Oil Storage Regulations - England

Does your oil tank need to comply with the OSR England?

Are you storing oil (all oils are covered including petrol)?

- **No** → Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001, known as the OSR England, don't apply if the oil is in use rather than being stored.
  If your oil tank is an old one that you don't use anymore you must make sure it's fully decommissioned or removed. There is advice in 'Above ground oil storage: PPG2'. Otherwise it must fully comply with the OSR England.
- **Yes** ↓

Is your oil storage facility in England?

- **No** → The OSR England only apply in England. Similar regulations are in place in Scotland. Northern Ireland are planning to introduce similar regulations. No similar regulations apply in Wales.
  Good practice guidance is available in 'Above ground oil storage: PPG2' and 'Storage and handling of drums and intermediate bulk containers: PPG26'.
- **Yes** ↓

Are you storing waste mineral oil?

- **Yes** → Waste mineral oil is covered by Schedule 3, exemption S1 of the Environment Permitting Regulations (EPR) 2010.
  - You can store up to 23m^3 of waste mineral oil at the site where it's produced (Paragraph 52 exemption). The oil must be stored securely.
  - You can store below 3m^3 of waste mineral oil, at a place to where it wasn't produced (Paragraph 18 exemption). The oil must be stored securely.
  - All other waste mineral oil storage must have an Environmental Permit. Oil storage at regulated sites must meet minimum OSR requirements.
- **No** ↓

Is your oil stored inside a building?

- **Yes** → OSR England don't apply, but the building should act as secondary containment. Check the fire safety section of the Building Regulations Approved Document J. Guidance about safe storage is available in 'Above ground oil storage: PPG2' and 'Storage and handling of drums and intermediate bulk containers: PPG26'.
- **No** ↓

Is your oil stored in an underground tank?

- **Yes** → OSR England don't apply. See the Groundwater Protection Code for Underground Fuel Storage for good practice guidance.
- **No** ↓

Is the container volume under 200 litres?

- **Yes** → OSR England don't apply. Follow the good practice available in 'Above ground oil storage: PPG2' and 'Storage and handling of drums and intermediate bulk containers: PPG26'.
- **No** ↓

Is your oil container volume less than 3500 litres and solely for domestic use?

- **Yes** → **Is it a new or replacement tank?**
  - **Yes** → Building Regulations Approved Document J applies. Information is available in the Domestic Oil Storage leaflet.
  - **No** ↑
- **No** ↓

Is the oil stored at a refinery or for onward distribution?

- **Yes** → OSR England don't apply, but COMAH or EPR may. Refer to Environmental Guidelines for Petroleum Distribution Installations from the Energy Institute or COMAH Containment Policy for guidance.
- **No** ↓

Is the oil stored for agricultural use, to produce heat and power?

- **Yes** → The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England) Regulations 2010 require secondary containment for oil storage if you store above 1500 litres on your farm where the oil is used for agriculture. This doesn't include oil stored separately as fuel for heating residential buildings on a farm.
- **No** ↓

The Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001 apply → Check the legal requirements in 'Above ground oil storage: PPG2' and see Defras guide to the OSR England.