

(b) The owner or operator of more than 25 separate facilities may request, in writing to the Director at the address set forth at N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.2(b), that the Department mail the Registration Certificates of the multiple facilities to a single address. The owner or operator shall be responsible for ensuring that the Registration Certificates are then sent to the proper facilities.

Amended by R.1990 d.443, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2242(a), 22 N.J.R. 2758(a).

System added to clarify application of requirements.

Amended by R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.7 by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.6, "Public access to registration information", recodified to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.5.

7:14B-2.7 Denial or revocation of registration

(a) The Department may, in its discretion, deny the issuance of a Registration Certificate upon a determination of the following:

1. The New Jersey Underground Storage Tank Facility Certification Questionnaire is incomplete, contains inaccurate information and/or is illegible;

2. The owner or operator fails to enclose the accurate Registration Fee with the New Jersey Underground Storage Tank Facility Certification Questionnaire pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-3.1; or

3. The owner or operator fails to comply with any requirement of the State Act or this chapter.

(b) The Department may revoke the registration of a facility upon a determination of the following:

1. The New Jersey Underground Storage Tank Facility Certification Questionnaire contains false or inaccurate information;

2. The owner or operator has failed to submit a New Jersey Underground Storage Tank Facility Certification Questionnaire pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.2;

3. The owner or operator has failed to pay the Facility Certification fee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-3.2;

4. An authorized representative is denied access to the facility during any reasonable hour; or

5. The owner or operator has failed to comply with any requirement of the State Act or this chapter.

(c) The Department shall inform an owner or operator of the denial or revocation of registration by Notice of Intent to Deny Registration or Notice of Intent to Revoke Registration. This Notice shall include:

1. The specific grounds for denial of issuance as set forth in (a) above; or

2. The specific grounds for revocation as set forth in (b) above.

(d) The Department shall serve this Notice to an owner or operator by certified mail (return receipt requested) or by personal service.

(e) An owner or operator that receives a Notice from the Department denying or revoking a registration shall not use the tank as required by N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.1(c).

(f) Any person whose registration has been denied or revoked may request a hearing pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-12.2(a).

New Rule, R.1990 d.443, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2242(a), 22 N.J.R. 2758(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.8 and amended by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.7, "Registration Certificate", recodified to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.6.

Amended by R.2003 d.197, effective May 19, 2003.

See: 34 N.J.R. 4024(a), 35 N.J.R. 2304(a).

In (c), substituted "(a)" for "N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.8(a)" in 1 and "(b)" for "N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.8(b)" in 2.

7:14B-2.8 (Reserved)

Recodified to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.7 by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

Section was, "Denial or revocation of registration".

SUBCHAPTER 3. FEES

7:14B-3.1 Registration fee

The owner or operator of an underground storage tank system shall submit a \$150.00 Registration Fee for each facility upon registration of the facility with the Department. The Department shall only issue a Registration Certificate following the submission of the Registration Fee.

Amended by R.1990 d.443, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2242(a), 22 N.J.R. 2758(a).

System added to clarify application of requirements; operative date deleted.

Amended by R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

Deleted the third sentence.

Amended by R.2007 d.274, effective August 20, 2007.

See: 38 N.J.R. 4600(a), 39 N.J.R. 3533(a).

Substituted "\$150.00" for "\$100.00".

7:14B-3.2 Facility Certification fee

(a) The owner or operator of an underground storage tank system shall submit a Facility Certification fee for each facility upon the periodic renewal of the Facility Certification with the Department.

(b) The owner or operator shall pay the Facility Certification fee of \$150.00 per facility for the three-year facility certification cycle and after receiving an invoice from the Department within the time frame set forth in the invoice. The Department may renew the Registration Certificate following the submission of the Facility Certification Fee.

(c) The owner or operator of an underground storage tank system who failed to register the system and pay the necessary fees when initially required in 1988 or when the tank system was installed, whichever is later, shall be responsible for paying all Facility Certification fees for the years the tank system was not closed in accordance with API Recommended Practice 1604, titled "Closure of Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks." Payment of these fees by the owner or operator does not restrict the Department from taking enforcement action against the owner or operator pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-12.

Amended by R.1990 d.443, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2242(a), 22 N.J.R. 2758(a).

