

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Storage Tanks
December 14, 2016

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: RESCISSION OF PREVIOUSLY
ISSUED TECHNICAL BULLETIN**
**Regarding Replacement of Pipe
Extracted Through a Chase Pipe**

Effective immediately, this Notice rescinds in part the December 9, 2008, Notice titled “Regarding Replacement of Pipe Extracted Through a Chase Pipe”.

Storage tank regulations that became effective November 10, 2007, require that whenever 50%, or more, of the existing piping that routinely contains and conveys product from a tank is replaced, the entire piping system shall be replaced in accordance with the requirements for new piping systems. The requirements for the installation of new piping systems include: double-walled piping, liquid-tight containment sumps and interstitial monitoring used for piping release detection. New pressurized piping systems must also have line leak detectors with an automatic pump shut-off device.

In addition to the above requirements, all containment sumps must be tested for liquid-tightness at installation or following a repair in accordance with a Nationally recognized industry standard or the manufacturer’s instructions.

In the December 9, 2008, Notice, the Department recognized two methods of meeting the containment sump testing requirements in an attempt to encourage the replacement of older flexible piping systems. These methods are as follows:

1. Install a boot at the sump penetration that allows the chase to be sealed off for sump testing. In some instances this may require excavation and is a major modification.
2. In lieu of performing a hydrostatic, vacuum or similar test of the sumps, install interstitial sensors at each sump that are continuously monitored by an ATG or similar console.

The Department hereby rescinds its recognition of number 2, above, as a method meeting the containment sump testing requirement. All containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring must be liquid tight. Water must not be allowed to infiltrate chase piping. Chase piping should be properly sealed in accordance with the Department’s storage tank regulations.

In order to prevent future generations of leaking underground storage tank systems, correct interpretation of the regulations is important. If you have questions or desire clarification of the above, please contact the Division of Storage Tanks at (717) 772-5599 and ask to speak with a member of the Underground Storage Tank Unit.