



UST Temporary Closure Requirements & Guidance:

An underground storage tank (UST) system is considered to be in temporary closure if the system is taken out of service, but has not or will not be permanently closed (removed from the ground or filled with an inert solid material).

UST systems in temporary closure must still maintain financial responsibility, corrosion protection, and conduct release detection. However, release detection is not required if the UST system has been properly emptied. **The UST system is considered empty when** all liquids and residues have been removed so that no more than one inch of residue, or 0.3 percent by weight of the total capacity of the UST system remains.

Owners / operations that have UST systems that have been in temporary closure for 3-months or more must conduct the following actions:

- 1) Leave all vent lines open and functioning;
- 2) Cap and secure (lock where possible) all lines, pumps, manways, and ancillary equipment (including fuel dispensers);
- 3) Continue operation and maintenance of corrosion protection. If your UST system uses an impressed current (rectifier) system or sacrificial anodes, 3-year surveys must be conducted and amperage / voltage logs must be maintained where appropriate;
- 4) Continue release detection if the system is not empty as specified above;
- 5) Notify the implementing agency in writing of temporary closure;

Note: UST systems that meet the requirements outlined in 40 CFR 280.20 (Performance Standards for New UST Systems), and 40 CFR 280.21 (Upgrading of Existing UST Systems) may remain in temporary closure indefinitely as long as the above requirements are being met. Those systems that have been temporarily closed and do not meet the new installation or December 22, 1998 upgrade requirements must be permanently closed.

Any owner / operator of a temporarily closed UST system that brings the system back into service or wishes to permanently close the system must notify the appropriate implementing agency in writing.