

Unified Program Newsletter – June 2024

Contents

State Water Board.....	1
Paperless Report 6 Discrepancies.....	1
Overfill Prevention Equipment for Waste Oil USTs.....	2
Designated UST Operator Visual Inspection	3
Office of Tank Tester Licensing Webpage Updates.....	3
DTSC	4
Generator Improvements Rule	4
DTSC’s 2024 electronic Verification Questionnaire Report Cycle	4
Cal FIRE OSFM	5
Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Webinars	5
APSA State Surcharge	6

State Water Board

Paperless Report 6 Discrepancies

Currently, 77 Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) have been approved to submit the Semiannual Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program Report (Report 6) through paperless reporting. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) evaluates the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) data of each UPA requesting paperless reporting for accuracy and completeness prior to approval. The paperless reporting approval is provided with the understanding that the information entered in CERS and included as part of the Report 6 is accurate in UST and inspection count, and Technical Compliance Rate (TCR) performance measures. With each report, the UPA certifies with the paperless Report 6 submittal that the data in CERS was verified for accuracy for that reporting period. Inaccurate data in CERS negatively impacts the State Water Board’s required reporting to the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The July-December 2023 Report 6 submittals found 43% of paperless reports had data discrepancies. UPAs providing incorrect data as part of the Report 6 submittal will be returned to the UPA for correction and considered late if the corrections are provided after the March 1 or September 1 deadlines. Report 6 discrepancies and late submissions are reviewed as part of the UPA evaluation. UPAs that had paperless Report 6 discrepancies or late submissions of Report 6 should consider reviewing Local Guidance (LG) 164 and may reach out to State Water Board staff for training on performing CERS data quality reviews.

For additional information regarding paperless reporting and Report 6, contact: Magnolia Busse at (916) 341-5870, or Magnolia.Busse@waterboards.ca.gov. For data quality training, please contact: Kaitlin Cottrell at (916) 319-0742 or Kaitlin.Cottrell@waterboards.ca.gov.

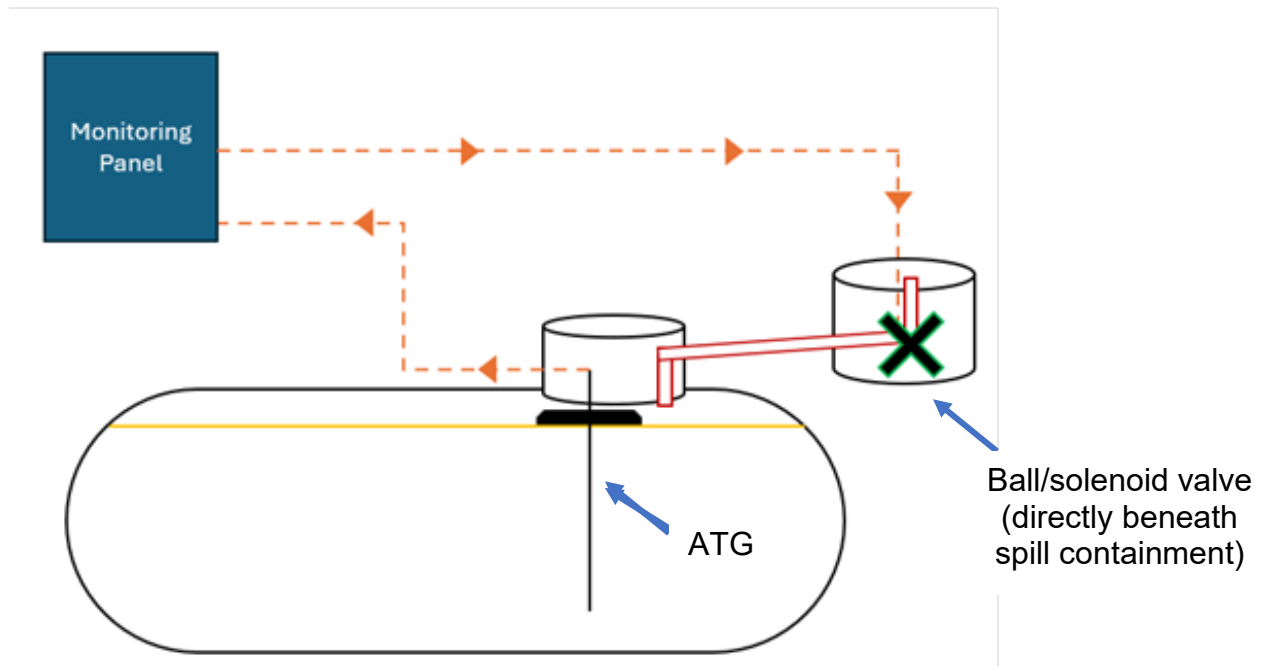
Overfill Prevention Equipment for Waste Oil USTs

The State Water Board has been asked to provide additional guidance on overfill prevention equipment (OPE) methods for waste oil USTs. As discussed in previous [monthly updates](#), using positive shut off OPE for waste oil USTs has been complicated due to problems associated with compatibility, flow rates, and removal of the drop tube to empty the waste oil tank. UPAs have asked the State Water Board if there are additional OPE methods available that meet the overfill prevention equipment requirement in California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 (UST Regulations), section 2635(c)(1)(c).

