



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2018

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H.P. 1229

House of Representatives, January 16, 2018

**An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Department of  
Environmental Protection's Rule-making Authority Concerning  
Underground Oil Storage Facilities To Align with Federal  
Regulations**

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Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 203.  
Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered  
printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative KINNEY of Limington.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §563-B, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 491, §10, is  
3 amended to read:

4 In addition to the rule-making authorities otherwise set forth in this subchapter, the  
5 ~~board~~ department may adopt rules related to the following matters:

6 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §563-B, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 763, §3, is further  
7 amended to read:

8 **2. Inventory reconciliation; precision testing; leak detection methods.**  
9 Procedures and methods to be used in conducting statistical inventory ~~analyses~~  
10 reconciliation, underground oil storage facility precision testing and other leak detection  
11 methods. The rules must allow owners or operators of facilities undergoing routine  
12 monitoring in the absence of any other evidence of a leak:

13 A. To check the accuracy of complete statistical inventory data within ~~75~~ 30 days of  
14 receipt by the commissioner of the initial statistical ~~analysis~~ reconciliation by  
15 rerunning ~~analyses~~ reconciliations before inconclusive reports are considered to be a  
16 failure of the tank or piping;

17 B. To check for failures in any mechanical and electronic monitoring devices within  
18 3 working days of an indication of failure before it is considered a failure of the tank  
19 or piping;

20 C. To engage in procedures under paragraphs A and B before requiring the precision  
21 testing of facility components; and

22 D. To check the accuracy of a failed or inconclusive precision test of facility  
23 components before the commissioner may order the excavation of the facility or any  
24 portion of the facility. An owner or operator is allowed 2 weeks to schedule a repeat  
25 of the precision test;

26 **Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §564, first ¶**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 865, §10, is further  
27 amended to read:

28 The ~~board~~ department shall adopt rules necessary to minimize, to the extent  
29 practicable, the potential for discharges of oil from underground oil storage facilities and  
30 tanks used to store motor fuel or used in the marketing and distribution of oil to others.  
31 These rules must ensure that requirements and standards governing facilities under this  
32 section assure that the State's program meets requirements under the United States  
33 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, Subtitle I, as amended. These rules  
34 are limited to the following requirements.

35 **Sec. 4. 38 MRSA §564, sub-§1-A, ¶¶A and B**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 494,  
36 §4, are further amended to read:

37 A. Monthly statistical inventory reconciliation of daily product inventory data ~~and an~~  
38 ~~annual precision test of all tanks and piping~~ by an independent vendor using

1 procedures approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.  
2 Pressurized piping must be retrofitted with an automated in-line leak detector; or

3 B. Installation of one of the following leak detection systems:

4 (1) Secondary containment of all underground oil storage facility components or  
5 secondary containment for the tank and single-walled containment for suction  
6 piping sloped evenly to the tank and equipped with a single check valve under the  
7 pump;

8 ~~(2) Continuous monitoring for free product in monitoring wells installed in the  
9 excavated area around the tank or tanks, and to detect a leak or discharge of oil  
10 from the piping not installed in accordance with subparagraph (1), one of the  
11 following:~~

12 ~~(a) Continuous vapor monitoring;~~

13 ~~(b) Annual tightness testing;~~

14 ~~(c) Secondary containment with interstitial space monitoring; or~~

15 ~~(d) Other methods of leak detection approved by the department;~~

16 ~~(3) Continuous vapor monitoring in the unsaturated zone of all elements of the  
17 facility, using sufficient sampling points to detect a leak or discharge of oil from  
18 any point in the facility;~~

19 ~~(4) Manual ground water sampling capable of detecting the presence of at least  
20 1/8 inch of free product on top of the ground water table in a reasonable number  
21 of ground water monitoring wells installed in the excavated area, and to detect a  
22 leak or discharge of oil from the product piping not installed in accordance with  
23 subparagraph (1), one of the following:~~

24 ~~(a) Continuous vapor monitoring;~~

25 ~~(b) Annual tightness testing;~~

26 ~~(c) Secondary containment with interstitial space monitoring; or~~

27 ~~(d) Other methods of leak detection approved by the department;~~

28 (5) Automatic tank gauging that can detect a 0.2 gallon per hour loss, and to  
29 detect a leak or discharge of oil from product piping not installed in accordance  
30 with subparagraph (1), one of the following:

31 (a) Continuous vapor monitoring;

32 (b) Annual tightness testing;

33 (c) Secondary containment with interstitial space monitoring; or

34 (d) Other methods of leak detection approved by the department; or

35 (6) Other leak detection systems approved by the department that can detect a  
36 0.2 gallon per hour leak rate or a leak of 150 gallons in 30 days with a 95%  
37 probability of detecting a leak and a 5% chance of false alarm.

1 Ground water monitoring for the detection of leaks may only be used to meet the  
2 requirements of this paragraph where the ground water table is never more than 20  
3 feet from the ground surface and the hydraulic conductivity of the soils between the  
4 tank and monitoring wells is not less than 0.01 centimeters per second.

