



## Underground Storage Tank Investigation Technical Guidance

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## Technical Guidance for Soils Committee

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- Theodoros "Ted" Toskos, Mactec Engineering and Consulting
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## Presentation Outline

- Overview
- Applicability
- Triggers
- Assessment
- Investigation of USTs in service
- Investigation of USTs undergoing closure
- Soil Re-use
- Piping



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## Overview

UST Sampling requirements used to be provided in:  
Technical Requirements for Site Remediation  
N.J.A.C. 7:26E-3.9(a)3 & 6.3(b)

Now sampling recommendations are provided in:  
Technical Guidance for Investigation of  
Underground Storage Tank Systems



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## Applicability

- Many underground storage tanks (USTs) regulated by Underground Storage Tank Rules N.J.A.C. 7:14B.
- Some USTs specifically exempt (unregulated) from UST regs.
- However - exempted USTs still required to comply with other DEP regulations such as:
  - "Administrative Requirements for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites" (ARRCs) [N.J.A.C. 7:26C], &
  - "Technical Requirements for Site Remediation", [N.J.A.C. 7:26E].



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## Scope of Guidance

- The guidance applies to typical UST situations.
- Investigations should also be conducted based on:
  - Soil Investigation Technical Guidance
  - Ground Water Investigation Technical Guidance
- If site-specific considerations differ from scenarios presented in guidance, use **professional judgment** to determine appropriate sampling protocols to effectively identify discharge.



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### Triggering Events

- Suspected release from UST requires further confirmation.
- Information indicates UST may be discharge source – requires unknown source investigation.
- UST temporarily taken out of service more than 1 year.
- Substance stored in UST changes (regulated>unregulated).
- ISRA triggering event - Entire SI including assessment of USTs containing hazardous substance/waste.
- UST Closure.




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### Underground Storage Tank (UST) ASSESSMENT




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### UST ASSESSMENTS

Provide the following information:

- Description of UST system including # of USTs, location & sizes, along with the location of associated piping
- What USTs & piping are made of (i.e. metal/fiberglass)
- Associated leak detection methods and recordkeeping
- Depth to bottom of USTs
- Approximate depth to ground water (if available)




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### **UST ASSESSMENTS** (continued)

Provide the following information (continued):

- Age of the UST system
- Types of products stored in the UST(s) over the life of the tank(s) with duration each product was stored
- Any net product loss and amounts
- Records of tank testing
- Type & depth of UST, Overburden, & Surface Material



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### **UST ASSESSMENTS** (continued)

Provide the following information (continued):

- Type of product pumps (American/European suction or pressurized)
- Any part of UST system replaced or repaired (why)
- Reported discharges (releases) from system
- Remedial activities resulting from releases
- Cause & source of releases (N.J.A.C. 7:14B-8.3)



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## **UST Site Investigation**



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## Safety First



- Prior to conducting intrusive activities – take all safety precautions.
- Recommend - New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission publication: "Tank Closure without Tears: An Inspector's Safety Guide".  
[http://www.neiwpc.org/neiwpc\\_docs/NEI\\_ResourceGuide.pdf](http://www.neiwpc.org/neiwpc_docs/NEI_ResourceGuide.pdf)




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## Sampling Parameters

- If history of substances stored in UST is known refer to N.J.A.C. 7:26E-Table 2.1

Example:

Table 2-1 Analytical Requirements for Petroleum Storage and Discharge Areas		
Petroleum Product	Soil/Sediment	Water
Unleaded Gasoline	VO+TICs, TBA	VO+TICs, TBA
Fuel Oil No. 2, Diesel Fuel	EPH, 25%> 1,000 analyze for 2-Methyl Naphthalene & Naphthalene	VO+TICs, SVO+TICs




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## Sampling Parameters

If history of substances stored in UST is unknown or unclear initial sampling parameters should include:

- Target Compound List plus TICs/Target Analyte List (TCL + TICs/TAL),
- Hexavalent chromium,
- Petroleum hydrocarbons (EPH), and
- pH

