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STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

To: Heads of Fire Department

From: Stephen D. Coan
State Fire Marshal

Date: February 1, 2015

RE: **Revised 502 CMR 5.00 as of January 16, 2015**
Permit and Inspection Requirements of Aboveground Storage Tanks of More than Ten Thousand Gallons Capacity

In March 2014, the Legislature amended M.G.L. c.148 s. 37 to allow the Marshal increased flexibility to determine the frequency of inspections for aboveground storage tanks (“AST”) with a gross capacity of more than ten thousand gallons capacity used for the storage of a fluid other than water. The resulting regulation is the revised 502 CMR 5.00: *Permit and Inspection Requirements of Aboveground Storage Tanks of More than Ten Thousand Gallons Capacity* which will go into effect on January 16, 2015. We have provided this memorandum to summarize the important changes to the revised regulation.

502 CMR 5.00 applies to AST’s that have a gross capacity of more than ten thousand gallons that contain either a gas or a liquid that is not water. The revised regulation clarifies which tanks are not covered under the regulation.

Important changes to the revised regulation are highlighted below:

- There has been increased detail on the submittal requirements for the permitting of new ASTs.
- Due to the increase in tank construction technologies, 502 CMR 5.00 now incorporates additional inspection standards.

- 502 CMR 5.00 has pushed back the reporting and permitting of an AST to a five-year interval, instead of annual reporting and permitting. However, based upon the inspection standards, annual inspections are still required to be coordinated by the tank owner but the inspection reports only need to be submitted to the Marshal's office every five years for a permit renewal.

The revised 502 CMR 5.00 became effective on January 16, 2015. All AST permit applications filed after that date will be required to comply with the new requirements.

If you have any questions please contact either Jake Nunnemacher (a community on or south of MA pike) at (978) 567-3377; or Jen Hoyt (north of MA pike) at (978) 567-3376.