

BUILDING AND SAFETY SERVICES DIVISION
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MARK SCOTT
INTERIM DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

BUILDING INDUSTRY BULLETIN

EFFECTIVE DATE: *January 11, 2013*

TO: *ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, and ASSOCIATIONS*

SUBJECT: UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK REMOVAL

BULLETIN NUMBER: 13-01

FROM:



Brian T. Leong, C.B.O.
Building Official/Building and Safety Services Manager

BACKGROUND:

When fueling stations or other similar facilities are abandoned and associated structures demolished, underground storage tanks on site must also be removed in accordance with the California Building Code and regulations established by the County of Fresno Department of Public Health. To insure the safety of future development on the site where underground storage tanks are removed, excavations shall be back filled and compacted properly along with verifying no soil contamination exists.

POLICY:

In conjunction with the County Health Department, permits are required for the removal and backfill of any underground storage tanks. Along with permits obtained and processed through the County Health Department, each local jurisdiction shall address Grading requirements related to the backfill and removal of underground storage tanks and notify the Environmental Health Division of the County of Fresno Department of Public Health using the "Grading Permit Status" form. (see attached)

Permit(s) shall be issued for the removal and backfill of underground fuel storage tanks. Grading permits may be obtained a Specialty Grading Contractor (C-12) or General Engineering Contractor (A).

All backfill material shall be compacted engineered fill and require 90% minimum compaction as tested by an **approved test laboratory**. ***Final Compaction Tests shall be provided to the Building and Safety Division for approval as a condition of the final inspection and approval.***

Applicants shall contact the counter staff at the Building Permits Counter to file an application request for a Tank Removal Permit. A Plot Plan shall be provided showing the location of all property lines and street, location of all structures on the property, and the location of the excavation area where the underground tank is to be removed and back filled. Dimension distances from adjacent structure(s), and the depth of the excavation shall be clearly indicated on the plan to determine if "Shoring" will be required to stabilize adjacent foundations during the excavation process. *(if the depth of the excavation is less than the distance away from the building, shoring will be required, i.e. minimum 1:1 ratio)* When it is determined that "Shoring" is required, plans and calculations prepared and certified by a licensed engineer shall be required and submitted for approval prior to issuance of the Tank Removal Permit.

After permits have been issued, work may commence. All fills are to be back filled with engineered fill, free of organics. The fills require 90% minimum compaction as tested by an approved test laboratory. Permit(s) shall be finalized when full depth compaction reports are submitted to the building inspector and approved. A final inspection shall be scheduled for the City building inspector to verify the underground tanks have been removed and back filled properly and that minimum site drainage is provided. Compaction Reports shall be made available to the inspector at this time.

RETURN TO:



COUNTY OF FRESNO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)
1221 Fulton Mall, P.O. Box 11867, Fresno, California 93775
Telephone: (559) 445-3271 Fax: (559) 445-3301 www.fresnocountycupa.com

GRADING PERMIT STATUS

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE REMOVAL OF UNDERGROUND PETROLEUM STORAGE TANKS
(To be completed and signed by the appropriate city or county building department. Refer to reverse page.)

This form is to provide the County of Fresno with information regarding the grading (or excavation/compaction) permit status relative to the proposed **removal of underground petroleum storage tanks** at the following site:

This form must be completed and signed by the appropriate city or county building department listed on the reverse page and presented to Fresno County Environmental Health Division **prior to** obtaining an underground storage tank abandonment permit.

Address: _____

City/County: _____

Nearest Cross Street: _____

- A grading permit was issued on _____ (Date) for this site.
- A grading permit **is not required** by this jurisdiction for excavation and or backfilling in conjunction with the removal of underground storage tanks at this site.

Comments: _____

CITY/COUNTY OF _____

Printed Name of Official: _____

Signature of Official: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date: _____