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Alberta INAC Initiatives

2007



Canada



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Tanks and Wastes Sites Inventory



Canada



Environment Canada has developed new *Fuel Storage Tank Systems Regulations*

- These proposed regulations will apply to any storage tank system located in Canada on federal or aboriginal land, including reserves.
- These regulations have yet to be finalized, but will probably come into force in December, 2008.





What is the purpose of these new regulations?

- The new regulations are designed to ensure that fuel storage systems on federal or aboriginal lands are designed, built and operated to prevent fuel leaks.
- Such measures will protect water supplies and public health and safety.
- These measures will also prevent the future creation of contaminated sites.



What will the new regulations mean for First Nation communities?

- Fuel storage tanks are used in First Nations communities for a variety of purposes, including service stations, and storage of heating oil for residences and schools.
- The new regulations will apply to fuel storage system on reserves.



What will the new regulations mean for First Nation communities? Con't

- The regulations will mean that fuel tanks will have to be registered with Environment Canada, and will have to meet certain standards
- In some cases, fuel tanks may also have to be removed and replaced to meet the new regulations.



What will the new regulations require?

These regulations have yet to be finalized, but the following requirements are most likely going to appear in the final regulations:

- The regulations will apply to:
 - underground storage tanks and tank systems over 230L,
 - outdoor aboveground tanks and tank systems over 2500L if used for emergency generators or outdoor heating appliances, and
 - outdoor aboveground tanks and tank systems over 230L.



What will the new regulations require? Con't

- It will be compulsory for tank and tank systems to be designed to Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) guidelines. Single-walled underground tanks will have to be removed from service by a certain date.
- Standards will be in place for spill containment at product transfer areas (e.g. construction materials, containment wall height, etc.)



What will the new regulations require? Con't

- Owners of storage tank systems will have to identify their system to Environment Canada by April 2009.
- Once identified, Environment Canada will issue an identification number for the tank.
- Suppliers cannot deliver fuel to a tank unless the tank system identification number is visible on or near the tank.



What additional information is available?

- Environment Canada is developing training/guidance material on the proposed regulations which will be available once they are finalized in fall 2007/winter 2008.



What is being done by INAC to prepare for implementation of the new regulations?

- In anticipation of the proposed regulations coming into force, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada is taking inventory of fuel storage tank systems on reserve.
- The inventory project will run until March 31, 2009.
- This work will help to inform First Nations of their requirements under the proposed regulations.
- As well, the inventory will identify potentially contaminated sites to the department.



Waste Site Inventory

- In order to increase the value and efficiency of INAC's tank inventory project, we will also be recording the information related to waste sites which are no longer being used.
- As with the tanks inventory, this work is being done to identify potentially contaminated sites and future waste management issues to INAC and First Nations.



Environmental Learning Regime (ELR) Implementation



Background

- Many regulatory Gaps for Environmental Management on Reserve
 - Provincial regulatory regimes do not apply
 - Federal laws are inadequate
 - INAC lacking Capacity and resources to monitor and enforce
 - Enforcement powers lacking under the Indian Act
 - Federal authorities to empower First Nations are not developed
 - First nations lacking Capacity and resources to monitor and enforce



INAC Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS)

- Environmental Stewardship is defined as the application of sound environmental management practices.....





Environmental Stewardship Strategy (ESS)

The ESS is a plan of action to :

- demonstrate leadership in environmental stewardship;
- address environmental concerns and integrate environmental “best practices” into the planning and decision-making
- protect the health and safety of First Nations and the environmental integrity of reserve lands;
- reduce departmental liabilities and enhance INAC’s ability to fulfill its statutory obligations;
- promote sustainable development.



Key Action Item- Environmental Learning Regime (ELR)

- 2006 INAC ELR modules issued
- Q4 INAC Environmental Assessment Guideline issued



Regional implementation plan

- Feb 2007 In house 2 day training (feedback)
- Q1 INAC EA gap analysis
- December In house EA training
- Q1 07 First Nation ELR and EA training



Agenda focus

- Environmental Training (ELR)
- Operational training





What do First Nations need training on ?

- Suggestion forms are available



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THE END

Comments?



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