



## FAQs for Alternate Life Expectancy (ALE) tanks

### Q: What is the scope of the life expectancy extension?

A: The life expectancy extension applies to the Underground Storage Tank (UST), including tanks and piping with certain terms and conditions stated in the Approval. All the terms and conditions of the Approval must be met before the expiration of the UST System.

### Q: Can I submit a [Notice of Alternate Life Expectancy for Underground Storage Tanks](#) with incomplete or inaccurate information?

A: No, submitting a false statement can be punishable as a criminal offense. The owner/operator is obligated to certify that based on reasonable investigation, including their inquiry of the individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of their knowledge and belief.

### Q: What do I need to do if I am the new owner of an ALE tank system?

A: New owners and operators of UST systems must submit a new, updated ALE notice no later than thirty (30) days after the transfer of the UST system. Upon the transfer of a UST system, previous ALE notices become null and void. NOTE – UST ownership must also be updated in ezFile within 30 days.

### Q: What are the requirements for Under-Dispenser Containment sumps (UDCs)?

A: UDCs must meet the definition of a “new UDC sump” that contains release detection systems such as sensors, is capable of immediate visual inspection, contains an alarm, and is liquid tight ([RCSA § 22a-449\(d\)-101\(47\)](#)).

### Q: What are the requirements for Piping Containment sumps?

A: Piping containment sumps must meet the definition of a “new piping containment sump” that contains release detection systems such as sensors, is capable of immediate visual inspection, contains an alarm, and is liquid tight ([RCSA § 22a-449\(d\)-101\(45\)](#)).

### Q: Can DEEP issue a Notice of Disabled Systems (Red Tag) to permanently close a UST which is found to be in violation of Connecticut’s UST requirements?

A: Yes, at any time. The UST Owner/Operator must be in compliance with all requirements at all times during the 10-year extension period. Failure to comply with any criteria, term or condition specified in the [Commissioner’s Approval of Alternate Life Expectancy](#) results in the life expectancy of a UST reverting back to 30 years, thus the UST will need to be permanently closed.

### Q: What are the spatial requirements for an ALE tank system?

A: It cannot be located in an aquifer protection area or within 1,000 feet of a potable well (not including a potable well on the same property). A well receptor survey is recommended to check for wells within 1,000 feet.

### Q: How are the testing requirements for ALE tank systems different than the testing requirements for tank systems with a 30-year life expectancy?

- A:
- If the UST System is subject to line leak testing, the test must be conducted every 6 months instead of every year.
  - Annual inspections must be conducted by an independent third party, meeting the Petroleum Equipment Institute Recommended Practice RP-900.
  - Single-walled USTs must pass a tightness test annually instead of every 3 years.
  - Double-walled USTs must pass an interstitial space test annually instead of every 3 years (This provision does NOT apply to double-walled USTs that utilize a method of interstitial monitoring that continuously monitors both the inner and outer walls, such as a brine system).