System added to clarify application of requirements.

Amended by R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994 (operative January 1, 1995).

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

In (a), deleted the second sentence; and in (c), added the reference to API recommended practice 1604.

Amended by R.2007 d.274, effective August 20, 2007.

See: 38 N.J.R. 4600(a), 39 N.J.R. 3533(a).

In (b), substituted "\$150.00" for "\$100.00".

7:14B-3.3 Duplicate Registration Certificate charges

The fee for duplicate Registration Certificates will be \$35.00 per document.

Repeal and New Rule, R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Amended by R.2007 d.274, effective August 20, 2007.

See: 38 N.J.R. 4600(a), 39 N.J.R. 3533(a).

Substituted "fee" for "Fee" and substituted "\$35.00" for "\$25.00".

7:14B-3.4 Exemption from fees

The Department will not assess a Registration or Facility Certification fee for underground storage tank systems which have been abandoned in place or removed prior to September 4, 1990.

Amended by R.1990 d.443, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2242(a), 22 N.J.R. 2758(a).

Term "public school" clarified at (a)1; (b) added.

Amended by R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

7:14B-3.5 Program fees and oversight costs

(a) The owner or operator of an existing, former or proposed underground storage tank system shall pay all required fees and costs pursuant to this chapter and the Administrative Requirements for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites rules at N.J.A.C. 7:26C-4, as applicable, and shall:

1. Submit a separate fee for each activity at a facility which requires a permit or approval at the time the application, or report is submitted. The owner or operator shall pay a separate fee for resubmissions of the same application or report when the application or report is disapproved due to technical deficiencies in the initial submittal. The fees required by this section are not one time fees but rather the fees required to perform the review of the specific submittals to the Department;

2. Submit a separate fee for each application, or report which is contained within a single document; and

3. Submit a separate fee for each facility where an activity occurs.

(b) The Department will not approve any application or report unless all fee requirements of this subchapter are met.

(c) The fee schedule is as follows:

Activity	Fee
1. Permit for the installation or substantial modification of an underground storage tank system	\$ 450.00
2. Review of the closure plan for an underground storage tank system	\$ 450.00
3. Review of the site investigation report	\$ 750.00
4. Review of the initial remedial investigation report	\$ 1,500.00

(d) The cost for the Department review of any remediation document not listed in (c) above shall be assessed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26C-9.

(e) When required, the owner or operator shall submit oversight costs pursuant to the provisions found in the Administrative Requirements for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites rules at N.J.A.C. 7:26C-4.5 and submit payment pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26C-4.7. In addition, the Department may consider the failure to pay a fee to be a violation of the Act.

New Rule, R.1990 d.443, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2242(a), 22 N.J.R. 2758(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.98, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1363(a), 26 N.J.R. 1132(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.487, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1593(a), 29 N.J.R. 4866(a).

Inserted new (e); and recodified existing (e) as (f).

Amended by R.1999 d.241, effective August 2, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 2373(a), 31 N.J.R. 2167(a).

Rewrote (d); and deleted former (e) and (f).

Amended by R.2007 d.274, effective August 20, 2007.

See: 38 N.J.R. 4600(a), 39 N.J.R. 3533(a).

In (c)1 through (c)4, updated the fee amounts; added new (d); and recodified former (d) as (e).

Special amendment, R.2009 d.361, effective November 4, 2009 (to expire May 4, 2011).

See: 41 N.J.R. 4467(a).

Section was "Program oversight cost fees." Rewrote the introductory paragraph of (a); and in (e), substituted "When required, the" for "The", "costs" for "cost fees", "Administrative Requirements for" for "rules for Department Oversight of", "N.J.A.C. 7:26C-4.5" for "N.J.A.C. 7:26C-9.3" and "N.J.A.C. 7:26C-4.7" for "N.J.A.C. 7:26C-9.5", and inserted "rules" following "Sites".

(b) Owners and operators of Federally regulated systems subject to 40 C.F.R. Part 280 Subpart H shall comply with this subchapter by maintaining financial assurance pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 280 Subpart H incorporated, in its entirety, by reference.