5 **Sec. 5. 38 MRSA §564, sub-§2-A**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 317, §1, is further  
6 amended to read:

7 **2-A. Monitoring, maintenance and operating procedures for existing, new and**  
8 **replacement facilities and tanks.** The ~~board's~~ department's rules must require:

9 A. Collection of inventory data for each day that oil is being added to or withdrawn  
10 from the facility or tank, reconciliation of the data, with monthly summaries, and  
11 retention of records containing all such data for a period of at least 3 years either at  
12 the facility or at the facility owner's place of business;

13 B. ~~Annual~~ Monthly statistical inventory ~~analysis reconciliation~~, the results of which  
14 must be reported to the commissioner. ~~Annual~~ Monthly statistical inventory ~~analysis~~  
15 reconciliation is not required for double-walled tanks equipped with interstitial space  
16 monitors;

17 C. Voltage readings for cathodically protected systems by a cathodic protection  
18 tester 6 months after installation and annually thereafter;

19 D. Monthly inspections by a cathodic protection tester of the rectifier meter on  
20 impressed current systems;

21 E. Precision testing of any tanks and piping showing evidence of a possible leak.  
22 Results of all tests conducted must be submitted to the commissioner by the facility  
23 owner and the person who conducted the test;

24 F. Proper calibration, operation and maintenance of leak detection devices;

25 G. Evidence of financial responsibility for taking corrective action and for  
26 compensating 3rd parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by sudden  
27 and nonsudden accidental discharges from an underground oil storage facility or tank;

28 H. Reporting to the commissioner any of the following indications of a possible leak  
29 or discharge of oil:

30 (1) Unexplained differences in daily inventory reconciliation values that, over a  
31 30-day period, exceed 1.0% of the product throughput;

32 (2) Unexplained losses detected through statistical ~~analysis reconciliation~~ of  
33 inventory records;

34 (3) Detection of product in a monitoring well or by other leak detection methods;

35 (4) Failure of a tank or piping precision test, hydrostatic test or other tank or  
36 piping tightness test approved by the department; and

37 (5) Discovery of oil on or under the premises or abutting properties, including  
38 nearby utility conduits, sewer lines, buildings, drinking water supplies and soil.

1 The rules may not require the reporting of a leak or discharge of oil above ground of  
2 10 gallons or less that occurs on the premises, including, but not limited to, spills,  
3 overfills and leaks, when those leaks or discharges do not reach groundwaters or  
4 surface waters of the State and are cleaned up within 24 hours of discovery, if a  
5 written log is maintained at the facility or the owner's place of business in this State.  
6 For each discharge the log must record the date of discovery, its source, the general  
7 location of the discharge at the facility, the date and method of cleanup and the  
8 signature of the facility owner or operator certifying the accuracy of the log;

9 I. Compatibility of the materials from which the facility is constructed and the  
10 product to be stored;

11 J. Owners and operators, upon request by the commissioner, to sample their  
12 underground oil tanks, to maintain records of all monitoring and sampling results at  
13 the facility or the facility owner's place of business and to furnish records of all  
14 monitoring and sampling results to the commissioner and to permit the commissioner  
15 or the commissioner's representative to inspect and copy those records;

16 K. Owners and operators to permit the commissioner or the commissioner's  
17 designated representatives, including contractors, access to all underground oil  
18 storage facilities for all purposes connected with administering this subchapter,  
19 including, but not limited to, for sampling the contents of underground oil tanks and  
20 monitoring wells. This right of access is in addition to any other granted by law; and

21 L. Operators to complete a department training program that meets the minimum  
22 requirements specified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under  
23 42 United States Code, Section 6991i (2007). The training program must provide  
24 certification for the successful completion of the program, which must be renewed  
25 every 2 years. Training may be provided by a 3rd party if approved by the  
26 department.

27 The requirements in paragraphs A and B do not apply to the following tanks ~~provided as~~  
28 long as the associated piping has secondary containment or a suction pump product  
29 delivery system or another leak detection system approved by the commissioner and  
30 ~~provided that~~ as long as the tank and associated piping have been installed and are  
31 operated in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter, including rules adopted  
32 under this subchapter: tanks providing product to a generator; double-walled tanks with  
33 continuous interstitial space monitoring; and existing tanks constructed of fiberglass,  
34 cathodically protected steel or another commissioner-approved noncorrosive material that  
35 are monitored for a leak by a method able to detect a product loss or gain of 0.2 gallons or  
36 less per hour.

37 **Sec. 6. 38 MRSA §564, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 361, §1, is amended to  
38 read:

39 **6. Retrofit of existing underground tanks.** The ~~board's~~ department's rules must  
40 allow a person to retrofit a single-walled underground oil storage tank with secondary  
41 containment as long as the retrofitted tank complies with Underwriters Laboratories  
42 Subject 1316 or 1856 and interstitial monitoring of the retrofitted tank is equal to or  
43 greater than interstitial monitoring of a new tank. The ~~board~~ department shall require a

1 site assessment of an underground oil storage facility when a tank is retrofitted in  
2 accordance with this subsection.

