



CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

DATE

Underground Storage Tank Leak Prevention
Division Title Here
Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Categorical Exclusion by Programmatic Questions	Categorical Exclusion by Programmatic Answers
Project Title: Town Pump Inc Columbus	
Project Location: East 8th Avenue, Columbus, MT 59019	S22, T02 S, R20E, C.O.S. 278297, Parcel 2
Project Description: Please provide a brief description of your project, including details on specific activities that would occur under the project and its related processes. See descriptions and examples listed in the CATEXs above and provide a full list of the activities included in the project.	Seven (7), 30,000 gallon tank structures with a total of 10 compartments. UST 1: 20,000 gallons of E10 premium gasoline. UST 2: 10,000 gallons of conventional premium gasoline. UST 3: 30,000 gallons of unleaded regular gasoline. UST 4: 30,000 gallons of diesel #2. UST 5: 30,000 gallons of diesel #2. UST 6: 30,000 gallons of diesel #2. UST 7: 30,000 gallons of diesel #2. UST 8: 10,000 gallons of off-road dyed diesel. UST 9: 10,000 gallons of diesel #1. UST 10: 10,000 gallons of Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF). USTs 1 and 2 are compartments of the same structure. USTs 8, 9, and 10 are compartments of the same structure. There are 23 dispensers, including 10 standard and 13 master/satellite semi-truck dispensers.
Attachments: Please check the applicable boxes below and include the documentation as attachments to this checklist	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site map of proposed project location (including property boundaries)</div>
	<div><input type="checkbox"/> Interior/Exterior photos of current structure</div>
	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current and/or proposed floor plans of existing structure (if applicable)</div>
	<div><input type="checkbox"/> Exterior renderings (if your proposed project involves any exterior improvements, e.g., porch repair, ramp installation)</div>
	<div><input type="checkbox"/> Other :</div>
	<div>Additional Information: "Replacing a 41 year old UST facility and associated fuel system with a state of the art fuel system reflecting the most current construction requirements of Montana DEQ. The new construction will alleviate high traffic impacts that exist at the current location. High traffic impact areas currently exist around the existing large truck refueling areas. The Hospital emergency traffic also uses 8th Avenue in Columbus and that area can get congested."</div>
Construction timelines	
Construction will take between 1 days and 6 weeks	<div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Construction will occur between 6:00 am and 9:00 p.m.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	<div>Additional Information: Construction proposed start date range of 5/5/2025 - 10/24/2025. Arnold Osmun, Town Pump Construction Manager, stated construction will take 6-8 weeks once tanks are acquired (tank delivery times have slowed down due to tariffs).</div>
Tank and trench dimensions	
Tank basin dimensions are approximately 60’x38’x8’ to 70’x70’x15’	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Piping trenches are approximately 100 – 500’	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Electrical trenches are approximately 100 – 500’	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
The estimated construction is approximately 2 acres of disturbance	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	<div>Additional Information: Basin 1: USTs 1-4 will be 167’L x 14’W. Basin 2: USTs 5-10 will be 57’L x 50’W. All product pipe runs are expected to be 535’. Advise updating new facility application to ask for tank basin dimensions (LxWxH) instead of acreage.</div>
Construction Equipment	
Does the equipment fall withing the general following types of equipment: Excavators, gravel shooter, backhoe, skid steer, dump trucks, crane to set, passenger service truck, concrete trucks, semi-trucks and trailers and other heavy earth moving equipment.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	<div>Additional Information:</div>
Personnel onsite	
Approximately 1-10 equipment operators and laborers	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Will the facility have trained class A, B and C operators when a conditional operating permit is requested?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	<div>Additional Information:</div>
Tanks	

Are the tanks and piping non-corroding and secondarily contained?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Does the system include continuous leak detection systems, including tank interstitial monitoring sensors and piping leak detection?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Do leak detection systems meet leak rate detection standards of a 95% probability of detection with a maximum of 5% probability of a false alarm?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is shut down enabled if a leak as small as 0.2 gallons per hour is detected?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Are overfill prevention valves planned?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Are secondary containment sumps planned?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	Additional Information: <div></div>
Solid waste and Hazardous substances	
Will waste cannisters be provided during the UST system installation and operation to collect miscellaneous solid wastes?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Will hazardous substances be kept in original containers and fuel onsite kept to a minimum?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Will the UST installer perform daily inspections on equipment?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Will contractors be trained in hazardous substance containment and cleanup.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Will spill kits and absorbent pads be available on the construction site.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	Additional Information: <div></div>
Cumulative Impact Considerations	
Have any past actions (ranging from commercial/industrial use to remediation activities) occurred on or within 1,000 feet of the proposed tanks/piping?	<div><input type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes- Attach a facility specific attachment describing the present actions and any requirements this would trigger</div>
Are any present actions occurring on or within 1,000 feet of the proposed tanks/piping?	<div><input type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes- Attach a facility specific attachment describing the present actions and any requirements this would trigger</div>
Are any future actions occurring on or within 1,000 feet of the proposed tanks/piping?	<div><input type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes- Attach a facility specific attachment describing the present actions and any requirements this would trigger</div>
	Additional Information: one (1) open (release # 4028) and six (6) closed releases (release #' 740, 5160, 4821, 4737, 4324, and 3663) across the street (i.e. E 8th Avenue) at the current Town Pump in Columbus. New facility appears down stream of the open release at the current Town Pump.
Geology and Soil	
Is a map of the area where the tanks are proposed to be installed included with the application?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is a soil series map and a description of soil series characteristics included with the application?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Does the prospective site contain fragile, erosive, compaction susceptible, or unstable soils.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes- Attach a facility specific attachment</div>
Are there any known special reclamation considerations at the site?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes- Attach a facility specific attachment</div>
	Additional Information: <div></div>
Water Quality, quantity, and distribution	
Is approximate depth to groundwater given?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is groundwater flow direction indicated?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is the location and number of wells and surface water features within 1,000 feet provided?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>

