

# UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM Proposed Ordinance Revisions and Fee Schedule

Environmental Programs Division  
April 21, 2015

“We lead, inspire, and support our communities  
toward a healthy, waste-free future.”



# Overview

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- ▶ The Role of Public Works
- ▶ Program Funding
- ▶ Changes to State Laws and Regulations
- ▶ 2001 vs 2015
- ▶ Streamlined Operations
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- ▶ Ordinance Revisions
- ▶ Proposed Fee Adjustments
- ▶ Proposed New Fee Types
- ▶ Benefits to our customers



# The UST Program

- ▶ CalEPA regulates the storage of hazardous substances in underground tanks to protect groundwater quality and human health and environment.
- ▶ County of LA Fire Department is the Certified Unified Participating Agency for this area, simply called CUPA.
- ▶ Public Works oversees the underground storage tank program.
- ▶ Jurisdiction – 142 Unincorporated County communities and 77 cities



# The Role of Public Works

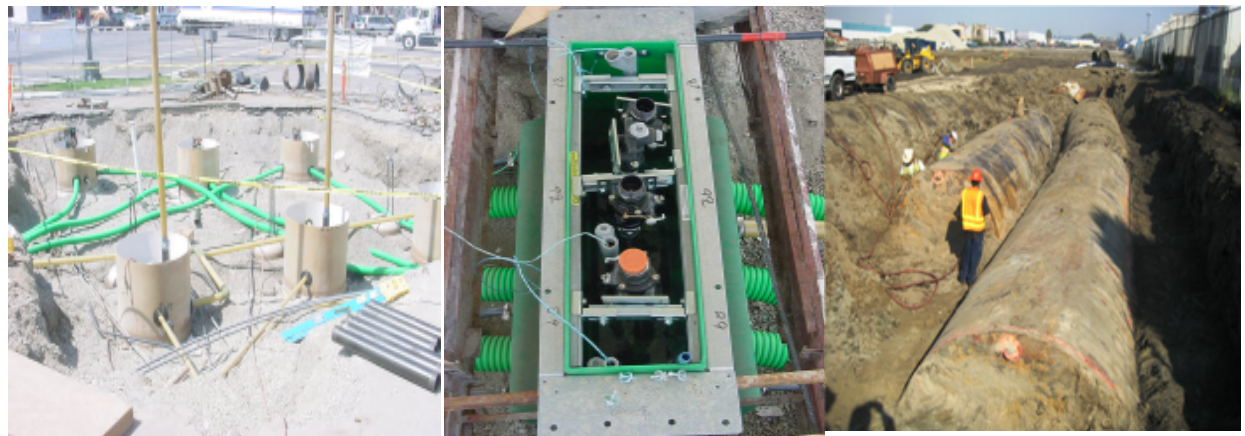
## On an Annual Basis

- ▶ Permitting – 1,600 Facilities under permit, 4,400 underground storage tanks.
- ▶ Inspections – 1,600 routine inspections and over 350 other inspections
- ▶ Plan Review/Approval – Over 1,100 applications
- ▶ Compliance – Ensure compliance with State laws and regulations as well as County code.



