

# STEEL TANK INSTITUTE

STI/SPFA is a trade association of manufacturers of aboveground and underground tanks and the associated equipment. The Fireguard<sup>®</sup> protected type tank is manufactured by many of our members and is currently certified under Executive Order G-70-162-A.<sup>a</sup> STI/SPFA staff and member manufacturers met with ARB staff in Sacramento in August 2006 expressing our concerns about the cost of the proposed certification testing.

We have the following comments on the current proposal:

1. ARB staff determined that existing technologies will meet certification requirements.<sup>b</sup> Therefore, why must certification testing be done? This testing is a considerable cost for both manufacturers and ARB staff. It is estimated that it could cost a manufacturer a minimum of \$300,000 to obtain a certification for a single piece of equipment (based on manufacturers of underground equipment's experience)
2. CP-206 states that compatibility testing investigation may be required during the Phase I and II certification testing.<sup>c</sup> This investigation procedure is not included in CP-206 and therefore is not documented. Open-ended investigations are a concern because it can lead to rapidly increasing costs of testing without predetermined parameters.
3. The deadline for certification testing is January 1, 2009.<sup>d</sup> The certification testing is required to be performed during the summer months which leaves only Summer 2008 for certification testing of all 15 types of protected tanks (minimum 30 day test), all Phase I equipment (minimum 180 day test), and all Phase II equipment (minimum 180 day test). It is not practical for this testing to be completed in the time allotted.

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<sup>a</sup> Previous ARB approval testing for Fireguard 1996  
(Phase I test – must be > 95% efficient.) Fireguard results – No vent emissions, Efficiency 100%  
(Phase II test – must be > 95% efficient.) Fireguard results – Efficiency 97.8% and 97.6% (2 tanks)

<sup>b</sup> Staff report, page 2 "Additional testing showed that currently certified protected tanks also provide the needed insulation properties"

Staff report, page 44 "Costs for development of AST vapor recovery equipment to meet the new performance standards are minimal because the technologies are commercially available. Equipment unique to ASTs, such as leak-tight emergency vents, is also already commercially available. Staff does not expect the proposed regulation to cause a noticeable adverse impact on the affected manufacturers."

<sup>c</sup> CP-206, page 15 "Compatibility of the proposed Phase I system with the certified Standing Loss Control system installed at the certification test site shall be determined by use of all data collected as part of the monitoring described in Section 14. Failure of any Standing Loss Control system tests conducted during the Phase I system certification shall require an explanation from the applicant and a determination by the Executive Officer in regard to the possible cause of the failure. Standing Loss Control system test failures shall not trigger termination of the Phase I system certification test unless sufficient information demonstrates that the Phase I system caused the failure(s)."

<sup>d</sup> Staff report, page 31 "This means that new AST installations occurring on or after January 1, 2009 must comply with the new AST EVR performance standards and specifications. the January 1, 2009 effective date will allow manufacturers sufficient time and opportunity to develop and certify vapor recovery system and components that would comply with the new AST EVR performance standards and specifications."