

Spill Prevention, Control and Counter Measure (SPCC) Regulations and Plan

Oil Pollution Prevention

The purpose of the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Rule is to help prevent a discharge of oil into navigable waters or adjoining shorelines. This rule is part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's oil spill prevention program and was published under the authority of Section 311(j)(1)(C) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) in 1974. The rule may be found at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 112.

Who is covered by the SPCC rule?

Any facility is covered by the SPCC rule if it has an aggregate above ground fuel storage capacity greater than 1,500 Gallons and there is a reasonable expectation of an oil discharge into or upon navigable waters of the U.S. or adjoining shorelines.

What types of oil are covered?

Oil of any type and in any form is covered, including, but not limited to, petroleum and fuel oils

What facilities are covered?

Any facility that stores, processes or refines, uses or consumes oil and is non-transportation-related is subject to the SPCC rule. Any operations that intend to move oil from one location to another, are not included. Some examples of covered facilities include:

- Onshore and offshore oil well drilling facilities
- Oil refining and storage facilities
- Industrial, Commercial, Agricultural or Public Facilities using or storing oil
- Loading racks, transfer hoses, loading arms, and other equipment
- Vehicles (ex. Tank trucks) and railroad cars used to transport oil exclusively within the confines of a facility
- Pipeline systems used to transport oil exclusively within the confines of a facility

What activities are typically not covered?

Some examples of activities or equipment typically not covered by the SPCC rule include:

- Interstate or inter-facility oil pipeline systems
- Oil transported in vessels (e.g. ships, barges)
- Oil transported between facilities by rail car or tanker truck

How do I calculate my storage capacity?

Use the capacity of the container (max volume) and not the actual amount of product stored in the container (operational volume) to determine whether the SPCC rule applies to you. Count containers with storage capacity equal to or greater than 55 U.S. Gallons.

Examples of oil storage containers at a facility that DO count toward facility storage capacity:

- **Bulk Storage Containers:** Above ground storage tanks; certain completely buried tanks; partially buried tanks; tanks in vaults; bunkered tanks; and mobile or portable containers such as drums, totes, non-transportation-related tank trucks, and mobile refuelers.
- **Oil-filled equipment:** May include electrical or operating equipment such as hydraulic systems, lubricating systems (e.g. those for pumps, compressors and other rotating equipment, including

pumpjack lubrication systems), gear boxes, machining coolant systems, heat transfer systems, transformers, circuit breakers and electrical switches; or manufacturing equipment such as process vessels, or other equipment used in alteration, processing or refining of crude oil and other non-petroleum oils, including animal fats and vegetable oils.

What do I have to do?

A facility that must comply with the SPCC rule by preventing oil spills as well as develop and implement an SPCC Plan.

Prevent oil spills: Steps that a facility owner/operator can take to prevent oil spills include:

- Using suitable containers for the oil stored. The container must be designed for flammable liquids to store gasoline;
- Provide overfill prevention for your oil storage containers. You can use a high-level alarm or audible vent;
- Provide sized secondary containment for bulk storage containers, such as a double-walled tank. It needs to hold the full capacity of the container plus possible rainfall.;
- Provide general secondary containment to catch the most likely oil spill where you transfer oil to and from containers or for mobile refuelers and tanker trucks. Examples include sorbent materials, drip pans or curbing for these areas;
- Periodically inspect and test pipes and containers. Visually inspect above ground pipes and containers according to industry standards; any buried pipes must be leak tested when installed or repaired. Include a written record of the inspections in the Plan.

Prepare and implement an SPCC Plan: The owner or operator of the facility must develop and implement an SPCC Plan that describes oil handling operations, spill prevention practices, discharge or drainage controls, and the personnel, equipment and resources at the facility that are used to prevent oil spills from reaching navigable waters or adjoining shorelines. Each SPCC Plan is unique to the facility, there are certain elements that must be described in each Plan including:

- Operating Procedures to prevent oil spills
- Control measures (such as secondary containment) installed to prevent oil spills from entering navigable waters or adjoining shorelines; and
- Countermeasures to contain, cleanup, and mitigate the effects of an oil spill that has impacted navigable waters or adjoining shorelines.