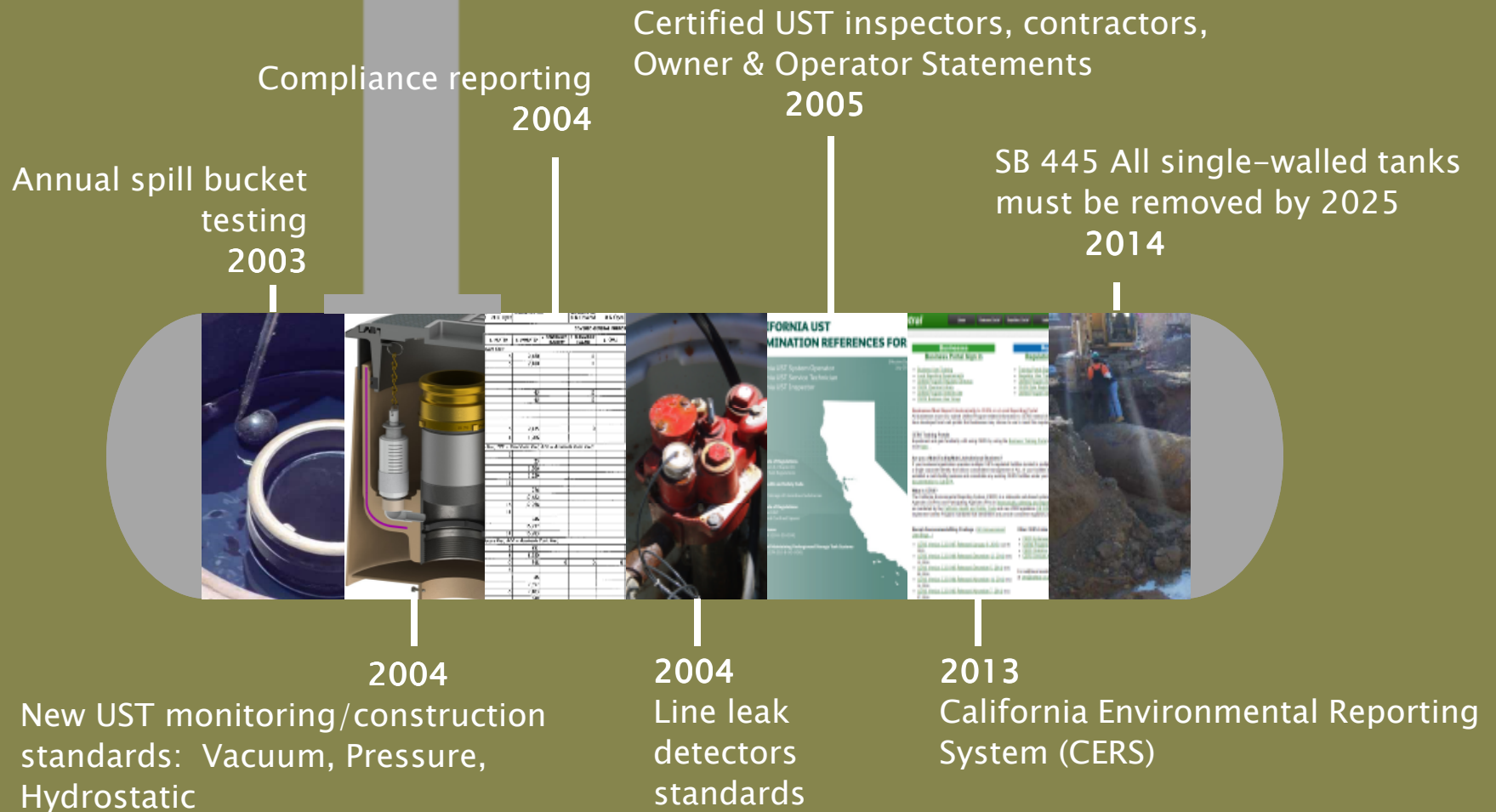
# Program Funding

- ▶ The UST program is fee based.
- ▶ Fees have not been adjusted to keep up with new requirements since 2001.
- ▶ Conducted detailed task analysis to align our Program fees with required State laws and regulations.



# Changes to State UST Laws and Regulations

Since the fees were established in 2001, State requirements have significantly increased:



# 2001 vs 2015



Site File Number \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

Site File Number \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection Number \_\_\_\_\_

Inspected By \_\_\_\_\_

Refer to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR),  
 Chapters 6.7 of the Health and Safety Code (HSC), Title 11, Division 4 of the Los Angeles County Code (LACC)

CCR ID # \_\_\_\_\_

The following Code sections are either in violation (V) of, or  
 in compliance (C) with, the Underground Storage Tank laws  
 and regulations, or compliance is not applicable (N).

TYPE ID	INSPECTION ITEM	VIEW	VIEW	VIEW	VIEW	VIEW	VIEW
2019001	Current BOE number submitted to the CUPA and/or CEPS						
2019002	Facility has a valid permit to operate from the CUPA						
2019003	Financial Responsibility current and on file? exp. _____						
2019004	Submitted an accurate CUPA UST Operating Permit Application for Facility Info.						
2019005	Submitted an accurate CUPA UST Operating Permit Application for Tank Info.						
2019006	Has statement of UST compliance certification been submitted						
2019007	Has the owner/operator designated a UST operator						
2019008	Owner/operator received approval for a training program at an unstaffed facility						
2019009	_____						
2019010	_____						
2019011	_____						
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2019100	_____						

# Streamlined Operations

- ▶ Implemented an Electronic Testing Notification system to reduce wait time to perform inspections.
- ▶ Provided a UST Web Portal to download required submittal forms.
- ▶ Provided an online records retrieval system.
- ▶ Consolidated multi-program inspections.



