

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Bulk Storage Facilities Overview

General Description

This dataset shows information about bulk storage facilities - Petroleum Bulk Storage (PBS), Chemical Bulk Storage (CBS), Major Oil Storage Facilities (MOSF), and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) - and tanks that are currently being operated or were operated in the State of New York.

Information may include:

- Program number.
- Program type.
- Site type name.
- Program facility name.
- Address.
- Locality.
- County.
- NYSDEC region.
- Tank number.
- Tank location.
- Tank status.
- Install date.
- Capacity in gallons.
- Tank type.
- Close date.
- Material name (of substance in tank).
- Percent (of material in tank - if hazardous substance - CBS tanks only).
- Expiration date (of license or registration).
- Site status name.
- UTMX and UTM Y location coordinates.

Tanks storing petroleum and hazardous chemicals must meet minimum standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). New York's Hazardous Substances Bulk Storage Program provides guidelines and controls for the storage of many different hazardous chemicals.

Improper handling and storage of petroleum and hazardous chemicals can result in leaks and spills and pose a serious threat to the quality of the environment in New York State. Petroleum, additives, and a variety of industrial chemicals have been discovered in many of the State's groundwater supplies. In some wells, only trace quantities have been discovered; in others,

levels have exceeded federal and State drinking water standards. Many drinking water supplies have been closed because of excessive chemical contamination.

Water contamination is only one consequence of poor handling practices. Mismanagement of some substances may pose occupational hazards, present a fire or explosion risk, or result in a release of odors or fumes with public health and environmental consequences to the neighboring community.

Gasoline, which fuels the millions of automobiles we all drive each day, is highly flammable and can flash violently when ignited. Gasoline and many other hazardous chemicals when inhaled can cause drowsiness, nausea, and other adverse health effects. Once petroleum or a chemical soaks into the ground, it disperses and may dissolve and contaminate a water supply for many years. Cleanup is often difficult and it is usually very expensive.

New York State has approximately 46,000 storage facilities which involve an estimated 108,000 bulk storage tanks. Leaks and spills occur as a result of poor housekeeping, overfilling of tanks, loading and unloading mistakes, and poor maintenance and inspection.

New York State prevents leaks and spills at petroleum and chemical storage facilities through the Bulk Storage Program operated by NYSDEC. The Bulk Storage Program is based on four laws enacted over the past 20 years. Three are State laws requiring NYSDEC to develop and enforce standards for storage and handling of petroleum and chemical products and to regulate aboveground and underground tanks storing these products. The fourth law is the federal amendment to RCRA (Subtitle I) requiring USEPA to regulate underground storage tanks (USTs). Under a memorandum of understanding with USEPA, NYSDEC assists in the regulation and inspection of 23,000 underground tanks covered by Subtitle I, provides education to tank owners, and encourages compliance with federal regulations.

Data Collection Methodology

Information about bulk storage facilities is obtained from license and registration data submitted to NYSDEC.

Site location coordinates determined through various means, including mailing address, identification on a map, and the use of global positioning systems.

Statistical and Analytic Issues

Not applicable.

Limitations of Data Use

NYSDEC provides these geographic data "as is." NYSDEC makes no guarantee or warranty concerning the accuracy of information contained in the geographic data. NYSDEC further makes no warranty, either expressed or implied, regarding the condition of the product or its fitness for any particular purpose. The burden for determining fitness for use lies entirely with the user. Although these data have been processed successfully on a computer system at

NYSDEC, no warranty expressed or implied is made regarding the accuracy or utility of the data on any other system or for general or scientific purposes. This disclaimer applies both to individual use of the data and aggregate use with other data. It is strongly recommended that careful attention be paid to the contents of the metadata file associated with these data. NYSDEC shall not be held liable for improper or incorrect use of the data described and/or contained herein.

Installation, closing, and expiration dates are based on DEC's best available information from historical and current sources/records.

Facilities which have not yet been mapped have no coordinates.

For bulk storage facilities including PBS, CBS, and MOSF, some information is not released because NYSDEC has determined that releasing the information could endanger the life or safety of persons or the security of critical infrastructure. This information is withheld in accordance with the Public Officers Law (POL §§86.5, 87.2(f), 89.5(a)(1)(1-a)). This includes tank information such as tank capacities, products stored, tank type, piping type, etc.). This applies to all CBS and MOSF facilities and to PBS facilities at certain facility types (e.g., utilities, airports, storage terminals, etc.) and those that store more than 10,000 gallons of flammable petroleum products in aboveground tanks. For these facilities, the information released is consistent with what is provided on the NYDEC's website including facility name, address, facility status (i.e., active, closed), and the date that the facility registration/license expires.

New LNG facility permits are now required since the laws and regulations (Environmental Conservation Law Article 23 Title 17 and 6 NYCRR Part 570) became effective in February 2015. LNG facilities may be added as permits are issued.

NYSDEC does not maintain the PBS registration records for the following five counties which are delegated to manage their own records: Cortland, Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester.