

Underground Storage Tank (UST) System Installation Inspection Overview



Installation Inspection Overview:

As of November 1, 2007, the installation inspection process was implemented to ensure new UST systems and replacement of UST systems were installed to comply with 15A NCAC 2N "Criteria and Standards Applicable to USTs". UST Section personnel will conduct two inspections during the installation of UST systems.

1) Phase I (Tank): A visual inspection of the tank's exterior and observation of tank integrity testing prior to the tank being placed into the excavation.

2) Phase II (Piping): For new and replacement piping, observation of testing of all piping, fittings, and containment sumps prior to backfilling.

After approval of the UST-6 has been received, contact the inspector a minimum of two working days prior to the proposed inspection date to schedule the inspection. Providing advance notice (one to two weeks) will give you a better chance in scheduling on the proposed date.

Following these tips below will allow for a smoother and more efficient inspection for both you and the inspector:

Phase I (Tank) Inspection:

- Ensure that proper equipment is available on site to have the tank lifted for visual inspection of the bottom.
- The inspector will observe the required integrity test of the tank based on the manufacturer's recommendations. Be sure to use the most current version of the manufacturer's installation specifications.
- If the tank manufacturer has certification requirements, the installer must have these training certificates on site to provide to the inspector for review.
- Have a camera/phone available on site to photograph the gauges on top of the tank and/or to take pictures of the interior of the tank.
- Brine-filled tanks should be set upright on site with time allowed for the reservoir to vent for the brine to stabilize.

Phase II (Piping) Inspection:

- Both the primary portion and interstitial space of the piping must be tested per the most current manufacturer's instructions. Contractors should conduct initial testing of the pipe and verify passing results **before** the inspector is scheduled to be on site.
- Have current installation certifications from the piping manufacturer available on site for the inspector to review. All employees that are installing the piping must be trained.
- Each piping run should have a dedicated gauge with a maximum pressure that should be no greater than double the actual test pressure. The gauge should be placed at the point furthest away from the pressure source to verify the entire run is being tested.
- For hydrostatic testing of sumps, water levels must be clearly marked, and the water level must be above all seams, connections and penetrations.

Any minor modifications made from the approved UST-6 must be approved by the installation engineer. Significant changes require the UST-6 to be resubmitted for approval. If significant unapproved changes are found at the time of the inspection, the inspection will be discontinued until the amended UST-6 has been reviewed and approved.

Additional Information

For more information, please contact the Permits and Inspection Branch at (919) 707-8171 or please visit the UST Section's website concerning UST installations at

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/ust/installations> .