



**CITY OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
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10200 Slater Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Underground Storage Tank Removal and Closure Inspection Procedure

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

To provide a uniform procedure for the Fountain Valley Fire Department Participating Agency (PA) Hazardous Materials Section staff to inspect underground storage tank removal and closure in the City of Fountain Valley. This document is to be used as a guidance tool. An approved set of plans will be the final acceptance. For the purpose of this document, "tank" shall include underground or below-grade tanks, piping, vaults, or other underground storage facilities containing hazardous material or waste.

The Fountain Valley Fire Department is authorized under the 2022 CFC 105.5.18 (5) Operational permit required to remove Class I or II from an underground storage tank. This section would require an inspection.

REMOVAL PROCEDURE

GENERAL

- A permit is required for the removal or closure in place of any underground tank containing hazardous materials or waste
- Plans must be submitted to the building department for all work prior to the issuance of a permit
- Approved plans and job card must be available at the job site at all times
- Underground tanks and piping may be abandoned in place, only under special circumstances, as approved by the Fire and Building departments (i.e., tank installed under a building)
- All underground piping must be removed
- Only non-sparking tools are to be used in conjunction with tank removal

PERMITS/FORMS

- A permit to remove or close an underground tank is valid for six (6) months. All work must be completed within six months of issuance

- A Fire Department Permit Application and OCHCA approval
- Provide a copy of the Contractor's State Hazardous Substance Removal and Remedial Actions Certification

TANK/PIPING REMOVAL

- An appointment must be requested a minimum of 48 hours in advance. Inspections are subject to inspector availability
- Tanks shall be removed only in the presence of a fire department inspector and OC CUPA inspector
- The removal area shall be free of ignition sources. Electrical power shall be disconnected
- All tank appurtenances (fill pipe, gauge pipe, submersible pump) and drop tube must be removed
- Tanks and piping shall be completely decontaminated of hazardous residue and flammable/combustible liquid vapors
- Rinse water from the decontamination process shall be manifested and disposed of as hazardous waste
- A copy of the manifest must be available for review at the time of inspection
- Tanks and piping which have not been properly decontaminated shall be manifested and disposed of as hazardous waste. A copy of the manifest shall be available for review
- The tank must register a lower explosive limit of less than 10% measured with a combustible gas indicator in the presence of a fire department inspector, prior to dry ice and removal
- Each tank must be filled with a minimum of 15 pounds of dry ice per 1000-gallon tank capacity
- Once the tank is removed, it shall be inspected for deterioration
- Tanks must be transported from the premises on the same day as removal
- Backfill of tank excavation to the self-compacting material as approved by the grading inspector or tested for density by a qualified soil engineering firm. Contact Public Works Department at 714 744-593-4433.