


CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER		POLICY	DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT
Subject:	TANK REMOVAL -- CLOSE IN PLACE		
Reference:	2015 IFC, 2015 NFPA, and 2016 Denver Fire Code Amendments		
Approved:			Manuel Almaguer Division Chief, Fire Prevention Division
Number:	IFC 5704, NFPA 30 DFC Chpt. 57	Effective Date: February 1, 2017	Page 1 of 6

**This policy is meant to provide basic information for the most common conditions and situations. In any given occupancy, many other Fire Code requirements may be enforced. The Fire Inspector will address these during a premise inspection. Questions can be addressed by contacting the Fire Prevention Division between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at 720-913-3474. Walk-in hours are 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. ONLY, Monday - Friday at 745 W. Colfax Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.**

**Underground tank out of service for one year - IFC Chapter 57.** Any underground tank which has been out of service for a period of one year shall be removed from the ground in a manner approved by the Division Chief of Fire Prevention, and the site restored in an acceptable manner. When the Chief determines that the removal of the tank is not necessary, he may permit the tank to be abandoned in place.

**For above-ground tanks out of service for one year, see IFC Chapter 57.**

**I. PERMITS:**

A permit shall be obtained from the Denver Fire Department Fire Prevention Division. The permit shall be kept on site for inspection and sign off. To obtain a permit the following information must be provided:

- A.** Contact name, phone number and fax number
- B.** Diagram of site location indicating tank location and size
- C.** Show distances from all buildings, property lines, utility poles, power lines, etc.
- D.** Name, address, and telephone number of property owner
- E.** Name, address, and telephone number of removal contractor
- F.** Name, address, and telephone number of transporter
- G.** Name, address, telephone number, and EPA number of pumping contractor
- H.** Name, address, and telephone number of location accepting tank
- I.** Name, address, and telephone number of soil sampling company
- J.** Fee paid; check made payable to the **Denver Manager of Finance**

**Mail-in to:** Denver Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Division/Permits  
745 W. Colfax Avenue  
Denver, CO 80204

**Walk-in permits:** 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. **ONLY** at 745 W. Colfax Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

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Number:	IFC 5704, NFPA 30 DFC Chpt. 57	Effective Date: February 1, 2017	Page 2 of 6

### COST AND CONDITIONS OF PERMIT:

Visit [DenverGov.org/DFD](http://DenverGov.org/DFD) and select "Fire Safety Permits" for the current Fire Permit Fee Calculation Table.

### II. TANK PREPARATION:

- A. The tank shall have all liquid removed from the tank and piping before the removal is undertaken.
- B. A 12-foot vent pipe shall be left intact until the tank is inerted and is ready to be lifted from the excavation.
- C. Smoking shall be prohibited in the removal area and shall be so posted.
- D. The tank shall be inerted **two (2) hours before the anticipated time** the tank is to be removed from the ground. If dry ice is used **no less than 15 pounds per 1,000 pounds of tank capacity shall be used**. If fill opening is to be used to insert the dry ice, remove the fill line "drop tube" and/or sleeve from the interior of the tank prior to inserting the dry ice.
- E. The tank shall be tested for an explosive atmosphere utilizing a flammable gas meter. If the atmosphere inside the tank is **greater than 20% of the lower explosive limit (LEL)**, the tank shall be reinerted and tested until the **LEL is less than 20% LEL**. Oxygen sensor reading is acceptable if **less than 8% total oxygen** available in the tank. Contractors will be responsible for having meters on site.

#### NOTE:

1. Tanks shall **NOT** be rinsed out once they have been removed from the excavation.
2. Tanks shall **NOT** be drug from the excavation. They shall be lifted out by equipment having the lifting capacity to safely lift the tank from the excavation.
3. Tanks shall **NOT** be torn open, ripped open or punctured by a backhoe. If opening is necessary, it shall be cut by **using cold cutting equipment constructed of non-sparking materials**.
- F. Vehicles transporting any hazardous waste from a tank shall be placarded on all four sides and the driver shall have the required manifest and the transport company shall be a permitted hazardous waste hauler. [Compliance with Department of Transportation (DOT) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements shall be adhered to.]

### III. INSPECTION PROCEDURES:

- A. **A Two-day notice shall be given for an inspection.**
- B. The tank shall be ready for removal at the time of inspection.
- C. The tank and excavation will be inspected for any indication of leakage.
- D. Tank openings shall be plugged in a manner so as to limit the internal pressure to **under five (5) PSI**.

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Number:	IFC 5704, NFPA 30 DFC Chpt. 57	Effective Date: February 1, 2017	Page 3 of 6

- E. The Fire Prevention representative shall be furnished copies of all manifests relating to hazardous waste removed from the site, i.e., waste pumped from the tank, contaminated soil or liquid found outside the tank.**
- F. The vehicle transporting the tank shall be appropriately placarded on all four sides and the driver shall have in his possession an appropriate shipping paper. (Compliance with DOT and EPA regulations is required.)**
- G. In the event that a fire inspector is not present during the tank removal, the attached tank removal application form shall be faxed and/or mailed to the Denver Fire Prevention Division within ten (10) days after the tank has been removed.**

#### **IV. LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS:**

**Leaking underground storage tanks are required to be removed. Leaking tanks are not allowed to be lined.**

Steel tanks are allowed to be lined only for the purpose of protecting the interior from corrosion, or for providing compatibility with a material to be stored. Only those liquids tested for compatibility with the lining material are allowed to be stored in lined tanks. **A permit shall be obtained from the Denver Fire Department to alter a tank.**

#### **V. SITE CONTAMINATION REQUIREMENTS:**

Follow the Colorado Department of Health (CDH) requirements for "Investigation, Corrective Action, Use of State Clean-Up Action Levels and Management of Contaminated Materials."

The Federal Government requires that a Certificate of O.S.H.A. Training, 1910.120 be held by persons involved in the removal of underground tanks.

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**TANK REMOVAL APPLICATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Denver Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Division  
Attn: Flammables  
745 W. Colfax Avenue  
Denver, CO 80204**

A tank removal was conducted on \_\_\_\_\_, at the following address: \_\_\_\_\_.

The Fire Protection Permit Number for this removal is \_\_\_\_\_.

The following information is provided in accordance with the Denver Fire Department *Guidelines for Tank Removals* document:

TANK #	% LEL or %O2 (Indicate which)	LEAKAGE NOTED	CONTAMINATION NOTED	SOIL SAMPLES TAKEN
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Soil samples were taken by a representative of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Removal Contractor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Number:	IFC 5704, NFPA 30 DFC Chpt. 57	Effective Date: February 1, 2017	Page 5 of 6

**UST CLOSURE INFORMATION**

**TANK LOCATION:**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPERTY OWNER:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**REMOVAL CONTRACTOR:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSPORTER:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PUMPING CONTRACTOR:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION ACCEPTING TANK:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER OR SOIL SAMPLE COMPANY:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**FIRE CHIEF APPROVAL OF TANK CLOSURE/ABANDON IN PLACE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*ATTACH DIAGRAM OF SITE LOCATION, TANK LOCATION, AND SIZE\*\***

	PRODUCT	SIZE	TYPE	LEAK INFORMATION
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

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I have read and understand the Denver Fire Department Tank Removal Policy.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**END OF DOCUMENT**