



County of Riverside
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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**UST GUIDANCE LETTER
COLD STARTS**

"Cold starts" of UST monitoring systems can be required for various reasons: replacement of circuit boards, upgrading software, reinstalling software to remedy system glitches, etc. While it is possible in some cases for technicians to capture and preserve data in flash memory, cold starts frequently result in the loss of alarm history data and system setup programming. System setup programming is fundamental to proper performance of leak detection systems therefore, it is important that this Department's Hazardous Materials Management Branch (HMMB) be notified of all instances where a monitoring system is programmed or reprogrammed. If a facility's underground storage tank (UST) monitoring system fails in such a manner requiring reinstatement of archived data, then the system has experienced a "cold start". To facilitate restarting the monitoring system and to ensure it is properly programmed the UST owner/operator is required to:

1. Notify HMMB immediately prior to starting any work. A phone call, voice message, e-mail, or fax is acceptable. Provide your name and a call back number, the name and address of the facility, and a brief description of the problem that caused the failure of the monitoring system. An email sent to USTNotifications@rivco.org is preferred.
2. Weekend or after-hours repairs for cold starts may be conducted provided at the time of the repair notification is made to HMMB. A message may be left on any of the Branch office phones. You are required to contact the office the next business day to determine if a Plan Check and/or any additional testing is needed.
3. Have only a properly licensed California UST Service Technician reprogram the monitoring system.
4. Submit a monitoring certification signed by the California UST Service Technician (certification does not need to include the spill buckets) and a copy of the service invoice to HMMB. The facility shall also keep a copy for their records.
5. Maintain the facility's established annual UST monitoring system certification anniversary date.

Provided you follow the above conditions you are **not required** to: complete an Underground Storage Tank Plan Check Application; wait for the Department's approval to recertify the underground storage tank monitoring system; or have an HMMB-UST Inspector present for the underground storage tank monitoring system recertification.

Please Note: Any additional repairs apart from the above may require the submittal of an Underground Storage Tank Plan Check Application and payment of any applicable fees. Failure to follow these instructions can result in enforcement action.

Reference: Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 16, Sections: 2638, 2712, and 2715.
California Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.7 Sections 25280.6 and 25293

*Document available in an alternate format upon request

For our office locations call us at (888) 722-4234 or visit our website at www.rivcoeh.org