

The Law

Petrol and Diesel are regulated by the *Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 and supporting regulations, (HSNO)*. Any effects from fuel leaks or spills is covered by the Resource Management Act 1991, (RMA).

WorkSafe New Zealand has produced good practice guidelines in April 2015 for “Above Ground Fuel Storage on Farms” to help ensure compliance with legislation. These guidelines have been adapted to prepare a Fuel Storage Policy as follows for Dairy Holdings Ltd.

DHL Fuel Storage Policy.

1. All farm fuel storage shall comply with the HSNO Regulations as shown in Tables 1 and 2 overleaf.
2. No petrol tanks in excess of 2,000 litres are permitted on DHL farms.
3. Diesel tanks shall only be filled to 2,000 litres.
4. Permission to fill a diesel tank in excess of 2,000 litres will be approved provided there is secondary containment of 110% of the overall tank capacity.
5. Material Safety Data Sheets must be provided by the fuel supplier, with copies to be kept on each farm in the DHL Health and Safety Manual.
6. 2 Fire extinguishers with a 30B capability rating are to be kept at a distance of at least 30 metres from the fuel tank. Extinguishers are not to be attached to or kept under a fuel tank. A greater distance may be acceptable if practical to keep extinguishers in a milk shed or another building nearby.
7. Warning signs must be displayed on each farm prior to entry to the farm or fuel storage area.
8. All Tanks are to be clearly labelled identifying what each fuel tank contains and its hazards.
9. An Emergency Response Plan will be provided to each farm for all staff to follow.
10. The following separation distances shall be achieved:
 - 15 metres for petrol and 6 metres for diesel from ignition sources, (e.g. electrical fittings, tools and plugs; naked flames, cell phones.
 - 20 metres away from inhabited buildings, e.g. houses, sleep-outs, offices, milk sheds and any other buildings where people congregate from time to time.
 - 6 metres away from other flammable materials, (e.g. gas bottles, oxidising materials and fertiliser). A Farm Supervisor may approve a tank to be located within 6 metres of a non-inhabited building for other practical safety reasons, e.g. protection from traffic and wind.
11. The fuel tank shall be protected from being hit by a vehicle, e.g. use fence posts as bollards, locate near the side of shed or use old tyres to keep vehicles out from the tank.
12. “Earth Bunding” shall be provided to prevent any potential fuel spill reaching a waterway, drain, irrigation race or stock water race.
13. Wood chips or sawdust shall be placed under the nozzle to capture minor drips.
14. The tanks shall be located on compact even ground with the footing secured to prevent the tank blowing over in high wind if the tank is near empty.
15. All tripod tanks are to be removed from farms by 31 May 2016. These tanks no longer comply with HSNO design standards.
16. All leaking fittings and hoses shall be repaired or replaced immediately. Tanks must be kept in a good condition with no major rust, dents and cracks.

Table 1: HSNO requirements for Petrol

Amount of petrol stored on farm in litres.	5	50	100	200	250	1000	2000	2500+
Fuel supplier must supply safety data sheets	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Farmer must have safety data sheets	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Approved handlers							Yes	Yes
Fire extinguishers (number)		1	1	2	2	2	2	2
Signs						Yes	Yes	Yes
Emergency response plans						Yes ^[2]	Yes	Yes
Secondary containment						Yes ^[2]	Yes	Yes
Location test certificate							Yes	Yes
Stationary container system test certificate								Yes ^[3]

Table 2: HSNO requirements for Diesel

Amount of diesel stored on farm in litres.	1	100	200	250	500	1000	2000 ^[5]	5000
Fuel supplier must supply safety data sheets	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Farmer needs to have safety data sheets (person in charge)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fire extinguishers (number)						2	2	2
Signs							Yes	Yes
Emergency response plans						Yes ⁴	Yes	Yes
Secondary containment						Yes ^[4]	Yes	Yes
Stationary container system test certificate								Yes ^{[6][7]}

Footnotes

^[1] A farm is an area of land at least four hectares in size.

^[2] If the fuel is stored so that a spill will not endanger buildings, streams or other water bodies, these requirements are only needed if you store 2,000 litres of petrol.

^[3] Or 50 litres if the petrol is stored in an above ground tank that is connected to a stationary engine.

^[4] If the fuel is stored so that a spill will not endanger buildings, streams or other water bodies, these requirements are only needed if you store 2,000 litres of diesel.

^[5] For above ground diesel tanks installed before 1 April 2004, this figure is 2,500 litres.

^[6] Or 60 litres if the diesel is stored in an above ground tank that is connected to a burner.

^[7] Or 500 litres if the diesel is stored in an above ground tank that is connected to a stationary engine.

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