



FAQ: Tank Degassing
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Q1: *What is degassing?*

A1: Degassing is the removal of organic gases from stationary tanks, containers, or pipelines. Fluids that are degassed include gasoline and crude oil.

Q2: *Who can degas tanks?*

A2: Any company with special equipment that complies with District rules and who is permitted with the District may degas tanks.

Q3: *Is a permit needed to degas a tank?*

A3: Yes, a permit is required for equipment used to degas a tank. We recommend that you utilize the services of companies that have already obtained degassing equipment permits from the District (see below for the current list of approved companies). Tank degassing operations need to comply with the requirements of Rule 343 for:

- any underground storage tank with a capacity greater than 500 gallons storing liquids having a vapor pressure greater than 3.9 psia
- any above-ground storage tank with a capacity greater than 40,000 gallons containing liquids having a vapor pressure greater than 2.6 psia
- any above-ground storage tank with a capacity between 20,000 and 40,000 gallons containing liquids having a vapor pressure greater than 3.9 psia at oilfields and pipeline stations

Q4: *What if I encounter contaminated soil during the tank removal?*

A4: If contaminated soil is found during the tank removal process, have the soil immediately removed to an approved disposal site. Cover the exposed area and any piles with 20-mil plastic sheeting. Do not excavate any additional soil beyond what is required to remove tank. Upon receiving a County EHS Department approved Remedial Action Plan, apply for either a District written exemption ([Form -07a](#)) for excavations $\leq 1,000 \text{ yd}^3$ or a permit ([Form -7c](#)) for excavations $> 1,000 \text{ yd}^3$.

Q5: *Do I need District approval to degas a propane tank?*

A5: No. Propane tanks are exempt from District permit. Our Rule 202 has a provision that states that any control device used on an exempt device is also exempt.

Q6: *What operations does Rule 343 apply to?*

A6: Rule 343 applies to operations at oilfield and pipeline stations. It also applies to underground gasoline storage tanks.

Q7: *What companies are permitting by the District to do degassing?*

A7: These are the following companies who have permits to degas tanks in Santa Barbara County:

- Adams Services, Inc., ICE, Ryder Adams, 310-523-4430
- Envent, Thermal Oxidizer, Adrien Abundes, 562-997-9465
- GEM Mobile Treatment Services, Thermal Oxidizer, Christina Payne, 562-436-2999

Another company (or the permitted source) may be hired to degas but they must first obtain a permit from District, which may take more time.