Underground Storage Tank Cathodic Protection and Internal Lining

Underground storage tanks (USTs) are protected from corrosion using cathodic protection in conjunction with an internal lining the UST. UST cathodic protection and internal lining must meet the following requirements.

Cathodic Protection (COMAR 26.10.03.08B(2))

- Sacrificial anodes are only permitted factory installed on tanks. Piping can be field installed.
- Impressed current system must protect the tank and any steel piping.
- Protection must be tested.
  - A sacrificial anode system must be tested yearly.
  - An impressed current system must be tested every five years.

Internal lining (COMAR 26.10.03.08B(3))

- Before internally lining an UST, a site assessment must be performed to ensure that the tank has not released product. If the tank has released product, contact the Maryland Department of the Environment, Oil Control Program.
- Cathodic protection by impressed current must be placed on the UST system. Sacrificial anodes are not allowed as an upgrade. (See above)
- Internal lining must be installed in accordance with American Petroleum Institute (API) 1631. If the UST does not pass the required API inspection, the tank cannot be lined.
- After lining has been completed, a precision tightness test must be performed before the UST system can be placed back into service.
- Internal lining must be inspected after 10 years and every 5 years thereafter as required by regulation.

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