DID YOU KNOW?

One gallon of spilled oil can contaminate a million gallons of water.



Every SPCC Plan must be prepared in accordance with good engineering practices and must be certified by a Professional Engineer UNLESS the owner/operator is able to, and chooses to, self-certify the Plan. No matter who certifies your SPCC plan, ultimately the owner/operator is responsible for complying with the rule. You can view a copy of the rule at www.epa.gov/oilspill. You can also contact the nearest EPA office to you.

Who can certify the SPCC Plan?

Preparation of the SPCC Plan is the responsibility of the owner/operator, who may also be eligible to self-certify the SPCC Plan IF the facility meets the below criteria:

1. Total Above Ground Oil Storage capacity of 10,000 US Gallons or less and
2. In the 3 Years prior to the date the SPCC Plan is certified, the facility has had NO single discharge of oil to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines exceeding 1,000 US Gallons, or no two discharges of oil to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines each exceeding 42 US Gallons within any 12-month period.¹

If your facility DOES NOT meet the above criteria, the SPCC Plan must be certified by a licensed Professional Engineer. Getting your SPCC Plan certified confirms that:

1. The Professional Engineer is familiar with the requirements of the rule;
2. The Engineer or Agent has visited and examined the facility;
3. Your SPCC Plan has been prepared in accordance with good engineering practices, including consideration of applicable industry standards, and with requirements of the rule;

¹ Not including discharges that are the result of natural disasters, acts of war or terrorism. When determining the applicability of the SPCC reporting requirement, the gallon amount specified refers to the amount of oil that reaches navigable waters or adjoining shorelines not the total amount of oil spilled. EPA considers the entire volume of the discharge to be oil for the purposes of these reporting requirements.

Important Elements of an SPCC Plan:

- Facility diagram and description of the facility
- Oil discharge predications
- Appropriate secondary containment or diversionary structures
- Facility drainage
- Site security
- Facility inspections
- Requirements for bulk storage containers including inspections, overfill, and integrity testing requirements
- Transfer procedures and equipment (including piping)
- Requirements for qualified oil-filled operational equipment
- Loading and Unloading rack requirements and procedures for tank cars and tank trucks.
- Brittle fracture evaluations for above ground field constructed containers
- Personnel training and oil discharge prevention briefings
- Record-keeping requirements
- Five-year Plan Review
- Management approval
- Plan certification (by a Professional Engineer or in certain cases, by the facility owner/operator)

4. Procedures for required inspections and testing have been established; and
5. The SPCC Plan is adequate for the facility.

If self-certifying your SPCC Plan, the owner/operator makes a similar statement. See §112.6 of the rule for other qualified facility SPCC Plan requirements.

Do I need to submit the SPCC to EPA?

No. SPCC Plans should be maintained at any facility normally attended at least four hours per day or at the nearest field office if the facility is not so staffed. Submit your Plan to EPA only when requested.

What to do when you have a spill?

If your facility discharges oil to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines, you are required to follow certain federal reporting requirements. Any person in charge of an onshore or offshore facility, must notify the National Response Center (NRC) immediately after they have knowledge of the discharge. Oil discharges that reach navigable waters must be reporting to the NRC (800) 424-8802 or (202) 426-2675. The NRC is the federal government's centralized reporting center, which is staffed 24/7 by US Coast Guard personnel.

A common misconception is that by reporting to the NRC you have met state and local reporting requirements. This is false. The report only satisfies your federal reporting requirements under the Clean Water Act. Additional state and local reporting requires may apply. In most cases, it makes sense to call 911 in the event of an oil spill, particularly in the case of flammable or combustible oil spills.

