NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS

Policy

Design/Installation of Petroleum Storage Tanks				
NUMBER: BP-1603-1		**REV. NO.: 1** (Revisions: Underlined or Struck through)	**ORIGINAL BOARD APPROVAL:**	**03/09/2016**
			LATEST COMMITTEE REVIEW:	**05/13/2020**
CATEGORY(IES)	☐ Surveying	☒ Engineering	☐ Other	
	☐ Unlicensed	☐ Seal		
ORIGINATION:	☐ Surveying Committee	☒ Engineering Committee	☐ Other	

(Restatement of Policy letters by the Board on December 2, 1993 and June 10, 1997)

The Board confirms the previously issued interpretation that the design of petroleum storage tank systems, incorporating the tank, piping, ancillary equipment and containment systems, is an engineering function as defined by G. S. 89C-3 and must therefore be certified by a Professional Engineer. The original determination involved presentations by representatives of the North Carolina Petroleum Marketers Association, the Division of Environmental Management and a code official with a building inspection department. The Board indicated that this did not represent a change in policy, but was a clarification that will result in consistent interpretation across the state.

In making this determination, the Board recognized that certain ~~small or simplistic~~ systems might not require the services of a Professional Engineer. Accordingly, after a review of National Fire Protection, North Carolina State Fire Code, North Carolina Division of Environmental Management and Federal regulations, the Board has excluded from this requirement those petroleum related facilities listed below:

(a) farm or residential tanks of 1100 gallons or less capacity used for storing motor fuel for non-commercial purposes;

(b) tanks used for storing heating oil (Class II petroleum) for consumptive use on the premises where stored;

(c) tanks used for storing Class III-B petroleum products, to include (but not limited to) cooking oils, lubricating oils and motor oil; and

(d) Small, simplistic petroleum storage systems under 1100 gallons.