

## **CLOSURE REQUIREMENTS: UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS**

Temporary and permanent closure requirements for underground storage tanks are addressed in Colorado's Storage Tank Regulations: 7 CCR 1101-14, §2-5-1 and §2-5-2. These regulations are published at the Division of Oil and Public Safety's website:  
<http://ops.cdle.state.co.us/OIL/StatutesRegulations/regsindex.asp>.

### **Temporary closure**

When an underground storage tank (UST) is not in use, temporary closure requirements apply:

- Continue to operate and maintain the corrosion protection system for steel tanks and lines. Perform the 3-year test when due on both galvanic and impressed current systems. For impressed current systems only, continue to perform the 60-day inspection to ensure the system is running properly.
- Continue to perform release detection unless the tank is empty. An empty UST is one containing no more than 1" (2.5 cm) of product.
- After 3 months, cap and secure all lines (except vent lines), and secure pumps, manways, and ancillary equipment. Leave vent lines open and functioning.
- The owner/operator must pay the annual registration fee for any tank that is in temporary closure.

### **Permanent closure**

Permanently close (in place by filling with an inert material or by removal) any UST that has been temporarily closed for 12 months. The Division of Oil and Public Safety (OPS) may extend the 12-month limit on temporary closure if the tank owner/operator submits a written request that includes a copy of a site assessment performed according to §2-5-3 of the regulations.

Permanent closure is not required if the UST meets all corrosion protection requirements. The tank owner/operator must continue to operate and maintain the corrosion protection system, to perform release detection if the UST is not empty, and to pay the annual registration fee.

Provide written notice to the OPS at least 10 days before beginning permanent closure, per §2-5-2(a). The closure notice should specify the exact date of permanent closure.

Perform a site assessment at permanent closure, per §2-5-3.