Scale back once contaminants-of-concern (COCs) fully characterized




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## SI for In-Service USTs



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### In Service UST Sampling Frequency

Total Tank Capacity (Gallons)	Approximate Tank Length (Feet)	Recommended Number of Boring Locations per Tank
56-2,000	to 10'	4
2,001-10,000	to 30'	6
10,001-25,000	to 40'	8
25,000+	to 40'+	10




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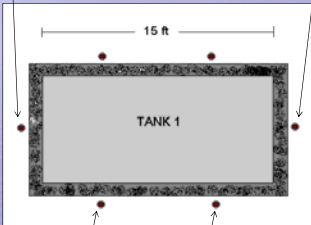
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### Borings

Install boring at each end of the tank



Install additional borings equally distributed along length on both sides




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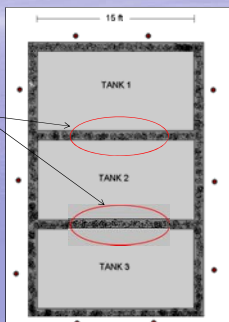
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## Borings

Borings between USTs immediately adjacent to each other not required



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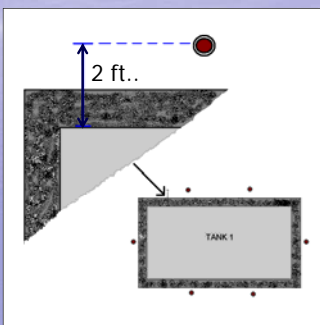
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## Borings

Borings should be conducted w/n 2 ft. of the sides of the tank if possible.



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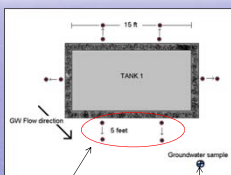
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## Borings - Alternate Approach

- If borings cannot be conducted w/n 2 ft. of UST, due to:
  - Bedding gravel,
  - Concrete pads,
  - Utilities, or
  - Safety considerations



- Conduct borings no further than 5 ft. from sides & ends of tank.
- Plus take a ground water sample in expected downgradient ground water flow direction w/n 10 ft. of tank.

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### Soil Boring Screening

- Field screen soil borings for contamination pursuant to screening guidelines in the Department's Field Sampling Procedures Manual (FSPM).
- Begin screening at ground surface, extend boring several ft. below depth of UST bottom or to the top of bedrock.




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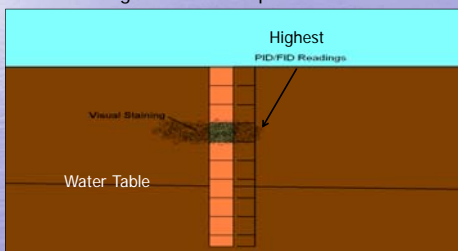
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### Sample Collection

- Discreet 6 inch depth interval
- Interval of highest field screening
- Interval of greatest staining/odors
- Collect regardless of GW presence.




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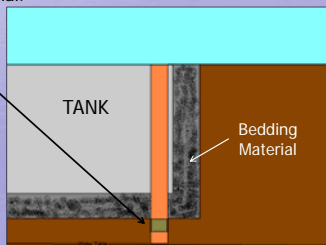
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### Sample Collection

If no indication of contamination & no ground water present:  
Collect soil sample from 0-6" depth interval below bottom of UST bedding material.