Are there any drinking water wells or surface water intakes within 1000 feet of the tank or piping?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes- Review the site specific attachments describing the risk and long-term protection of human health and safety</div>
Are any domestic or public drinking water wells or surface water intakes within 100 feet of the tank or piping?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag</div>
Will water used for containment sump testing follow applicable regulations?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Are Best Management practices planned to keep any sediment, waste, from entering waterways.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
General Permit for Storm Water Discharges associated with construction activity.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	Additional Information: should include question "Are any wells within 1,000 feet used for drinking water" in the application. General Permit for Storm Water Discharges MTR111055
Air Quality	
Is a minimal excavation for the work to be done planned?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is there a dust suppression plan?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is Stage 1 vapor recovery to be installed on all gasoline UST systems?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Is a map of class 1 airsheds in reference to the proposed site included in the application?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
	Additional Information: over 1,000 feet from class 1 airshed
Vegetation Cover, Quantity, and Quality	
Did the applicant identified plant species of concern within 1000 feet of the proposed site.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No-Flag</div>
Were any plant species of concern identified at the prospective project site?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag</div>
Were any rare plants or cover types identified at the proposed site?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag</div>
Are any vegetative communities predicted to be significantly impacted at the proposed site.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag</div>
	Additional Information:
Terrestrial, Avian and Aquatic Life and Habitats	
Are there any Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTHP) and Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP) species of concern identified within 1000 feet of the project site?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag</div>
Are there any United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) federally endangered species identified within 1000 feet of the project site?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag</div>
Is the site within a core, general, connectivity habitat, or BLM Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation priority areas?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes- Is the approve plan provided with the application?</div>
	Additional Information:
History, Culture and Archeological Uniqueness	
Is the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archeological search included with the application?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No- Flag as Deficient</div>
Do any structures over 50 years old within the area of potential effect have an eligibility determination?	<div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes- Flag, Add SHPO Letter</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</div>
	Additional Information:
Human Health and Safety	
Is a map included with the application that shows all buildings within 500 feet of the proposed tanks and piping?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No- Flag as Deficient</div>
Have preferential pathways, soil type and groundwater flow direction and depth to groundwater been examined to determine risk for VI in worst case scenario of a large release?	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> No- Flag as Deficient</div>

	Additional Information:
Socioeconomics	
Is the proposed project on private land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No- Flag
Are there any proposed impacts on land use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag
Local permits and approvals?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag
Are there any public access recreation areas bordering or accessed through the proposed site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag
Is installation of the UST system expected to affect the population or require additional housing or disrupt native or traditional communities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag
Are any additional government services expected during installation work?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Flag
	Additional Information: Provided City of Columbus building (2024-BLDG-000817 and 2025-BLDG-000203), electrical (2024-ECON-001801) and zoning permits/approvals. MDOT approach permit 9394. Letter of approval from Stillwater County for "plans and specifications" being within "local and state requirements". Application mentions water permits/approval, City of Columbus/Stillwater County does not require them.
Private Property Impacts	
Has DEQ determined that the permit conditions are reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with applicable requirements under the Montana Underground Storage Tank Act, which would minimize risk of petroleum impacts on neighboring properties?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No- Flag as Deficient
	Additional Information:
Greenhouse Gas Assessment	
Is the tank installation event smaller than 6 tanks and 12 dispensers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No- Attach a site specific GHG Analysis supplement
	Additional Information: 7 UST structures (Total of 10 tank compartments with tank 10 being non-regulated Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF)) and 23 fueling dispensers.
Categorical Exclusion Prepared By:	Joseph Kane, Environmental Science Specialist
Categorical Exclusion Reviewed By:	Seth Hendrix, UST Program Section Supervisor
Categorical Exclusion Approved By:	Seth Hendrix, UST Program Section Supervisor Date June 05, 2025