

NFESC Releases

Spill Guidance

Document Assists in the Preparation of Spill Prevention Plans

The Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center (NFESC) has published a Users Guide, UG-2056-ENV, dated October 2003 that provides regulatory interpretation and recommendations to Navy and Marine Corps installations. The guidance document is designed to assist in the preparation of Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans. Attention is focused on ambiguous or potentially confusing requirements where interpretation and recommendations may be most helpful.

What is an SPCC Plan?

An SPCC Plan is a detailed, facility-specific, written description of how a facility's operations comply with the requirements of the Oil Pollution Prevention regulation, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 112. These requirements include measures such as secondary containment, facility drainage, dikes and barriers, sump and collection systems, retention ponds, curbing, tank corrosion protection systems, and liquid level devices.

The most recent version of 40 CFR 112 was published on 17 July 2002.

The guidance provided in this document is based on this new rule. The guidance document dissects the regulation and provides insight into plan organization, approach and methodology that can be leveraged in the creation of SPCC Plans for Navy and Marine Corps installations.

Who Must Prepare an SPCC Plan?

Navy and Marine Corps installations that meet either of the following criteria are subject to 40 CFR 112 and must prepare an SPCC Plan:

1. The installation's underground oil storage capacity exceeds 42,000 gallons (excluding completely buried storage tanks subject

to all technical requirements of 40 CFR 280).*

2. The installation's aggregate above-ground oil storage capacity (including tanks, containers and operating equipment 55 gallons or greater in capacity) exceeds 1,320 gallons.*

**Providing the installation stores, distributes or consumes oil and oil products that could reasonably be expected to reach navigable waters if spilled or released.*

Most Navy and Marine Corps installations are required to prepare an SPCC Plan as a consequence of criteria two. Only extremely small installations fall below this 1,320-gallon threshold.



An SPCC Plan must be certified by a Professional Engineer (PE) whose endorsement indicates the Plan meets regulatory requirements, is adequate for the facility and has been prepared in accordance with applicable industry standards. Therefore, when following the recommendations contained in this document, it should be understood that the minimum requirements described may not be adequate for each facility and that good engineering judgment must be exercised by the certifying PE.

What Does the Guidance Document Cover?

Users Guide UG-2056-ENV lists the SPCC rule promulgated in 40 CFR 112 of 17 July 2002 in its entirety, with supplemental inserts wherever helpful or appropriate, consisting of interpretation, guidance, recommendations and cost information. In addition, detailed topic-specific guidance is provided in several separate tabs, each intended to function independently in summarizing the essential requirements from Part 112 for the respective topic. These five tabs contain information pertaining to:

- Bulk storage containers;
- Loading/unloading racks;
- Valves and piping;
- Electrical and other equipment; and
- Security.

Appendices include detailed SPCC cost information, a spill prevention resource guide, SPCC requirements overview, guidance memos and letters from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, site survey considerations and several other resources.

Where Can I Get a Copy?

Users Guide UG-2056-ENV is posted on the NFESC Pollution Prevention (P2)



The new SPCC regulation requires inclusion of oil-filled operational equipment, such as electrical transformers and switches in SPCC Plans.



Generator day tanks are typically considered bulk storage containers, similar to Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs) and drums with a capacity of at least 55 gallons.

web site. Visit <http://www.nfesc.navy.mil>

- > Products & Services
- > Environmental Services
- > Pollution Prevention
- > NAVFAC SPCC Guidance Document (2003).

The direct address for the SPCC guidance document is <http://enviro.nfesc.navy.mil/ps/spcc/index.html>.

Another valuable SPCC resource, the Spill Prevention Guidance Manual (1998), is also posted on the NFESC P2 web site. Unlike the 2003 document, which is designed primarily to systematically provide guidance, interpretation, and pertinent information on the specific, sequential require-

ments of 40 CFR 112, the 1998 document instead adopts a more topical, text-book approach in presenting information on facilities, devices, controls, practices and planning. ⚓

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