

# Before You Buy an Existing UST Facility

Your success is important to us. Asking the right questions before you purchase may save you future headaches and costly expenses that negatively impact your business and the environment. The following is a list of common questions to help in your investment decision.

## Are the Tanks in Use?

1. **Yes**- this means that the tanks are currently being used to store petroleum products.

- Have the tanks been registered?
- Is the tank registration current? **State rule requires all tank owners to register their tanks annually.**
- Are the tanks in compliance? **Collect the compliance records for the last 3 years from the previous owner and ensure all release detection and testing records are available. You must continue monthly testing of UST equipment after acquisition.**
- Are the test records up-to-date and available for your review?  
**To view the compliance records for the facility, contact 404.362.2537 to request and schedule a file review.**

2. **No**- this means that the tanks are not in use and will require special attention.

- When was the last date of tank registration? **State Rule requires all tank owners to register their tanks annually.**
- Is the paperwork for requesting the tank Temporary Out of Use (TOU) status available for your review?
- Is the facility in compliance for TOU tanks? **If the tank system is cathodically protected, testing should be done every three years and the last two tests should be available to you. If there is product in the tank, the monthly release detection records should be available for the last 3 years.**
- If there is an impressed current corrosion protection system, has the facility been without power for more than 365 days? **If so, contact Georgia's USTMP at 404.362.2687 for more information.**
- Are you planning to put the system back into service after determining that it is in compliance? **If the previous owner was not a GUST Trust Fund participant and you would like to participate in the fund, please follow the subsequent election procedure for getting GUST fund coverage at <https://epd.georgia.gov/ust-new-owners> and Open a GEOS account and register your facility at <https://geos.epd.georgia.gov/GA/GEOS/Public/GovEnt/Shared/Pages/Main/Login.aspx>**

**Has there been a Confirmed Release at the Facility (Leaking Underground Storage Tank)?**

1. **Yes-** this means that there has been a petroleum product release from the UST tank, fittings, or piping.

What is the status of the Release? **Common Status include but not limited to: No Further Action (NFA), Monitoring Only, or Active Cleanup (Remediation)**

Are the reports available for your review? **If the owner does not have them, you can request facility records by submitting a GORA request to Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Land Branch.**

2. **No-** this means that there has been no reported release to the USTMP.

**What is the current owner's Status of Financial Responsibility?**

1. **GUST Trust Fund-**if the current owner is participating in the GUST Trust Fund, the new owner can continue to pay into the Fund with no additional requirements.
2. **Self-insured-** as the new buyer, you can stay self-insured by proving you have tangible net worth of at least 10 million OR apply for the GUST Trust Fund within one-year of ownership. This process can be found under "Subsequent Election" in the GUST Rules: 391-3-15-.13(1)b2(ii).
3. **Covered by a private insurance company-** as the new buyer, you can elect to be covered through independent insurance OR apply for the GUST Trust Fund within one-year of ownership.

**If the facility is out of compliance and you are planning to put the facility back in service, call 404.362.2687 for assistance.**

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**Be Prepared. Be Ready.**

**If you have questions, please call 404.362.2687**

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