

Other (State)

Operating Permit for Commercial Underground Storage Tanks

What Activities Require This Permit? This permit is required to operate all commercial Underground Storage Tanks (USTs). This permit is obtained by filing the appropriate UST registration forms - a UST-6 form ("Application to Install or Replace Underground Storage Tank Systems") for new or replacement UST systems or a UST-8 form ("Notification for Activities Involving Underground Storage Tank Systems") for existing UST systems. For new UST systems, other documentation is also required to be submitted including a UST-15A ("Ownership of UST Systems") or UST-15 form ("Change of ownership of UST Systems and Proof of Financial Responsibility"). For permit renewals, owners or operators of UST systems must complete a compliance questionnaire.

What Is the Purpose of This Permit? Owners and operators of commercial petroleum must annually obtain an operating permit for a facility at which a UST is located. Fuel may not be placed into a UST at a facility for which the owner or operator does not hold a currently valid operating permit. The UST Section may only issue an operating permit to a UST owner or operator provided certain criteria are met. These criteria include payment of annual tank operating fees and demonstration of compliance with all state

laws and rules pertaining to UST systems. For more information please visit the following link:

<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/underground-storage-tanks-section>.

Who Issues This Permit? N.C. Division of Waste Management, UST Section.

How Much Will This Permit Cost? While there is no fee for the permit itself, the issuance of the permit is contingent upon the payment of tank operating fees per tank/compartiment. As of July. 1, 2025, tank fees are \$498 per tank or compartment per year.

What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees?

Check or EPay <https://deq.nc.gov/USTBillPay>

If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check?

Make check payable to DEQ-UST and send to N.C. Division of Waste Management, UST SECTION, ATTN: REGISTRATION & PERMITTING, 1646 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, NC 27699-1646

Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit? All of the UST forms are available at <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/underground-storage-tanks-section/forms>.

For annual renewal of existing permits, the owner/operator will need to complete and return the annual invoice and compliance questionnaire. The invoice and questionnaire are sent via US Mail or mailed upon request. The information found on the annual invoice and compliance questionnaire may also be obtained at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wm/ust/epayment> by entering a UST facility's unique facility ID number into the search box.

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? The permit is issued immediately upon receipt of the proper documentation. Annual renewals must be applied for and maintained by the UST owner/operator.

Where Do I Submit My Application? The appropriate documentation should be submitted to: N.C. Division of Waste Management, UST SECTION, ATTN: REGISTRATION & PERMITTING, 1646 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, NC 27699-1646 or emailed to ust.permits@ncdenr.gov.

How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid? The permit is valid until the expiration date printed on the permit; typically one year.

Notes/Comments: None.

Legal Authority/Statute Reference:

G.S. 143-215.94U

Link: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/underground-storage-tanks-section>

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Statewide Contact Information:

N.C. Division of Waste Management

UST Section

1646 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1646

Telephone: (919) 707-8171