

BULLETIN

VACC Occupational Health, Safety and Environment



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EPA Victoria will target all Underground Fuel Tanks

Over the past two years the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria conducted a compliance program that was focused on Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS) at fuel retailing sites across Victoria. The EPA program used a mixed approach of self-assessment, inspections, advice and follow up support to identify where the service stations were not complying with regulations.

There was substantial support from the industry. The EPA received responses from 90% of the operating service stations in Victoria and over 200 sites committed to make improvements to their management of underground fuel tanks.

The greatest rates of non-compliance were in record keeping, site sensitivity assessments and groundwater monitoring. There were also some discrepancies between the self-assessments and the actual compliance observed in follow-up inspections, mainly due to operators not fully understanding their obligations for groundwater monitoring.

With more than 200 fuel stations voluntarily working to ensure they comply with environmental regulations, EPA is now working to verify their efforts.

EPA Victoria recently announced that it is looking to conduct a pilot program working with other sites using underground fuel tanks, such as airports, marinas, depots and dealerships. VACC urges any members with underground petroleum storage systems to scope compliance using the EPA self-assessment checklist and contact the VACC OHSE Unit for assistance.

The link below is a copy of the presentation that EPA Victoria has presented recently in various forums.

[EPA Victoria UPSS Presentation](#)

For further queries please contact Patrick D'Alessandri (VACC OHSE Manager) on 03 9829 1138 or by email ohs@vacc.com.au.

Regards

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