# CalEPA Findings

## 2013 CalEPA Evaluation of the CUPA Program

- ▶ Develop a new fee schedule that will adequately address the agency's resource needs.
- ▶ Insufficient staffing to meet minimum industry established turnaround time for plan reviews and inspections.
- ▶ Delayed closure report review.
- ▶ Follow-up inspections are not being performed in a timely manner.
- ▶ County ordinance is outdated.

# Ordinance Revisions

- ▶ Added new language to include and clarify new State requirements.
- ▶ Adjusted existing fee amounts.
- ▶ Created new fee categories for sites out of compliance, for multiple inspections and inadequate plan submittals.



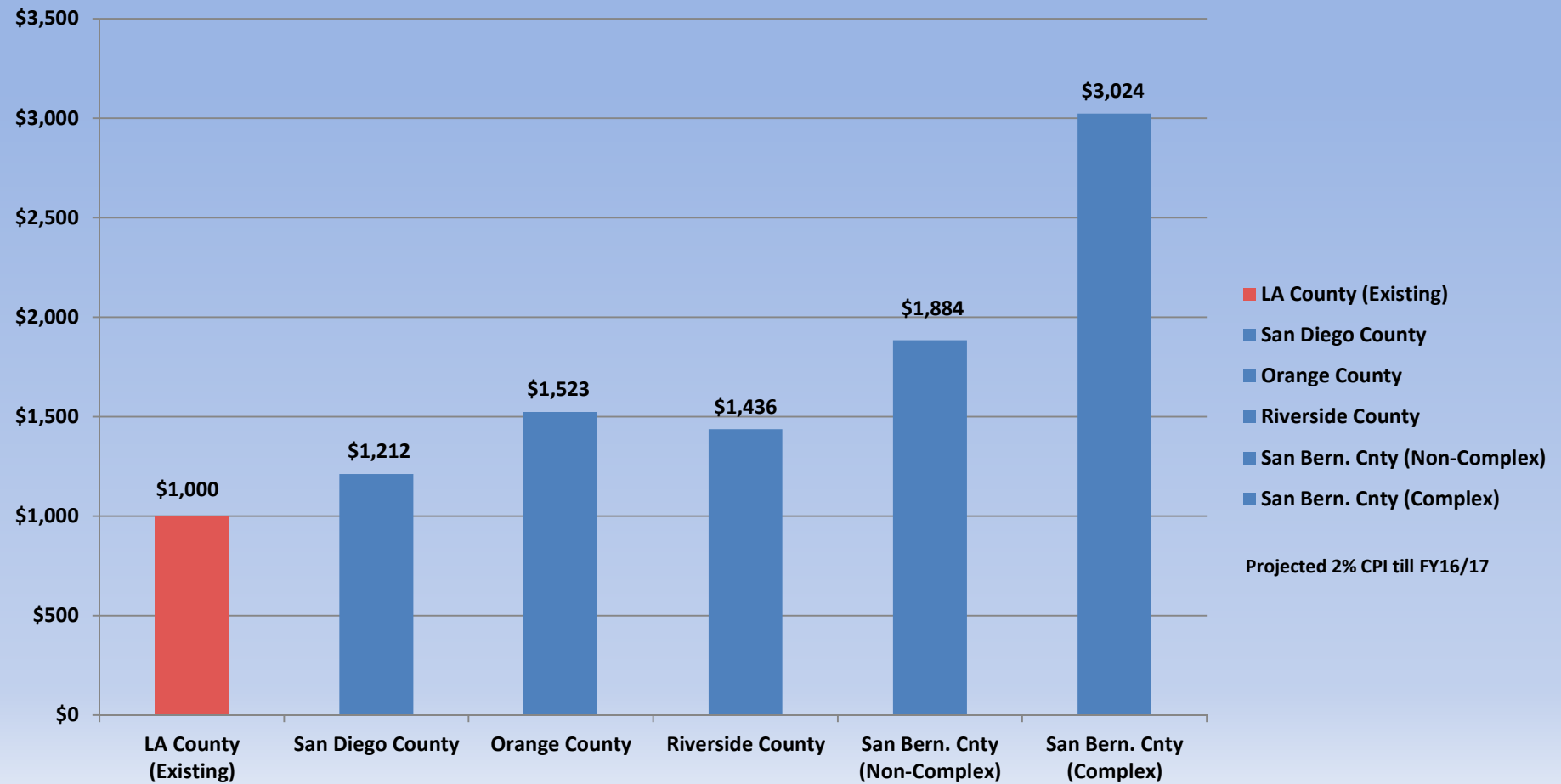
# Proposed Fee Adjustments

Description	2014-15 Fee	Proposed Fee 2015-16	Proposed Fee 2016-17	Proposed Fee 2017-18	Proposed Fee 2018-19	Proposed Fee 2019-20
UST Operating Permit Per Facility	\$254	\$352	\$450	\$450+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$450+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$450+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
UST Operating Permit Per Tank	\$54	\$74	\$93	\$93+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$93+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$93+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
UST Annual Maintenance Fee Per Facility	\$633	\$1,252	\$1,252+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1,252+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1,252+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1,252+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
