Management  
 Underground Storage Tank (UST) Section

## Steps to Place a UST System in Temporary Closure

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| <p><b>All UST systems placed into temporary closure</b></p>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit annual tank fees and maintain financial responsibility.</li> <li>• Continue operation and maintenance of corrosion protection systems on tanks and piping.</li> <li>• <b>Conduct three-year testing of the corrosion protection systems for proper operation by a qualified corrosion protection tester.</b> Results must be recorded on a UST-7A form for galvanic corrosion protection systems and on a UST-7B for impressed current corrosion protection systems. Submit these test results to NCDEQ.</li> <li>• <b>Inspect impressed current corrosion protection systems every 60 days</b> to ensure the equipment is operating properly. Keep and record 60-day readings.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>UST system temporarily closed for <u>fewer than 90</u> days</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove all product and residue from UST systems to less than one-inch present in any portion of the system.</li> <li>• <b>Submit a UST-8 form</b>, “Notification for Activities Involving Underground Storage Tank Systems (USTs)” to NCDEQ. This notifies the state that the USTs are in temporary closure.</li> <li>• Remove product, water and debris from spill buckets.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>UST system closed for <u>90 or more days</u></b></p>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Perform all steps required for UST systems temporarily closed for less than 90 days.</b></li> <li>• Ensure vent lines are open and functioning.</li> <li>• Cap and secure all other lines, pumps, manways and ancillary equipment.</li> </ul>  |

## Steps to Bring a UST System Out of Temporary Closure and Place It Back Into Service

### UST system(s) temporarily closed for fewer than 90 days

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| <p><b>UST owner or operator must submit the following:</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UST-8 form</b>, “Notification of Activities Involving Underground Storage Tank Systems (USTs),” updating current UST system equipment and leak detection procedures.</li> <li>• <b>UST-7A or UST-7B form</b> if the UST system has a corrosion protection system.</li> <li>• <b>Annual tank fees</b>, if owed.</li> <li>• <b>Proof of financial responsibility</b>, if not already on file for the owner or operator.</li> </ul> |
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Once the requirements above are met and any facility compliance issues are resolved, a standard operating permit will be issued.

### UST system(s) temporarily closed for 90 or more days

**Phase 1 of 2**

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| <p><b>UST owner or operator must submit the following:</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Annual tank fees</b>, if owed.</li> <li>• <b>Proof of financial responsibility</b>, if not already on file for the present owner or operator. If an owner or operator intends to use pollution liability insurance, then an insurance policy may not be able to be submitted until after all testing has been completed.</li> <li>• <b>UST-22A form</b>: Overfill operability check<sup>1,2</sup></li> <li>• <b>UST-22B form</b>: Annual leak detection operability check<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• <b>UST-22C form</b>: Sump visual inspection</li> <li>• <b>UST-23A form</b>: Spill bucket integrity test<sup>1,2</sup></li> </ul> |
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<sup>1</sup> Must be performed in accordance with manufacturer’s written guidelines and the most recent version of Petroleum Equipment Institute/Recommended Practice RP1200 or another method approved by NCDEQ.

<sup>2</sup> Test results older than six months will not be accepted.

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| <p><b>Additional items for a UST system/component installed before November 1, 2007</b></p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UST-7A or UST-7B form</b> with cathodic protection test results. This is required for a UST system that has a corrosion protection system.</li> <li>• <b>Tank tightness testing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Single wall tanks:</b> tank tightness test results. Must use a 0.1 gallon per hour, third-party certified precision tank tightness test. <sup>1,2</sup></li> <li>○ <b>Double wall tanks:</b> UST-23D form for a double-walled tank interstitial space test. <sup>1,2</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>UST-23B form:</b> containment sump integrity test. This is required if using interstitial leak detection monitoring for piping. <sup>1,2</sup></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Additional items for a UST system/component installed on or after November 1, 2007</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UST-23B form:</b> Containment sump integrity test<sup>1,2</sup></li> <li>• <b>UST-23D form:</b> Double-walled tank interstitial space test <sup>2,3</sup></li> </ul>  |

<sup>1</sup> Must be performed in accordance with manufacturer’s written guidelines and the most recent version of Petroleum Equipment Institute/Recommended Practice RP1200 or another method approved by NCDEQ.

<sup>2</sup> Test results older than six months will not be accepted.

<sup>3</sup> Must use a 0.1 gallon per hour third party certified interstice tightness test if using an electronic liquid detecting sensor or a test from a National Standard such as Petroleum Equipment Institute/Recommended Practice RP1200 for pressure, brine, or vacuum monitored interstices.

*Once the Phase 1 requirements above are met, a temporary operating permit will be issued. This will allow final testing to be conducted.*

**Phase 2 of 2**

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| <p><b>UST owner or operator must submit the following:</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UST-8 form</b>, “Notification for Activities Involving Underground Storage Tank Systems (USTs),” updating current UST system equipment and leak detection as well as the date the UST systems were brought back in to use (UST-8, bottom of page 5).</li> <li>• <b>Automatic line leak detector functionality test results</b> for pressurized piping only.</li> <li>• <b>Proof of financial responsibility</b> (pollution liability insurance policy, if applicable).</li> </ul> |
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| <p><b>Additional items for a UST system/component installed before November 1, 2007</b></p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Line tightness test results.</b> Required for pressurized or American suction piping. Must use a 0.1 gallon per hour, third-party certified precision line tightness test. <sup>2</sup></li> <li>• <b>UST-23C form:</b> Double-walled piping interstitial space test. This is required if using interstitial leak detection monitoring for piping. <sup>1,2</sup></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Additional items for a UST system/component installed on or after November 1, 2007</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Line tightness test results.</b> Required for pressurized, American suction, European suction or manifold piping. Must use a 0.1 gallon per hour, third-party certified precision line tightness test. <sup>2</sup></li> <li>• <b>UST-23C form:</b> Double-walled piping interstitial space test. <sup>1,2</sup></li> </ul>  |

<sup>1</sup>Must be performed in accordance with manufacturer’s written guidelines and the most recent version of Petroleum Equipment Institute/Recommended Practice RP1200.

<sup>2</sup>Test results older than six months will not be accepted.

Once the Phase 2 requirements are met and any facility compliance issues have been resolved, a standard operating permit will be issued.

### Contact Us

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| <p><b>Telephone</b></p>                  | <p>(919) 707-8171</p>  |
| <p><b>Fax</b></p>                        | <p>(919) 715-1117</p>  |
| <p><b>E-mail</b></p>                     | <p><a href="mailto:UST.Permits@ncdenr.gov">UST.Permits@ncdenr.gov</a></p>                                      |
| <p><b>Website</b></p>                    | <p><a href="http://www.wastenotnc.org">http://www.wastenotnc.org</a></p>                                       |
| <p><b>USPS Standard Mail</b></p>         | <p>NCDEQ/UST<br/>Attn: Registration and Permitting<br/>1646 Mail Service Center<br/>Raleigh, NC 27699-1646</p> |
| <p><b>Overnight/Special Delivery</b></p> | <p>NCDEQ/UST<br/>Attn: Registration and Permitting<br/>217 West Jones St<br/>Raleigh, NC 27603-6100</p>        |