



GUIDELINES FOR STORAGE OF USED OIL

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I. PURPOSE

This document describes the requirements for the safe storage of used oil.

II. LEGISLATION

- (1) Subsections 78(2)(a) and (b) of the *Environment Act*, S.N.S. 1994-95, c.1, read as follows:

78(2) The Minister may direct a person responsible for dangerous goods or waste dangerous goods to

- (a) take specified precautions regarding the handling of dangerous goods or waste dangerous goods;
- (b) handle dangerous goods or waste dangerous goods in accordance with specified terms and conditions

- (2) Section 4 of the *Used Oil Regulations* (O.I.C. 95-290) reads as follows:

4 For the purpose of the Act and these regulations, used oil is designated as dangerous goods.

- (3) Section 12(4)(d) of the *Used Oil Regulations* (O.I.C. 95-290) reads as follows:

12(4) A used oil return facility on the premises of the seller or on the premises contracted by the seller shall

- (d) comply with all applicable regulations that apply to used oil return facilities, including the National Fire Code of Canada.

(4) Section 2(v) of the *Petroleum Management Regulations* reads as follows:

2(v) "petroleum product" means a single product or mixture of at least 70% hydrocarbons refined from crude oil, natural gas, tar sands, coal or natural organic matter, with or without additives, that is used or could be used as a fuel, lubricant or power transmitter, and includes gasoline, diesel oil, aviation fuel, kerosene, naphtha, lubricating oil, fuel oil, engine oil including used oil and hydraulic fluid, but does not include liquified petroleum gas;

(5) Section 10(1)(g) of the *Activities Designation Regulations* (O.I.C. 95-286) reads as follows:

10(1) The construction, operation or reclamation of

(g) a petroleum storage tank system consisting of one or more petroleum tanks and associated piping;

is designated as an activity.

III. CRITERIA

A. Regulatory Requirements

(1) Specific approval and registration for used oil storage is required for sites having aboveground storage tank systems with a nominal system capacity of 4000 litres or greater or underground storage tank systems of any capacity.

(2) Tanks for the storage of used oil, with a nominal system capacity of

(a) 4000 litres or greater for aboveground storage tank systems; or

(b) any quantity for underground storage tank systems

shall meet the requirements and standards prescribed in the *Petroleum Management Regulations* (O.I.C. 2002-139).

B. Storage Guideline

(1) Tanks for the storage of used oil, with a nominal system capacity which does not exceed the limits prescribed in Section III A(1) shall conform to:

(a) ULC/ORD - C142.23, "Aboveground Waste Oil Tanks"; or

(b) ULC - S652, "Standard for Tank Assemblies for Collection of Used Oil".

- (2) Small quantities of used oil, not to exceed 205 litres per site, may be stored in one 18-gauge, 205 litre steel drum provided that:
- (a) the drum is placed on or in a sturdy structure capable of preventing any spilled or leaked used oil from entering the environment;
 - (b) the top of the drum is equipped with an opening of sufficient size and shape that spillage during filling or emptying is prevented;
 - (c) the drum opening is kept covered when not in use to prevent foreign material such as rain or leaves from entering;
 - (d) if intended for emptying by vacuuming, the drum shall be equipped with a vent; and
 - (e) if intended to be transported by road while containing used oil, the drums shall meet the requirements of CAN/CGSB - 43.150-95, "Performance Packagings for Transportation of Dangerous Goods."
- (3) The owner is responsible to meet the requirement of the National Fire Code of Canada. Please contact the office of the Fire Marshal, Nova Scotia Environment and Labour, with any questions regarding the National Fire Code of Canada.

C. Labelling

Tanks containing used oil shall be clearly marked or labelled to indicate that:

- (a) used oil is stored therein;
- (b) contents are combustible;
- (c) it shall be kept away from heat, sparks or open flames; and
- (d) it shall be kept closed or properly vented when not being actively filled or emptied.

January 17, 1997

Dated

original signed by:
Peter Underwood
Deputy Minister