UST Annual Maintenance Fee Per Tank	\$131	\$240	\$240+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$240+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$240+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$240+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
UST Operating Permit Transfer	\$289	\$412	\$535	\$658	\$781	\$781+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
UST Modification/Construction Plan Clearance Per Facility	\$420	\$655	\$890	\$1,125	\$1,360	\$1,596
UST Modification/Construction Plan Clearance Per Tank	\$127	\$196	\$265	\$334	\$403	\$470
UST Closure Application Per Facility	\$366	\$495	\$624	\$752	\$881	\$1,009
UST Closure Application Per Tank	\$110	\$148	\$186	\$223	\$262	\$298
Permit Addendum	\$463	\$600	\$736	\$736+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$736+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$736+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>New Fee Types<sup>(1)</sup></b>						
Permit Noncompliance Fee		\$743	\$1,486	\$2,230	\$2,973	\$3,716
Reinspection Fee		\$395	\$790	\$790+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$790+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$790+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>
Resubmittal For New Plan Clearance		\$337	\$674	\$674+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$674+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	\$674+CPI <sup>(2)</sup>

Note:

1. Three new fees are proposed to recover costs associated with activities that will not be covered by the existing fees.
2. All fees would be subject to annual adjustments for increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), per Los Angeles County Code Title 11, Section 11.82.045.