Any owner/operator of a facility regulated by the SPCC rule must report the discharge to EPA when:

- More than 1,000 US Gallons of oil is discharged to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines in a single event; or
- More than 42 US Gallons of oil in each of two discharges to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines occurs within any twelve-month period.

After the NRC has been notified, the owner/operator must provide the following information to the RA:

- Name and location of facility
- Owner/operator name
- Maximum storage/handling capacity of the facility and normal daily throughput
- Corrective actions and countermeasures taken, including descriptions of equipment repairs and replacements
- Adequate descriptions of the facility, including maps, flow diagrams and topographical maps, as necessary
- Cause of the discharge to navigable waters, including failure analysis
- Failure analysis of the system where the discharge occurred
- Additional preventative measures taken or planned to take to minimize discharge reoccurrence.

The RA may require additional info. You must also send a copy of this info to the agency or agencies in charge of oil pollution control activities in the state in which the SPCC regulated facility is located.

Who should I contact for more information?

- Office of Emergency Management website: www.epa.gov/emergencies
- Government Printing Office website www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr to access the current CFR
- See the SPCC Guidance for Regional Inspectors for detailed guidance on specific SPCC provisions www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/spcc_guidance.htm
- Call the hotline, the Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP and Oil Information Center (800) 424-9346 or (703) 412-9810 www.epa.gov/superfund/contacts/infocenter/index.htm

US EPA Headquarters
Office of Emergency Management
Ariel Rios Building – Mail Code 5104A
1200 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-8600

To report a chemical or oil spill, call the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802

SPCC Prevention Response Plan



SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PLAN (SPRP)

☐ New

☐ Amendment

Effective Date: _____

This self-certifying SPCC Plan is required of all sites with above ground tanks with a capacity of more than 1,500 gallons but less than 10,000 Gallons that contain regulated substances, hazardous materials or pollutants. If your site has over 10,000 Gallons you will need a Professional Engineer SPCC plan.

FACILITY NAME: _____

FACILITY OWNER: _____

FACILITY OPERATOR (person in charge): _____

FACILITY ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ 24-HOUR NUMBER: _____

Tank Information	
Tank #	
Installation Date	
Tank Capacity (Gallons)	
Material of Construction	
Product Stored	

The above ground tank is provided with secondary containment by:

☐ an FDEP approved double walled tank

☐ an impermeable diked area with a capacity of 110% of the volume of the largest tank within the diked area

SPILL RESPONSE

If the above ground tank is secondarily contained within a diked area, this dike shall contain any spill. Any spilled product within the diked area shall be pumped out or recovered with an absorbent material, containerized and disposed of properly or else the facility's specific spill response plan must be provided. Be advised that all work, including applicable safety requirements, must comply with the applicable requirements of the Florida Administrative Code (FAC), United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) and all other applicable regulations.

If the above ground tank is double walled, a breach in the primary tank will discharge into the secondary tank and be detected through the interstitial monitoring provided for the tank. Any discharge outside the secondary containment shall be recovered with an absorbent material, containerized and disposed of properly.

**** Attach a list of equipment and/or materials on-site to handle spills from a tank failure ****

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS

The operator of the regulated above ground storage tank shall keep all paperwork for inventory, release detection and record keeping. This paperwork must also be made available for routine annual inspections. For all other unregulated above ground tanks, a schedule for in-house tank inspections and recordkeeping to be performed must be maintained. See recommended schedule attached.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify and attest that the information contained herein and in the construction plans submitted with this SPRP, is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, I agree to maintain and operate this facility in compliance with this plan.

Signature of Responsible Party (must be notarized)

Print Name and Title

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Notary Public

RECOMMENDED IN-HOUSE INSPECTION SCHEDULE

Inspection / Test Record	Frequency
Visual Tank Integrity	Monthly
Visual Tank supports and foundation	Daily
Liquid sensing devices, interstitial monitoring device or site glass, monitoring wells – visual	Weekly
Above ground valves, piping, fittings – visual	Daily
Corrective actions & maintenance	As required