(c) By September 16, 2003, the owner or operator of an underground storage tank system subject to the requirements of this chapter, not covered by (b) above, shall comply with this subchapter for the amounts listed in N.J.A.C. 7:14-15.2 by maintaining financial assurance pursuant to USEPA's Financial Responsibility Regulations at 40 C.F.R. 280 Part H incorporated by reference, with the noted exclusions at N.J.A.C. 7:14B-15.3(c).

(d) State and Federal government entities whose debts and liabilities are the debts and liabilities of the State of New Jersey or the United States are exempt from the requirements of this subchapter.

(e) If the owner and operator of an underground storage tank system are separate persons, only one person is required to demonstrate financial responsibility; however, both the owner and operator are responsible in the event of non-compliance.

(f) The owner and operator may use separate mechanisms to satisfy the requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:14B-15.2 for different underground storage tank systems; however, the annual aggregate required shall be based on the number of tanks covered by each separate mechanism.

(g) The owner and operator is no longer required to maintain financial responsibility assurance for any underground storage tank system when the Department has provided the owner or operator with the following:

1. A no further action letter for the closure of the underground storage tank system; and
2. Notice that each third-party claim for damages as a result of a discharge from the underground storage tank system has been resolved pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 280.112 as adopted by reference at N.J.A.C. 7:14B-15.3, if one has been filed.

(h) The owner and operator shall identify the financial assurance mechanism being used to comply with this subchapter on the New Jersey Underground Storage Tank Facility Certification Questionnaire pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.2(d) 5 and shall maintain evidence of financial assurance at the site and at the owner or operator's place of business. An owner or operator shall submit to the Department evidence of financial assurance with any supporting documentation, pursuant to a request by the Department.

(i) Within 30 calendar days after the cancellation or expiration of any form of financial assurance established to meet the requirements of this chapter, the issuing financial institution shall notify the Department in writing of the expi-

ration or cancellation. The financial institution shall include in the notification the name of the insured policy holder, the policy number as applicable and the address of all sites covered by the financial mechanism. The written notification shall be sent to the address below:

New Jersey Department of Environmental
Protection
Division of Remediation Management and
Response
Bureau of Fund Management, Compliance &
Recovery
PO Box 028
401 East State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625-0028
Attn: Registration and Billing Unit

Case Notes

Initial Decision (2008 N.J. AGEN LEXIS 73) adopted, which concluded that a penalty of \$15,000 was warranted for a gasoline service station's failure to have insurance for its underground storage tanks ("USTs"); the potential environmental and even human consequences of USTs are such that it is of fundamental importance that facilities with USTs have insurance. N.J. Dep't of Env'tl. Prot. v. Excellent Care, Inc., OAL Dkt. No. EWR 00084-06, 2008 N.J. AGEN LEXIS 682, Final Decision (March 14, 2008).

Initial Decision (2006 N.J. AGEN LEXIS 420) adopted, which concluded that a gas station operator's failure to maintain a record of financial responsibility for its underground storage tanks was a moderately serious violation, and was moderately improper conduct. Without adequate insurance, there was the potential to cause substantial harm to health and the environment with no ability to compensate third parties and mitigate damages; in addition, the operator derived a benefit, a savings over its competitors, from not maintaining insurance. Thus, a \$15,000 penalty was appropriate for this violation. N.J. Dep't of Env'tl. Prot. v. Egg Harbor Gas & Go, LLC, OAL Dkt. No. EWR 2907-05, 2006 N.J. AGEN LEXIS 780, Final Decision (August 21, 2006).

7:14B-15.2 Amount and scope of required financial responsibility

(a) Owners and operators shall maintain financial responsibility assurance for regulated underground storage tank systems in the per-occurrence amounts as follows:

1. For petroleum underground storage tank systems located at petroleum marketing facilities, or facilities that handle an average of more than 10,000 gallons of petroleum per month based on annual throughput for the previous calendar year: \$1,000,000;
2. For all other petroleum underground storage tanks: \$250,000; and
3. For underground storage tanks systems containing hazardous substances other than petroleum: \$1,000,000.

(b) Owners or operators shall maintain financial responsibility assurance for regulated underground storage tank systems in the annual aggregate amounts as follows:

1. For one to 100 underground storage tanks: \$1,000,000; and

2. For 101 or more underground storage tanks: \$2,000,000.

(c) Owners and operators shall review the amount of per-occurrence and aggregate assurance needed whenever they acquire or install additional underground storage tanks to ensure the amount of financial responsibility assurance required at (a) and (b) above are maintained.

