



# Corona Fire Department

## Abandonment or Removal of Underground Flammable Liquid Tanks per 2022 California Fire Code

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to specify the requirements necessary for abandonment or removal of flammable liquid tanks within the City of Corona.

### SCOPE

The information detailed below is required for all tanks. A permit from the Fire Prevention Bureau is required. The applicant shall obtain a permit no later than 3:00 p.m. on the last working day prior to the proposed date of abandonment or removal; and in no case shall be less than twenty-four hours prior to proceeding with operations.

Note: When a tank is located beneath a public way, the City Public Works Department shall be notified and the required permit obtained. If new tanks are to be installed, additional Building Department, Fire Department and Riverside County permits will be required.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Prior to abandonment or removal of underground tanks, the applicant shall:

1. Apply for permits required by the City of Corona and Riverside County Department of Environmental Health.
2. Prepare the tank by completing the following:
  - a. All flammable or combustible liquids shall be pumped from the vessel. An inspection of the tank shall be performed prior to any subsequent operations, to verify that contents have been removed.
  - b. Tanks shall not be cut without the express approval of the Fire Prevention Bureau prior to cutting.

#### B. Abandonment and status of tanks:

1. Notwithstanding the time schedules stipulated, tanks taken out of service shall be removed or safeguarded in accordance with 2022 California Fire Code (CFC) Section 5704.2.13 through 5704.2.13.2.3, and API 1604.
2. Underground tanks temporarily out of service shall have the fill line, gauge opening, vapor return and pump connection secure against tampering. Vent lines shall remain open and shall be maintained in accordance with CFC 5704.2.7.3 and 5704.2.7.4.
3. Underground tanks not used for a period of 90 days shall be safeguarded in accordance with all the following or be removed in accordance with CFC 5704.2.14:
  - a. Flammable or combustible liquids shall be removed from the tank.
  - b. All piping, including fill line, gauge opening, vapor return and pump connection, shall be capped or plugged and secured from tampering.
  - c. Vent lines shall remain open and be maintained in accordance with CFC 5704.2.7.3 and 5704.2.7.4,
4. Underground tanks that have been out of service for a period of one year shall be removed from the ground in accordance with CFC 5704.2.14 or abandoned in place in accordance with 5704.2.13.1.4.
5. Tanks abandoned in place shall be as follows:
  - a. Flammable and combustible liquids shall be removed from the tank and connected piping.
  - b. The suction, inlet, gauge, vapor return and vapor lines shall be disconnected.



# Corona Fire Department

## Abandonment or Removal of Underground Flammable Liquid Tanks per 2022 California Fire Code

- c. The tank shall be filled completely with an approved inert solid material.
- d. Remaining underground piping shall be capped or plugged.
- e. A record of tank size, location and date of abandonment shall be retained.
- f. All exterior above-grade fill piping shall be permanently removed when tanks are abandoned or removed.

### **C. Removal of underground and aboveground tanks shall be in accordance with the following:**

1. Flammable and combustible liquids shall be removed from the tank and connected piping.
2. Piping at tank openings that is not used further shall be disconnected.
3. Piping shall be removed from the ground.

**Exception:** Piping is allowed to be abandoned in place where the fire code official determines that removal is not practical. Abandoned piping shall be capped and safeguarded as required by the fire code official.

4. Tank openings shall be capped or plugged, leaving a 1/8" to 1/4" diameter opening for pressure equalization.
5. Tanks shall be purged of vapor and inerted prior to removal.
6. All exterior above-grade fill and vent piping shall be permanently removed.
7. Tanks shall be disposed of in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations.
  - a. The tank shall be marked with spray paint and shall include the Corona Fire Department permit number and the initials C.F.D.
  - b. The tank shall be placed on the truck, with openings at the top, and be removed from the City of Corona immediately.

Any other method or removal or abandonment of underground tanks shall have the approval of the Corona Fire Department, prior to commencement of work.