



## TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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This guide summarizes the regulatory requirements for the temporary closure of underground storage tank (UST) systems in North Dakota.

1. When a UST system is temporarily closed, owners and operators must continue operation and maintenance of corrosion protection and any release detection. Release detection is not required if the UST system is empty. A UST system is considered empty when all materials have been removed using standard industry practices so that no more than one inch of residue or 0.3 percent by weight of the system's total capacity remains.
2. Owners and operators must maintain financial responsibility (e.g., insurance or other financial assurance mechanisms) while a UST system is temporarily closed.
3. If a UST system remains temporarily closed for three months or longer, owners and operators must:
  - a. Keep vent lines open and operational; and
  - b. Cap and secure all other lines, pumps, manways, and associated equipment.
4. If a UST system is temporarily closed for more than twelve months, it must be permanently closed unless it meets current performance standards for new UST systems or has been properly upgraded. Spill and overfill equipment requirements do not have to be met. Owners and operators must permanently close the substandard UST systems at the end of this twelve-month temporary closure period, unless the Department provides an extension of the twelve-month temporary closure period.
5. To request an extension beyond twelve months, owners and operators must complete a site assessment before submitting their application for additional temporary closure time.