3 **Sec. 7. 38 MRSA §566-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 276, §2, is further  
4 amended to read:

5 **1. Abandonment.** ~~All~~ Except as provided by subsection 1-A, all underground oil  
6 storage facilities and tanks that have been, or are intended to be, taken out of service for a  
7 period of more than 24 12 months must be properly abandoned by the owner or operator  
8 of the facility or tank or, if the owner or operator is unknown, dissolved or insolvent, by  
9 the current owner of the property where the facility or tank is located. All abandoned  
10 facilities and tanks must be removed, except where removal is not physically possible or  
11 practicable because the tank or other component of the facility to be removed is:

- 12 A. Located beneath a building or other permanent structure;
- 13 B. Of a size and type of construction that it cannot be removed;
- 14 C. Otherwise inaccessible to heavy equipment necessary for removal; or
- 15 D. Positioned in such a manner that removal will endanger the structural integrity of  
16 nearby tanks.

17 **Sec. 8. 38 MRSA §566-A, sub-§1-A**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 276, §3, is  
18 further amended to read:

19 **1-A. Abandoned tanks brought back into service.** Underground oil storage tanks  
20 and facilities that have been out of service for a period of more than 24 12 months may  
21 not be brought back into service without the written approval of the commissioner. The  
22 commissioner may approve the return to service if the owner demonstrates to the  
23 commissioner's satisfaction that:

- 24 A. The facility is in compliance with this subchapter and rules adopted pursuant to  
25 this subchapter;
- 26 B. The underground oil storage tanks and piping have successfully passed testing as  
27 directed by the commissioner;
- 28 C. The underground oil storage tanks and piping are constructed of fiberglass,  
29 cathodically protected steel or other equally noncorrosive material approved by the  
30 commissioner;
- 31 D. The facility has conforming suction or double-walled pressurized piping; and
- 32 E. The return of the facility to service does not pose an unacceptable risk to  
33 groundwater resources. In determining if the facility poses an unacceptable risk to  
34 groundwater resources, the commissioner may consider the age and maintenance  
35 history of the storage tanks and piping, the number and consequences of past oil  
36 discharges from the tanks and piping, the proximity of the facility to drinking water  
37 supplies and the proximity of the facility to sensitive geologic areas.

38 The commissioner may not approve the return to service of a single-walled underground  
39 oil storage tank that has been out of service for more than 24 12 consecutive months.

1           **Sec. 9. 38 MRSA §566-A, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 88, §1, is further  
2 amended to read:

3           **3. Rulemaking.** The ~~board~~ department shall adopt rules allowing for the granting of  
4 a variance from the requirement of removal where abandonment by removal is not  
5 physically possible or practicable due to circumstances other than those listed in this  
6 subsection. The ~~board~~ department shall adopt rules setting forth the proper procedures  
7 for abandonment of underground oil storage facilities and tanks, including requirements  
8 and procedures to conduct a site assessment for the presence of discharges of oil prior to  
9 completion of abandonment at facilities storing motor fuel or used in the marketing and  
10 distribution of oil, acceptable methods of disposing of the removed tanks, requirements  
11 for venting at least 12 feet above ground level flammable gases purged from tanks and  
12 from trucks removing oil from tanks and procedures for abandonment in place where  
13 removal of a tank or other component of a facility is determined not physically possible  
14 or practicable.

15           **Sec. 10. 38 MRSA §570-F**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1991, c. 494, §15 and  
16 affected by PL 1997, c. 374, §14, is amended to read:

17           **§570-F. Special provisions**

18           This subchapter may not be construed to authorize the department to require  
19 registration of or to regulate the installation or operation of underground tanks used:

20           **1. Propane storage.** For the storage of propane; or

21           **2. Other structure.** As an oil-water separator, catch basin, flood drain or other  
22 emergency containment structure ~~provided that~~ as long as the structure:

23           A. Is used to collect, capture or treat storm water surface runoff or oil spills; ~~and~~

24           B. Is not used for the storage of oil; ~~and~~

25           C. Is regulated under the federal Clean Water Act, 33 United States Code, Section  
26 1317(b) or Section 1342.

27           The ~~board~~ department shall adopt rules for underground oil storage facilities for  
28 storing waste oil. The ~~board~~ department shall also ~~promulgate~~ adopt rules governing  
29 field-constructed, airport hydrant and heavy oil underground oil storage facilities. These  
30 rules are not limited by ~~the~~ other provisions of this subchapter ~~H-B~~.

31           **Sec. 11. 38 MRSA §570-N** is enacted to read:

32           **§570-N. Rules; wastewater treatment tank systems**

33           The department may adopt rules regulating wastewater treatment tank systems,  
34 including oil-water separators and catch basins, that meet the definition of "underground  
35 oil storage tank," except that this section does not apply to:

36           **1. Oil-water separators.** Oil-water separators and catch basins under section 570-F,  
37 subsection 2; and

