

UST NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024

Welcome to SCDES

We are excited to announce that as of July 1, 2024, our new agency has officially launched. As the S.C. Department of Environmental Services (SCDES), we look forward to continuing to serve the great state of South Carolina, including all of our stakeholders.



SC DEPARTMENT of
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

Our new agency brings new branding, website, and email addresses. Guidance will be provided along the way to keep our constituents up to date with these changes. Email addresses for staff are now formatted using their Firstname.Lastname@des.sc.gov. Old email addresses are no longer operational, so please reach out to staff to ensure you have their new address correct. Staff phone numbers have not been changed.

Agency staff are in the process of updating all forms bearing previous logos and ensuring they are correct on the website. Until these have been updated, previous versions of the form will be accepted. Our new agency website can be found at des.sc.gov.

Walk-Thru Prevention Dispenser Replacement: Notification, Retesting, & Inspection

Tanks and piping installed or replaced after May 23, 2008 must be secondarily contained and use interstitial monitoring in accordance with the South Carolina UST Control Regulations (R.61-92, Part 280, Section 43(g)).

Dispenser systems replaced after May 23, 2008 must be equipped with under dispenser containment (UDC), per Section 20(g). The replacement requires notification to SCDES per Section 22. The following scenarios may exist:

- Dispenser system has been replaced on a piping system that was installed before May 23, 2008:
 - If the dispenser has an existing UDC, it must be integrity tested to ensure it is liquid tight.
 - If the dispenser does not have a UDC, it must be installed, and pass an integrity test. Proof of installation and testing must be submitted to SCDES.
- Dispenser systems installed after May 23, 2008, with piping installed before May 23, 2008, are not required to conduct interstitial monitoring or 3-year integrity testing of the UDC.

Transfer of Ownership

As of May 26, 2017, any person who assumes ownership of a regulated underground storage tank system must submit a notice of the ownership change within 30 days of acquisition by filling out a [Transfer of Ownership Form](#) or a form approved by the Department.

All supporting documents (such as a Bill of Sale, Deed, Title to Real Estate, etc.) required by the form should be included along with Transfer of Ownership form. This form should not be submitted when leasing the facility.

Some important tips to remember when completing the form.

- Names on the form must match the supporting documents you choose to provide. Ensure that the name of the owner or operator submitting financial responsibility matches the owner or operator name on the transfer of ownership form unless a Guarantee is used.
- The date of UST Transfer of Ownership (bottom of the form) should match the date on the supporting documents provided, and not the date the form was completed, unless completed on the same day.
- Please ensure the submitted form is notarized.

Ownership change is a great opportunity to collect valuable information (e.g., tank/line records, operator training logs, cathodic protection test records) to prove continued compliance at future inspections.

Visit our website for information on [transfer of ownership](#). Contact [Taylor O'Neal](#) at **(803) 898-0614** for any other questions.



Billing Address & Professional Geologist Update

To ensure timely payment of invoices, please ensure billing addresses are correct in The S.C. Enterprise Information System (SCEIS). Updates may be made to Vendor Registration on the [S.C. Department of Procurement Services](#). If payment is to be sent to an address not on file with SCEIS, the bottom portion of the [Assessment Component Invoice Form](#) submitted to SCDES must be filled out accordingly.

Invoice signatures are reviewed by SCDES to ensure authorized personnel are signing. Please ensure PE/PG information is up to date. Updates should be made concurrently with new PE/PG staff additions as well as yearly with ACQAP renewals. To make updates or verify names on file, please email [Michelle Dennison](#) or call **(803) 898-0626**.

Don't Leave Us Hanging

On-site field observations are used in several ways by the UST Management Division. Primarily, they allow staff to ensure all site rehabilitation activities are conducted in a manner that reflects the consultant's approved work plan and standard operating procedures. They also provide our staff the opportunity to learn and understand certain site rehabilitation activities that are applicable to petroleum release assessment and clean-up of those projects. Lastly, they give us the chance to meet our stakeholders and collaborate on the project.

Per the UST Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP), a four-day advanced notice/schedule is required for all scopes of fieldwork activities. This includes contractors conducting work under approved Annual Contractor Quality Assurance Plans (ACQAPs). We understand there are numerous factors that may influence weekly schedules. Therefore, should there be a change to the original schedule, the UST Project Manager(s) must be notified within 24 hours prior to the work being conducted.

Please include [Erin Epperson](#) on all email notifications sent to the UST Project Managers for scheduled site rehabilitation activities.

UST Contractor Groups

To ensure we are providing consistent updates, we are updating our UST Certified Contractor Email Group for all Class I and Class II Certified Contractors. Please email [Preston Mousseau](#) with the name and email of employees you would like included. Likewise, if you have contacts to be removed from further correspondence, please provide that list.

Check in before you spend!

One of the most important fund management tools used by SCDES is pre-approval of expenditures from the SUPERB Account. Section 44-2-110 of the SUPERB Act states "After September 30, 1994, no costs will be allowed unless prior approval is obtained from the department." This means that for all site rehabilitation activities (e.g., assessment, sampling, free product recovery) funded by the SUPERB Account, a cost proposal must be submitted along with the work plan and must be approved by the UST Project Manager before that work begins.

The approved costs are detailed in a cost agreement that is provided to the tank owner and their contractor with the notice to proceed. If conditions encountered on-site require a change to the scope of work that will result in different costs than were provided in the cost agreement, or a line item is added or removed that was not part of the original cost proposal, an addendum to the approved cost agreement must be submitted and approved as soon as possible after the field work is completed and before any invoice is submitted. The Site Project Manager or their manager within the UST Management Division should be notified periodically about all the changes to the field activities that are occurring while the work is ongoing.

Any costs that are invoiced without pre-approval above the approved amount in the cost agreement will be denied. The cost agreement form and cost addendum form are on the [SCDES website](#).

Contact Information

SCDES's UST Management Division is always ready to provide customer service to our stakeholders. There are several points of contact that can assist you with any questions or needs.



- Technical Assistance [Bridgette Hackler](#), (803) 898-2544
- Regulatory & Compliance Assistance..... [UST Main Line](#), (803) 898-0589
- General Assistance..... [Preston Mousseau](#), (803) 898-7988
- Website [des.sc.gov/UST](#)