NH's Storage Tank Programs

Green Slopes

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NHDES Aboveground Storage Tank (AST) Program

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NH AST Program - Purpose

- To prevent or minimize contamination of the waters and land of the state due to the improper storage and handling of “oil.”

“Oil” (as defined per NH Statute) – Includes most liquid petroleum & petroleum by-products. (gasoline, diesel, kero, #2 oil, motor oil, used oil, etc.)

Typical “Oil” Usage at Ski Facilities

- Snow Making Air Compressors
- On-Premise Heating of Buildings/Lodges
- Electrical Generators & Transformers
- Snow Grooming Equipment Fueling
- Fleet Vehicle/Snowmobile Fueling
- Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance

Aboveground (AST) vs. Underground (UST) Storage

AST Rules: NH Env-Wm 1402
UST Rules: NH Env-Wm 1401

These rules DO NOT use the same criteria to establish which facilities/tanks are regulated.

Regulated AST Facility

- Single petroleum storage tank having a capacity greater than **660 gallons**, ***OR***
- Two or more tanks with a combined capacity greater than **1,320 gallons**.

If one or more tanks store heating oil for on premise heating, and the combined capacity of those tanks is 1,320 gallons or less, those tanks would be exempt and excluded from the above assessment of whether a facility is regulated.

NH AST Program – Basic Elements for Compliance

- Registration of regulated tanks.
- Physical tank system requirements (tank and piping standards, secondary containment, overfill protection, etc.).
- Inspection and recordkeeping.
- Spill prevention, control and countermeasure (SPCC) Planning.
- Receive construction approval PRIOR to installation of new tanks or underground piping.

Registration of Regulated ASTs

All petroleum tanks (and drums) with a nominal capacity of **55 gallons** or more.

Some common exemptions:

- Heating oil tanks with a facility-wide combined total of **1,320 gallons** or less.
- Electrical Transformers containing **660 gallons** or less.

Submit an amended registration form to reflect changes in tank or ownership information.

Tank System Requirements: Proper Labeling

- Tank #
- Product Stored
- Max. Fill Information (Per overfill protection regs.)
- NFPA Hazard Identification Placard

Tank System Requirements: Overfill Protection

- Tank Gauge and Overfill Alarm that is audible/visible to person handling the transfer of product to the tank.
- Alarm to activate at 90% capacity (for tanks <12,000 gal).
- Some allowances for tanks < 660 gallons (ok to use a pop up gauge and vent whistle).

Tank System Requirements: Secondary Containment

- Required for all regulated systems.
- Tanks and underground piping.
- Containment Volume = 110% of largest tank

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- Vents located outside of containment area require an additional means of overfill protection - Automatic Overfill Shutoff Valve (set at 95% tank capacity).
- Spill containers on fill connections outside containment.

Tank System Requirements: Leak Monitoring

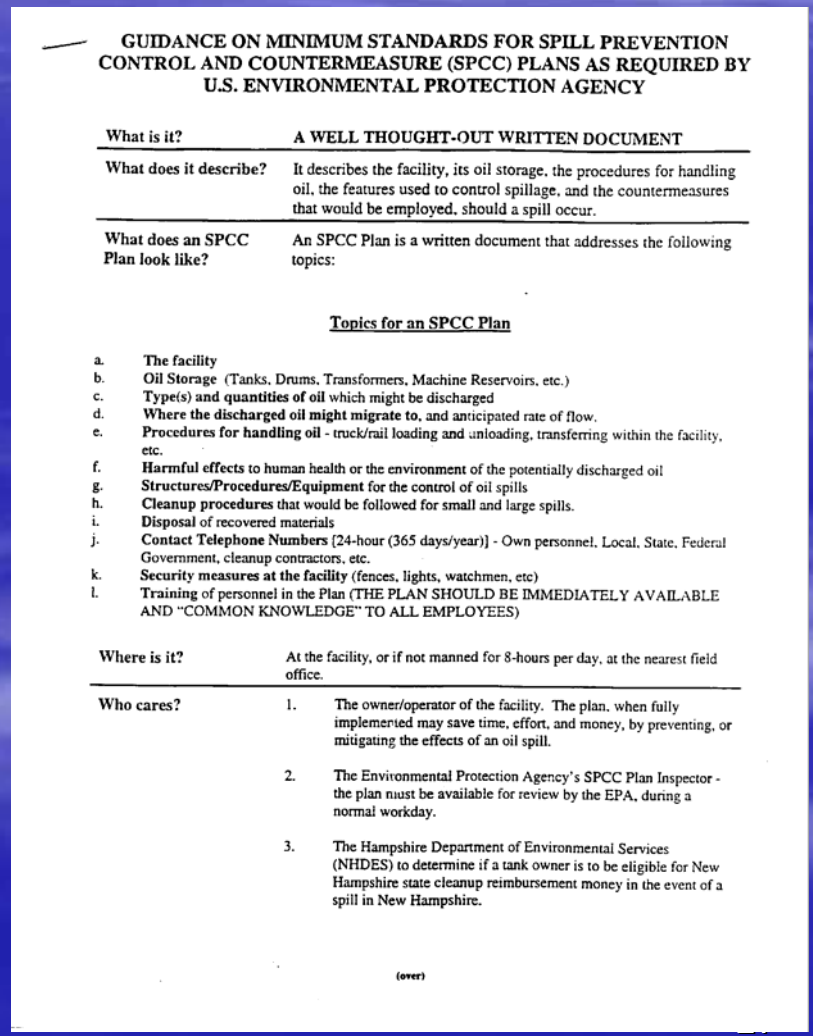
- Monitoring required for interstitial spaces of double-walled tanks and underground piping.