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/cupa/updates/docs/2023/may2023_ust.pdf)

The most common waste oil OPE devices are shut off valves where a float arm lifts as fluid rises in the tank and closes a ball valve in the drop tube, stopping flow into the tank (positive shut off). These OPE devices do not work for all UST configurations, such as USTs with a remote fill or direct bury spill containment, and therefore may not meet the requirements of UST Regulations, section 2635(c)(1)(c).

Another OPE method for waste oil USTs combines the automatic tank gauge (ATG) with a ball or solenoid valve located directly beneath the spill container to shut off the flow to the tank when the tank is filled to 95 percent of capacity. The ATG activates at 95 percent or less tank volume and the monitoring panels sends a relay signal to close the automated ball or solenoid valve beneath the spill containment stopping flow into the tank. This method can be utilized by systems where the spill containment is located within a sump or aboveground, and is depicted in the diagram below:



For additional information regarding OPE for waste oil USTs, contact:
Tom Henderson at (916) 319-9128 or Tom.Henderson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Designated UST Operator Visual Inspection

The State Water Board is aware of designated operators (DOs) prefilling the date for the owner or operator's signature in section VI of the DO visual inspection report. UST Regulations, section 2716(e)(2) requires that the owner or operator sign and date the report to acknowledge the results of the inspection.

While the DO may not be intentionally deceitful by prefilling the date, this does not meet UST Regulations, section 2716(e)(2) as the owner or operator is required to acknowledge the results of the DO inspection by signing and dating the report. Furthermore, it is a misrepresentation by the owner or operator if the date is added before or after the owner or operator signs the report. UPAs observing prefilled dates from the DO in section VI of the DO visual inspection report should cite this as a violation.

For additional information regarding DO visual inspection reports, contact:
Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov.

Office of Tank Tester Licensing Webpage Updates

The Office of Tank Tester Licensing (OTTL) has updated [LG-105](#) on the [OTTL website](#) to reflect the current list of State Water Board Licensed Tank Testers. In addition to LG-105, the OTTL website offers links to OTTL Regulations, OTTL testing notification forms, and LG-113. The OTTL website also provides licensing information for applicants and study materials for the exam.

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/leak_prevention/lgs/105_12.html)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/tank_testers/)

For additional information regarding the OTTL website updates, contact:
Kaitlin Cottrell at (916) 319-0742 or Kaitlin.Cottrell@waterboards.ca.gov.

DTSC

Generator Improvements Rule

DTSC's Generator Improvements Rule (GIR) will become effective in California starting July 1, 2024.

GIR Regulatory Guidance Outreach:

- In preparation for the implementation of the GIR, the CUPA Training and Assistance Unit and the Policy Development Unit are developing a comprehensive Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) webpage. This resource will be available by July 1st to help provide clarity on the new regulations.
- A Quick Reference Guide (QRG) template for large quantity generators along with its instructions are in development and will be available on July 1st on the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) website.
- Both the FAQ webpage and a link to the QRG template will be posted on the DTSC website at <https://dtsc.ca.gov/generator-improvements-rule/>.
- Additional GIR training needs for the CUPAs and other stakeholders are currently being evaluated – stay tuned for details.

Contact Information:

- If you have questions about the GIR, please email to gir@dtsc.ca.gov.

Any training and assistance requests from CUPAs can be emailed to dtsc_cupatrainers@dtsc.ca.gov.

DTSC's 2024 electronic Verification Questionnaire Report Cycle

DTSC's 2024 Hazardous Waste ID Number Verification Questionnaire report cycle is anticipated to open on July 9, 2024. The Verification Questionnaire is completed through the [electronic Verification Questionnaire \(eVQ\) System](#). The eVQ System provides a convenient way for hazardous waste handlers to complete the annual Verification Questionnaire to maintain the active status of their ID numbers.
(<https://evq.dtsc.ca.gov/Home.aspx>)

In this report cycle, DTSC has made enhancements to the eVQ System to collect more detailed business information and hazardous waste generation data at the hazardous waste ID number level. Hazardous waste handlers will have 60 days (versus 30 days in previous years) to complete the questionnaire due to these enhancements.

Initial notifications to ID number holders required to complete the questionnaire will be staggered to allow the Business Operations Unit to support the influx of telephone and email inquiries generated from the notifications. Please note, the 2024 eVQ cycle will be the last cycle where eVQ is launched in the summer. Beginning in 2025, the eVQ report cycle will be launched in the first quarter of each year.

