

JUNE 1997

92 FCR 013

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LIQUID LEVEL MEASUREMENTS - ALBERTA POWER LTD.

ISSUE:

Alberta Power Ltd. has initiated a program of regularly scheduled inspection and maintenance of all its storage tanks at remote locations by dispatching personnel from a central location. To ensure consistency in the program, they have requested that requirements for weekly measurement of product and water level of all tanks be extended. The request is to do dip tests on a next-time-in basis for tanks at remote locations.

BACKGROUND:

The aboveground storage tanks in question contain diesel fuel used to provide electrical power for industry and small communities throughout Alberta. Most of these tanks are at remote sites that do not have personnel trained in the maintenance and inspection of storage tanks.

CODE REQUIREMENTS:

Article 4.3.17.1. of the Alberta Fire Code states:

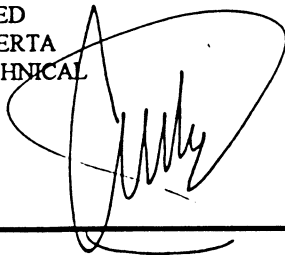
- 1) The product level and the level of water at the bottom of an underground *storage tank* shall be measured
 - (a) each day product is added or removed from the tank, or
 - (b) at least weekly if product is added or removed less frequently than once per week.
- 2) The product level and the level of water at the bottom of an aboveground *storage tank* shall be measured at least weekly.

Article 1.1.4.2. of the Alberta Fire Code additionally states:

Longer intervals between the inspections and tests specified in this Code may be permitted provided an *inspector* or *local assistant* is satisfied that such intervals do not reduce the reliability of the system or equipment requiring inspection or testing.

ISSUE OF THIS RULING IS AUTHORIZED
UNDER ARTICLE 1.1.4.4. OF THE ALBERTA
FIRE CODE 1992 BY THE SENIOR TECHNICAL
OFFICER, FIRE STANDARDS.

C.M. TYE



Alberta
LABOUR

RULING:

After examining procedures and initiatives proposed by Alberta Power Ltd. it has been determined that under Article 1.1.4.2. of the Alberta Fire Code 1992 liquid level measurement of storage tanks will be as follows:

Storage tanks in remote locations (53) are to have product and water levels measured monthly or on a next-time-in basis.

An extension is granted as product and water level measurement of all tanks is part of a scheduled storage tank inspection program undertaken by trained personnel dispatched from a central location.

This RULING applies throughout the Province of Alberta.

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