



# Abandoned Storage Tanks: Returning to In-Use or Temporarily Out-of-Service

## BUREAU OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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(608) 224-4942  
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## RESOURCES

Wis. Admin. Code ATP

93:

[http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/atcp/090/93](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/090/93)

Storage Tank Website:

[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/PetroleumHazStorageTanks.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/PetroleumHazStorageTanks.aspx)

Storage Tank Forms:

[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/PetroleumHazStorageTanksForms.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/PetroleumHazStorageTanksForms.aspx)

Storage Tank Fact Sheets:

<https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Publications/WeightsAndMeasuresBureauFactSheets.aspx>

Wisconsin Administrative Code [ATCP 93 defines](#) “abandoned tank” as an aboveground or underground tank, with or without product, which does not meet the requirements of in-use, temporarily out-of-service or closed.

Tanks that are abandoned with or without product must be permanently closed within 60 days of being abandoned per Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.565(1).

To bring an abandoned tank system back to in-use or temporarily out-of-service, the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.565(2)(5) must be followed. Only abandoned tanks less than 30 years old or are of double-wall construction may be returned to service.

- In order to bring an abandoned tank system back to in-use or temporarily out-of-service, it must be proven that the tank system meets the required standards for operation outlined below. Application(s) for permit(s) to operate that include proof of financial responsibility. Permit applications for the facility can be obtained by contacting our permitting department at (608)224-4942, option 3.
- An assessment of the integrity of the tank system that includes an internal inspection and certification by the manufacturer, or a qualified professional engineer, that the tank system is suitable for continued service.
  - Internal inspections of fiberglass and fiberglass-jacketed steel tanks may be performed using the approved KWA camera method, however the interior lining of the tank must be sufficiently free of product, sludge, residue, or other materials that would impede visual inspection, and at least 98% of the lining must be visible for inspection.
  - For steel tanks, an evaluation of the remaining tank metal thickness must be performed.
    - Tanks that have an overall average tank metal thickness or an average tank thickness of a designated thin wall area of less than 75% or any through-wall perforations shall be immediately closed per Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.560.
    - Tanks that have an overall average tank metal thickness or an average tank thickness of a designated thin wall area of 75% to 85% shall have an impressed current system installed per Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.520 or be immediately closed per Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.560.
    - The certification and report of the assessment must be submitted to the department for approval prior to adding product to the tank system.
- Proof that cathodically protected tanks meet the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.520.

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Precision testing of the entire tank system conducted **without product** and performed per [Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.515\(4\)](#) by a certified Tank System Tightness Tester. Upon approval of the above items, fuel may be introduced into the system. The following items are then required to complete the variance process:

- Completion of underground tank system functionality verification per [Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.510\(2\)](#). [TR-WM-139](#) must be submitted to the department with proof any deficiencies found have been corrected.
- The tank system must fully comply with Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93 before being placed back into service, except double-wall construction is not newly required for tank systems installed before February 1, 2009.

Tank system must pass a department storage tank system inspection conducted in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § ATP 93.

Questions? Please contact us at (608)224-4942, option 4 or email [datcpwmcompliance@wi.gov](mailto:datcpwmcompliance@wi.gov).