To prepare for filing the eVQ, DTSC recommends filers gather their 2023 calendar year business records. Filers will need to verify or provide information on the waste generated at each site, including but not limited to, manifested waste, unmanifested waste, top waste streams, and the tonnage of any hazardous waste exempt from the [Generation and Handling Fee](#).

(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/generation-and-handling-fee/>)

To assist hazardous waste handlers with completing eVQ, DTSC will be providing training materials on our website and hosting a Zoom webinar. See information below.

eVQ Webinar Information

Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Where: Zoom

To register for the webinar, go to the following link: https://dtsc-ca.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_un_XfeOeTsGuBfLx5VmGQQ

If you receive any questions from your stakeholders regarding the questionnaire, refer them to the information below.

Website: <https://evq.dtsc.ca.gov>

FAQ: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/hazardous-waste-id-number-verification-questionnaire/>

Email: evq@dtsc.ca.gov

Toll-free Number: 1-877-454-4012

Cal FIRE OSFM

Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Webinars

OSFM will be delivering its first series of APSA webinars on June 21 and 25, 2024. The June webinars will cover the same content on petroleum under APSA.

Use the link below to join the webinar on June 21 at 11:00 – 11:30 AM.

June 21 webinar via Microsoft Teams

([https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_MDNmODQ0Y2YtM2RhMi00ZTQ1LTIINWUtYzg3ZTBIMWQyYzE5%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522447a4ca0-5405-454d-ad68-)

[59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_MDNmODQ0Y2YtM2RhMi00ZTQ1LTIINWUtYzg3ZTBIMWQyYzE5%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522447a4ca0-5405-454d-ad68-)

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[yYzE5%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522447](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_MDNmODQ0Y2YtM2RhMi00ZTQ1LTIINWUtYzg3ZTBIMWQyYzE5%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522447a4ca0-5405-454d-ad68-)

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Meeting ID: 219 946 003 44

Passcode: gF7u6k

Dial in by phone: +1 (650)-564-3271

Phone conference ID: 485 075 764#

Use the link below to join the webinar on June 25 at 3:30 – 4:00 PM.

June 25 webinar via Microsoft Teams

(https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2FI%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_NzZIYzVjYzktN2E2OS00NTZhLWFkMmQtMTZkMDk1M2IxZDlx%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522447a4ca0-5405-454d-ad68-c98a520261f8%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25224c029317-d40a-43a4-94e1-29052fad9b91%2522%257d&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Lorenzo%40fire.ca.gov%7C0ec4c32e4a78490fdad108dc7c452b98%7C447a4ca05405454dad68c98a520261f8%7C1%7C0%7C638521883727532025%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=loVMeH6lnXID9iiAX%2B3j3let6QN2UfqDIMSr3ko%2FzLc%3D&reserved=0)

(https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2FI%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_NzZIYzVjYzktN2E2OS00NTZhLWFkMmQtMTZkMDk1M2IxZDlx%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522447a4ca0-5405-454d-ad68-c98a520261f8%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25224c029317-d40a-43a4-94e1-29052fad9b91%2522%257d&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Lorenzo%40fire.ca.gov%7C0ec4c32e4a78490fdad108dc7c452b98%7C447a4ca05405454dad68c98a520261f8%7C1%7C0%7C638521883727532025%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=loVMeH6lnXID9iiAX%2B3j3let6QN2UfqDIMSr3ko%2FzLc%3D&reserved=0)

Meeting ID: 212 806 992 641

Passcode: HqY9pk

Dial in by phone: +1 (650)-564-3271

Phone conference ID: 804 343 705#

APSA State Surcharge

Question: Which facilities are required to pay the APSA state surcharge?

Answer: Each owner or operator of a tank facility who is regulated by the APSA Program, including conditionally exempt facilities (such as farms, nurseries, logging sites, or construction sites), are required to pay an APSA state surcharge to the CUPA.

The APSA state surcharge may be waived if a CUPA does not assess any single fee on a tank facility pursuant to the California Code of Regulations, Title 27, Section 15250(a)(3).

Question: Are federal facilities required to pay the APSA state surcharge?

Answer: Yes. Federal facilities that are APSA regulated are required to pay the APSA State surcharge as part of the single fee system, to the extent the fees qualify as “reasonable service charges” in 33 U.S. Code 1323.

APSA regulation of federal facilities is discussed in more detail in Section 2, Question 2.4 of the APSA Program Guidance Document, which is available on the OSFM APSA webpage at <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/pipeline-safety-and-cupa/certified-unified-program-agency/aboveground-petroleum-storage-act>.

References or links to information cited in this newsletter are subject to change. CalEPA is interested in your comments and suggestions regarding the Unified Program monthly newsletter. Please email your comments and suggestions to: cupa@calepa.ca.gov.

[CalEPA Unified Program Home Page](#)