Inspection & Recordkeeping

- Routine monthly inspections required to identify apparent visible signs of leaks or tank system equipment distress.
- Yearly inspections are required to verify proper operation of overfill protection and leak monitoring equipment.
- A record of inspections must be kept.

Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Planning

- Required by NH Rules for regulated AST facilities.
- Must be prepared by NH Professional Engineer.
- Copy of engineering certification page to be sent to DES for new and revised plans.
- Even if no changes made to facility, a management review of plan required no less than every 5 years.



GUIDANCE ON MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL AND COUNTERMEASURE (SPCC) PLANS AS REQUIRED BY U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

What is it?	**A WELL THOUGHT-OUT WRITTEN DOCUMENT**
What does it describe?	It describes the facility, its oil storage, the procedures for handling oil, the features used to control spillage, and the countermeasures that would be employed, should a spill occur.
What does an SPCC Plan look like?	An SPCC Plan is a written document that addresses the following topics:

Topics for an SPCC Plan

a. **The facility**
b. **Oil Storage** (Tanks, Drums, Transformers, Machine Reservoirs, etc.)
c. **Type(s) and quantities of oil** which might be discharged
d. **Where the discharged oil might migrate to**, and anticipated rate of flow.
e. **Procedures for handling oil** - truck/rail loading and unloading, transferring within the facility, etc.
f. **Harmful effects** to human health or the **environment** of the potentially discharged oil
g. **Structures/Procedures/Equipment** for the control of oil spills
h. **Cleanup procedures** that would be followed for small and large spills.
i. **Disposal** of recovered materials
j. **Contact Telephone Numbers** {24-hour (365 days/year)} - Own personnel, Local, State, Federal Government, cleanup contractors, etc.
k. **Security measures at the facility** (fences, lights, watchmen, etc)
l. **Training** of personnel in the Plan (THE PLAN SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE AND "COMMON KNOWLEDGE" TO ALL EMPLOYEES)

Where is it?	At the facility, or if not manned for 8-hours per day, at the nearest field office.
Who cares?	1. The owner/operator of the facility. The plan, when fully implemented may save time, effort, and money, by preventing, or mitigating the effects of an oil spill. 2. The Environmental Protection Agency's SPCC Plan Inspector - the plan must be available for review by the EPA, during a normal workday. 3. The Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to determine if a tank owner is to be eligible for New Hampshire state cleanup reimbursement money in the event of a spill in New Hampshire.

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Design Review & Installation Inspection

- Tanks > 660 gallons & Underground Piping, Require DES Approval PRIOR to Installation.
- Design plans and application submitted by a NH PE.
- Installation to be performed or supervised by ICC certified installer.
- DES inspection and authorization prior to use.

Resources

WWW.DES.NH.GOV

Items available online:

- Rules
- Registration Forms
- Construction Application Forms
- Fact Sheets
- AST Service Provider Lists

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Services

For questions or more information, call Bob Daniel at (603) 271-0686