(d) If an adjustment in the amount of financial responsibility assurance is required pursuant to (c) above, the owner and operator shall demonstrate the adjusted amount within 30 calendar days after the tank acquisition or installation by submitting to the Department an amended New Jersey Underground Storage Tank Facility Certification Questionnaire in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14B-2.4.

7:14B-15.3 Incorporation of the Code of Federal Regulations by reference

(a) Unless specifically excluded by these rules, when a provision of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) is incorporated by reference into this rule, all notes, comments, appendices, diagrams, tables, forms, figures, and publications are also incorporated by reference.

(b) Owners and operators of Federally regulated underground storage tank systems subject to 40 C.F.R. Part 280 Subpart H shall comply with this subchapter by maintaining financial assurance pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 280 Subpart H incorporated, in its entirety, by reference into this rule.

(c) Owners and operators of State regulated underground storage tank systems subject to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:14B, but not covered by (b) above, shall comply with this chapter for the amounts listed in N.J.A.C. 7:14-15.2 by complying with USEPA's Financial Responsibility Regulations at 40 C.F.R. 280 Part H incorporated by reference into this rule with the following noted exclusions:

1. 40 C.F.R. 280.98, Surety Bond;
2. 40 C.F.R. 280.100, Use of State required mechanism;
3. 40 C.F.R. 280.101, State fund of other State assurance; and
4. 40 C.F.R. 280.106(d), Local government guarantee, Local Government Guarantee With Standby Trust Made by a State.

(d) For the purposes of this subchapter, when the term, "name of State" appears in the Federal rule, it shall be replaced with the term "New Jersey"; when the term "State implementing agency" appears in the Federal rule, it shall be replaced with the term "Department of Environmental Protection"; when the term "Director" or "Director of the implementing agency" appears in the Federal rule, it shall be replaced with the term "DEP Commissioner."

(e) Prospective incorporation by reference means the ongoing process, beginning May 19, 2003, whereby all provisions of regulations incorporated into this subchapter from the Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. 280 Part H are continually automatically updated in order to maintain consistency with the most current Federal rules. Thus, any supplements, amendments, and any other rule changes including, without limitation, repeals or stays that affect the meaning or operational status of a Federal rule, brought about by either judicial or administrative action and adopted or otherwise noticed by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register, shall simultaneously amend this subchapter so this subchapter has the same meaning and status as its Federal counterpart.

(f) Provisions of 40 C.F.R. Part 280 Subpart H incorporated by reference are prospective and all internal references contained therein are also incorporated prospectively for the purposes of that provision, unless otherwise noted. Each internal reference to the Federal Register shall be interpreted to include, in addition to the Federal citation, any changes, additions and deletions made to that citation by this subchapter.

(g) Provisions of 40 C.F.R. Part 280 Subpart H that are excluded from incorporation by reference in these rules are excluded in their entirety, unless otherwise specified. If there is a cross reference to a Federal citation that was specifically excluded from incorporation, the cross referenced citation is not incorporated by virtue of the cross reference. Provisions that have been excluded from incorporation by reference are also excluded from the process of prospective incorporation by reference.

(h) Nothing in these provisions incorporated by reference from the Federal Register shall affect the Department's authority to enforce statutes or rules, permits or orders administered or issued by the Commissioner.

(i) New Federal rules, amendments, supplements and other changes at 40 C.F.R. 280 Part H brought about through administrative or judicial action adopted or otherwise noticed by USEPA in the Federal Register shall be automatically incorporated through the prospective incorporation process in this chapter.

(j) New Federal rules, amendments, supplements and other changes at 40 C.F.R. 280 Part H brought about through administrative or judicial action adopted or otherwise noticed in the Federal Register by USEPA after January 26, 1998 but prior to May 19, 2003 shall be prospectively incorporated by reference and shall be effective on May 19, 2003 and operative on August 17, 2003 or on the operative date cited by USEPA in the relevant Federal Register Notice, whichever is later, unless the Department publishes a notice of proposal repealing the adoption of the Federal rule in New Jersey in whole or in part, and/or proposes to otherwise amend the affected State rules.