

GPG 15 Storage Tanks



Governing Legislation and Standards:

Environment Protection Act
Dangerous Goods Act
Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) Regulations
(Prescribed Waste) Regulations
State Environment Protection Policy (Ground Waters of Victoria)
SAA AS 1692, Tanks for Flammable and Combustible Liquids
SAA AS 1940, Storage and handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids
AIP CP4 2002 Code of Practice, The Design and Installation and Operation of Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (Available from the Australian Institute of Petroleum)
AIP CP 22 Code of Practice, The Removal and Disposal of Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks
Guidelines on the Design, Installation and Management Requirements for Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS) available from the EPA.



Summary Information:

Underground Storage Tanks (UST) have the potential to leak or rupture. If this happens they contaminate soil, groundwater and waterways. Refer compliance requirements issued by EPA VIC in the Underground Petroleum Storage System (UPSS) Guidelines.

If UST or AGST (Above Ground Storage Tanks) exist on site it is important that these tanks have adequate bunding and cannot leak or be overfilled. They should be protected from corrosion and frequently tested.

To anticipate or prevent UST and AGST from deteriorating they need to be monitored regularly. Your inspections should include the transfer and delivery pipe-work.

Fuel use audits and monitoring should be conducted. Unaccounted use must be investigated.

An unexplained increase in fuel consumption or the presence of unexplained water in the fuel might indicate a leak or rupture in your tank.

Any spills need to be contained – above ground tanks need to be bunded. The EPA or your local water authority can provide advice on your bund design.



Further Help:

Victorian WorkCover Authority, telephone, 1800 13 60 89
VACC Fuel Manager

GPG 15



Good Practice Risk Control:

- Identify and properly document the location, size, age, condition, maintenance history and other details of all of the storage tanks on your premises.
- Bund AGST to contain any spill that may occur.
- Roof AGST to prevent rainfall contamination.
- Complete a regular documented inspection of your UST according to the UPSS Guidelines
- Keep up to date with all applicable legislation.
- Make sure that you monitor and maintain UST in accordance with applicable environmental and dangerous goods legislation and standards.
- Regularly inspect all of the UST you use, in accordance with the recommendations of the AIP Code of Practice.
- Install and maintain a tank monitoring / leak detection system for UST, such as Statistical Inventory Reconciliation Analysis (SIRA) based system available from the VACC.
- Develop, and train employees in the use of, procedures that describe what to do when a spill or leak occurs.
- Clean up and report significant spillage or leakage to the EPA and other relevant authorities such as Fire Brigade, Police and WorkSafe
- If you discover any contaminated soil on your premises have it investigated by a qualified consultant.
- De-commission UST that are no longer in use.