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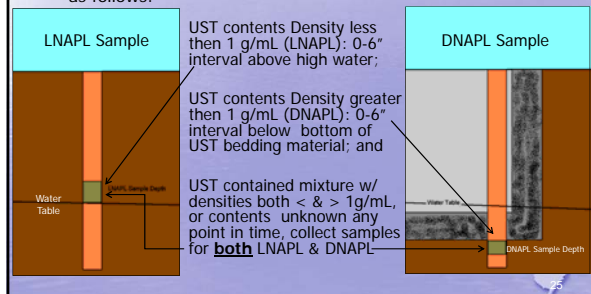
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## Sample Collection

If no indication of contamination & GW Present:  
If any portion of UST at or below high water table collect sample as follows:



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## SI for Service USTs undergoing Closure



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## Closure of USTs - General

- UST contents unknown - sample & analyze product or residue remaining in tank. Use appropriate analytical method to identify substance. Indicated method w/n QAPP.
- Document evidence of discharge. Include written & photographic depiction of condition of UST (cracks, holes or tank corrosion) as well as the excavation.
- Note type & quantity of any product spilled along with remedial action taken if discharge from UST occurs during closure.



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### Closure of USTs - removal

- Collect samples same day as the tank removal.
- Examine floor/sidewalls of excavation for contamination:
  - **VOCs** (No.2 fuel oil/diesel/gasoline/kerosene/jet fuel/waste oil)  
field screen soil from bottom & sidewalls as soil excavated.
  - **Non-VOCs** (No. 4 or No. 6 fuel oil)  
examine for evidence of discharge (soil discoloration & odor).



- Bias sample collection to areas of likely highest concentration
- If no bias, select locations based on professional judgment.




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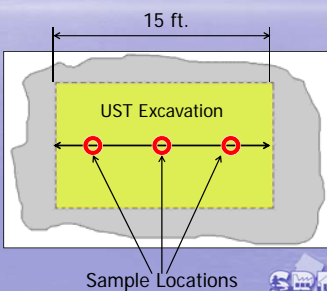
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### USTs removed & no ground water encountered in excavation

- Collect 1 sample along UST centerline footprint for each 5 ft. of tank length/fraction thereof
- Distribute sample locations equally along the centerline
- If the excavation enlarged, conduct additional sampling in accordance with section 6.3.1 of DEP's Soil Investigation Guidance document.




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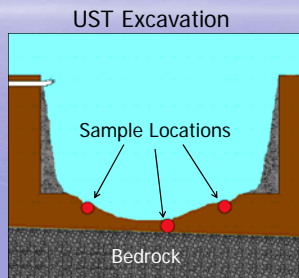
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### USTs removed & no ground water encountered in excavation

- Collect samples 0-6 inches below excavation
- Collect samples 0-6 inches above bedrock if encountered
- If insufficient soil to collect sample -> GW Investigation
- Bias samples to suspect highest contamination




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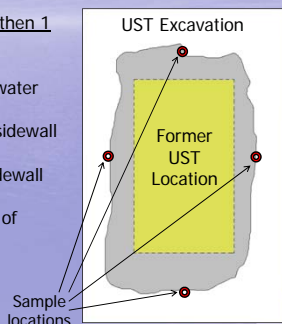
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### USTs removed & ground water encountered in excavation

UST contents Density less than 1 g/mL (LNAPL):

- 0-6" interval above high water
- 1 sample/30 linear ft. of sidewall
- Minimum of 1 sample/ sidewall
- Bias samples to locations of elevated field screening readings/ visual staining




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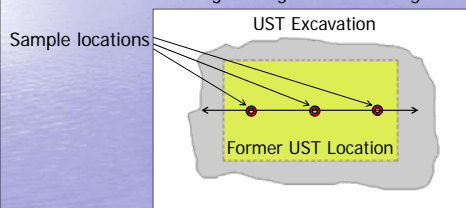
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### USTs removed & ground water encountered in excavation

UST contents Density greater than 1 g/mL (DNAPL):

Collect samples every 5 ft. along centerline of UST footprint with samples taken w/n 2.5 ft. from each end of UST. Bias samples to elevated field screening readings/ visual staining.