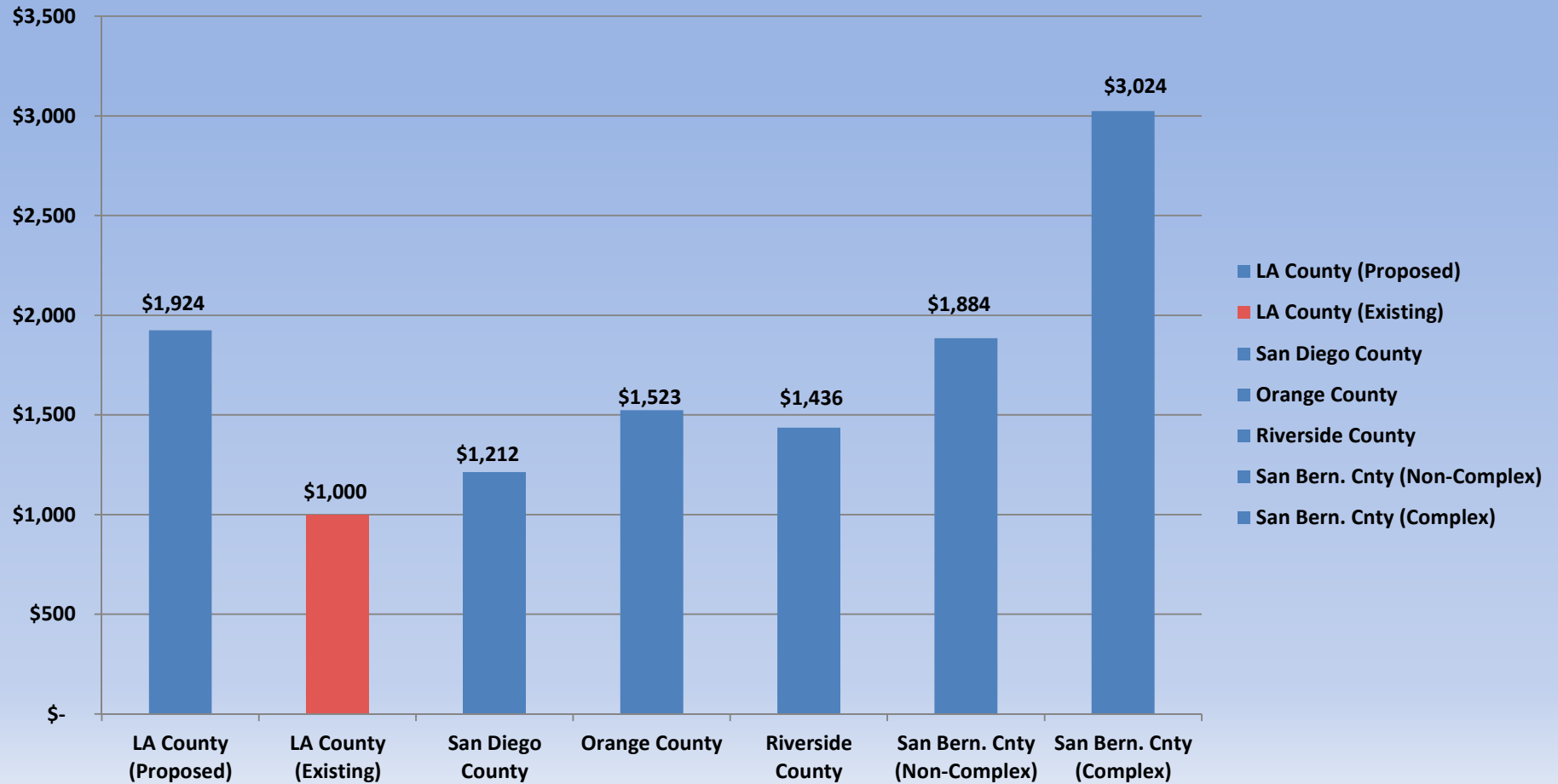
## Average Annual Operating Fee



### Note:

1. Current fees based on an average of 2.8 tanks per facility by FY2015–2016.
2. Complex means 10 or more fuel dispensers at a facility.

## Average Annual Operating Fee



Note:

1. Current and Proposed Annual Permit Fee based on an average of 2.8 tanks per facility by FY2015–2016.
2. Complex means 10 or more fuel dispensers at a facility.

# Proposed New Fee Types

Agency	Permit Noncompliance Fee
Riverside County	2 times Permit Fee = \$2146 or \$1528
San Bernardino County	\$1,433 Plan Check (VPH) or \$747 Plan Check (nonVPH)
San Diego County	\$1,420 Plan Check + \$568 Additional Inspection
<b>Los Angeles County</b>	<b>\$743</b>
Orange County	\$572 Plan Check + \$112/hr

Agency	Reinspection Fee
San Diego County	\$709
<b>Los Angeles County</b>	<b>\$395</b>
Riverside County	\$233/hr
Orange County	\$112/hr
San Bernardino County	None

Agency	Resubmittal for New Plan Clearance
San Diego County	\$452
<b>Los Angeles County</b>	<b>\$337</b>
Riverside County	\$214/hr after first 6 hrs
Orange County	\$113/hr after first 5 hrs
San Bernardino County	None

Los Angeles County fees shown are for Fiscal 2015-16.

# Benefits to the Customer

- Improve customer service.
- Reduce turnaround time for plan reviews.
- Assist tank owners/operators to comply with State laws and regulations.
- Minimize liability for tank owners/operators.
- Update fee system to recover costs from sites that are out of compliance.



# How the Benefits Will be Achieved

- The new fees would become effective July 1, 2015.
- Hire additional staff to enable the program to fully implement CalEPA 's requirements as outlined in their 2013 evaluation.
- Modernize the UST outdated computer system to include:
  - Online access to records
  - Online submittals
  - Digital report generation



# Questions?



The full ordinance (with all revisions) is available online at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/EPD/UST> for your reference.

Send written comments to [USTunit@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:USTunit@dpw.lacounty.gov)  
Call (626) 458-3517 to reach the UST Unit.