



## FEDERATION OF PETROLEUM SUPPLIERS LTD

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### FPS BRIEFING NOTE

#### **STORAGE OF AGRICULTURAL FUEL OIL ON FARMS IN ENGLAND AND WALES**

##### **The Control of Pollution (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England and Wales) Regulations 1991**

The Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil Regulations apply if you store fuel oil that is used for agricultural purposes and your storage facilities were constructed or substantially altered after 1991. Even for older facilities, you should consider bringing your fuel storage in line with these Regulations as this will help to prevent oil pollution.

##### **Summary of the Regulations**

*(applies to new installations and to installations significantly altered since 1991)*

Where more than 1,500 litres of fuel oil are stored for agricultural purposes:

- Oil tanks, drums and IBCs, and their associated equipment, must be situated in a secondary containment system, eg a bund, which is capable of holding at least 110% of the largest tank's capacity or 25% of the total capacity if there is more than one tank, whichever is the greater.
- The secondary containment system must have no outlet and be impermeable to oil and water and made to last 20 years (with routine maintenance).
- Bund walls must be constructed to contain any fuel that may jet from the side of a tank, especially if the tank is raised from the ground.
- Valves and taps allowing oil to be discharged from the tank must be kept locked when the tank is not in use.
- Flexible pipes must be fitted with an automatic closure valve and locked within the bund when not in use.
- No part of the installation should be within 10 metres of a watercourse into which fuel oil could enter if it were to escape.

Fuel oil stored on farms but not for agricultural use is not covered by the Regulations, but the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001 may apply. An FPS Briefing Note on these Regulations is available from FPS office.

##### **The role of the oil distributor**

Oil distributors also have a duty of care to ensure that they do not contribute towards any pollution. Therefore, if an oil tank is identified as contravening the Regulations at the time a delivery is to be made, the distributor may refuse to deliver.

##### **Do you need further advice?**

If you need further advice on oil storage, contact the Environment Agency on

**08708 506506** or [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)