Sample Depth – 1<sup>st</sup> 0-6 inches at bottom of excavation

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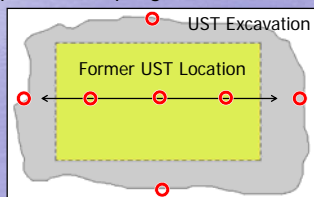
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### USTs removed & ground water encountered in excavation

UST contained mixture w/ densities both < & > 1g/mL, or contents unknown any point in time:  
Collect samples as sampling for both LNAPL & DNAPL




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**USTs removed installed on concrete pad**

- No cracks, pad not compromised - 1 sample/30 linear ft. - each side w/n 2 ft. of pad - minimum of 1 sample/side
- Cracks evident, pad compromised - collect additional samples below pad biased to cracks/ compromised areas of greatest deterioration; or
- If ground water encountered in excavation, collect soil samples at depth intervals as indicated in previous slides.

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**When can an UST be closed in Place?**

(In best interest of all parties that UST is removed)

- Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-9.2(e), an UST may be abandoned in place if:
  - there is no contamination detected above remediation standards, or
  - when there is evidence of a discharge but removal is not feasible

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**USTs closed (abandoned) in place:  
Ground Water not present**

- If tank isn't w/n water table sample as follows:
  - Bore through UST bottom. 1 boring/5 ft. or fraction thereof;
  - 1 boring w/n 2.5 ft. of each end of UST + borings equally distributed along centerline;
  - 1 sample from centerline/5 ft. or fraction thereof. Collect samples equally along centerline;
  - Collect samples from 0-6 inches below UST bottom bedding material. If bedrock encountered, collect samples 0-6 inches above bedrock.

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### USTs closed (abandoned) in place: Ground Water present

- When the density of the tank contents is/was less than 1 g/mL (LNAPL), collect the soil sample from the 0-6 inch depth interval above the high water table;
- When the density of the tank contents is/was greater than 1 g/mL (DNAPL), collect the soil sample from the 0-6 inch depth interval below the bottom of the tank bedding material; and
- When the UST contained a mixture of substances with densities both less than and greater than 1g/mL, or when the tank contents is unknown for any point in time, collect soil samples as indicated in both bullets above.




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### Closure of USTs – Release Identified

If release identified, install boring at former UST location. Conduct soil sampling as follows:

Begin screening at excavation bottom

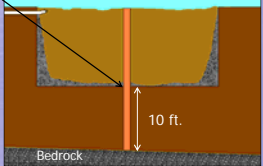
Screen borings for contamination

**Extend Boring:**

- 10 ft. below excavation
- To bedrock

Collect 0-6" interval sample exhibiting:

- highest field screen readings
- visual staining
- odor





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### Ground Water Investigation of UST recommended when:

- Any portion of UST located at or below known/estimated high water table;
- Soil borings/samples cannot be collected w/n 2 ft. of UST (for in-service tanks);
- Investigation triggered-contaminant concentrations exceed impact to ground water (IGW) Standards.
- Ground water investigation pursuant to the Ground Water Investigation Technical Guidance

1st step in investigation: Collect GW sample w/n 10 ft. UST expected downgradient GW flow direction.




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### **Piping & Associated Loading/Unloading Areas**



- Sample piping associated with USTs, including fill ports and dispensers in accordance with section 3.6.2 within the Department's Soil Sampling Technical Guidance Document.
  - Immediately below piping depth
  - No further than 2 ft. from piping
  - 1 sample/every 15 ft. of piping (>50 ft., can reduce frequency)
  - Bias samples to joints, dispensers & other areas of potential discharge
  - Piping runs w/n 2 ft. of each other may be treated as one
  - Special circumstances allow for in-line video inspection as alternative


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### **Reuse of Excavated Soils**

Soil excavated to access UST systems may be reused within the excavation that it was taken from without sample analysis if no physical evidence of a discharge



Reuse of any contaminated soil excavated due to a discharge from the tank system - follow Department's Alternative and Clean Fill Technical Guidance to determine its' acceptability for reuse.




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### **Decision Time:**

- Contamination detected above standards – conduct Remedial Investigation & Remedial Action pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26E & Technical Guidance
- No contamination detected above standards – Remedial Action Outcome for UST AOC




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**THE END**



**QUESTIONS???**

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