



Tank Tips 6

on *Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations*

Identifying your system Under Environment Canada's new *Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations* you must now identify your storage tank system directly to Environment Canada. This fact sheet will give you information on how to identify your system and contact numbers to call if you need more information.

When petroleum products are released into the environment, changes occur that significantly affect their potential effects. Physical, chemical, and biological processes change the location and concentration of hydrocarbons at any particular site.

What has changed?

On June 12, 2008 Environment Canada implemented new regulations governing storage tank systems under federal jurisdiction as described in the regulations. Under the previous regulations, you were required to register your tank system with the appropriate federal department. Now, storage tank systems must be identified directly to Environment Canada. Once identified, your system will receive an Environment Canada identification number. Section 28 of the regulations (available on our website) covers the identification of tank systems to Environment Canada.

As of June 12, 2010, the person who delivers your product will no longer be allowed to fill tanks that do not have an Environment Canada identification number visible on or near the system.

How do you identify your system to Environment Canada?

The easiest and fastest way is online at our tank identification website: <https://www.ec.gc.ca/rfiss-firsts/secureprotege/LoginEntree.aspx>. If you have all the required information in hand, the process should take only about half an hour per system. If you don't have internet access, call us at 819-934-2991 and we will mail you a form.

Petroleum products with heavier molecular weight constituents, such as fuel oil, are generally more persistent in soils, due to their relatively low water solubility and volatility and high sorption capacity.

How long will it take to get your identification number?

If you have all the required information listed in Schedule 2 of the regulations, and you use our online system, you will receive your ID number immediately. The system automatically issues you your identification number as the last step in the online identification process.

What is the deadline for identifying your system?

For existing systems (i.e. systems already in operation on June 12, 2008) you have until June 12, 2009 to identify your system (see paragraph 28(1)(a) of the regulations). For systems installed after June 12, 2008, you must identify your storage tank system before your tanks receive any product (subsection 28(2)).

What information do you need to identify your system?

The list of the information you require to complete your tank-system identification is found in Schedule 2 of the regulations, which has been reprinted at the end of this fact sheet.

What do you do with the identification number once you have it?

The identification number must be visible on or near your storage tank system. If you have aboveground tanks the number can be painted on the side of a tank or posted in a visible location. For underground systems, a durable tag could be attached to the fill pipe. The only requirement is that the number be visible throughout the year and not obscured by, for example, snow.

Can Environment Canada refuse to issue you an identification number?

No. As long as you provide all the information required in Schedule 2, Environment Canada must issue you an identification number (subsection 28(3)).

Can you use a registration number issued by another government department?

No. You may still require a registration number from another government body for other purposes, but to be in compliance with these regulations, and to ensure delivery of your product after June 12, 2010, an identification number issued by Environment Canada must be visible on your system.

Why do you have to identify your storage tank system?

In Canada, petroleum products spilled or leaked from storage tank systems are present in over 60% of the contaminated sites on federal and Aboriginal lands. The first step in reducing the number and impact of storage tank accidents is knowledge. Owners and operators need a detailed and up-to-date understanding of their tank systems, including tank types,

Statistically, releases of petroleum products from storage tank systems are responsible for approximately 66% of the soil contamination on the contaminated sites on federal and Aboriginal lands in Canada.

capacity, the products being stored and the systems' safety features. Identification in our database provides a secure and central location for your storage tank information, and gives you an effective way to maintain and manage the information, independent of staff or contractor changes. Once your tank is identified with us, you can review and update your information at any time. For Environment Canada, access to information on storage tank systems under federal jurisdiction as described in the regulations allows us to manage the long-term risks inherent in these systems, and to respond in the event of an emergency.

What happens if you can't identify your system before the June 12, 2009 deadline?

If you are unable to identify your tank system by the deadline you must submit a written *Storage Tank System Identification Progress Report* to Environment Canada by June 12, 2009 (subsection 28(1)). The information required in this report is found in Schedule 3 of the regulations, and includes a description of the measures you are taking to collect the information, as well as the problems you might encounter in the course of identifying the system. You then have one additional year (until June 12, 2010) to identify your tank system. No extensions are possible beyond that date.

What happens if you don't identify your system?

As of June 12, 2010, the person who delivers your product is prohibited from filling tanks that do not have an Environment Canada identification number visible on or near the system. You will also be in violation of section 28 of the regulations and may be subject to enforcement measures under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*.

Where do you get more information?

On our website: www.ec.gc.ca/st-rs. If you'd like us to mail you the information below please call: 819-934-2991 (0900 h – 1700 h EST/EDT).

The following documents are available on our website:

- *Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations*
- *Tank Tips* fact sheets, each one covering a specific part of the new regulations
- *Environmental Code of Practice for Aboveground and Underground Storage Tank Systems Containing Petroleum and Allied Petroleum Products*, Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*

Most petroleum product constituents are toxic to some degree.

- Compliance and Enforcement Policy for the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*

If you have specific questions on the regulations please contact your regional office.

Pacific & Yukon	storage.tanks.pyr@ec.gc.ca	604-664-9100
Prairie & Northern		780-951-8600
Ontario	EnviroInfo.Ontario@ec.gc.ca	416-739-4826
Quebec	quebec.lavoieverte@ec.gc.ca	800-463-4311
Atlantic	15th.reception@ec.gc.ca	902-426-7231

Schedule 2 of the regulations: Information required to identify your tank

1. Name of owner of the storage tank system
2. Mailing address of owner
3. Name of operator of the storage tank system, if different from owner
4. Mailing address of operator
5. Type of petroleum product or allied petroleum product stored in each tank of the storage tank system
6. Location of the storage tank system (civic address or, if no civic address exists, Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates or latitude and longitude)
7. Civic address of the location where the storage tank system records are stored
8. Months during which the storage tank system is in service
9. Nominal capacity of each tank of the storage tank system
10. Year of installation of each tank of the storage tank system
11. Type of each tank of the storage tank system
12. Each tank's ULC or API Standard Number
13. Material used in the construction of each tank
14. Type of corrosion protection of each tank
15. Type of secondary containment of each tank

16. Type of overfill protection of each tank
17. Type of the piping of the storage tank system
18. Material used in the construction of the piping
19. Diameter of the piping
20. Type of corrosion protection of the piping
21. Type of secondary containment of the piping
22. Type of spill containment devices
23. Description of petroleum product and allied petroleum product transfer areas
24. Type of leak detection
25. Type of pump for transfer to the oil-water separator

This material has been prepared for convenience of reference and accessibility and does not have an official character. It is of a general nature only. For all purposes of interpreting and applying the regulations, users must consult the official version of the Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations.