

*U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii – Environmental Compliance Guide*

# PURGING FUEL TANKS

## (Fuel Tankers, Trailers, HEMTT, MFS-TRMs, Fuel Pods)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The term purging as specified in Appendix E of the Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 4-43, entails flushing the fuel storage compartment with water and a degreaser/emulsifier such as CitriKleen to render the tank vapor free. This process is typically not required for shipping fuel trucks by barge during deployments. Draining the fuel compartment to acceptable levels dictated by the Unit's transportation officer is usually sufficient. However, purging fuel tanks in accordance with ATP 4-43 may be required for maintenance, repairs and turn in. USAG-HI does not have a purging facility designed to treat purged wastewater. Units must use their GPC card or contract with a local vendor if purging as specified in ATP 4-43 is required. Purging of fuel tanks is prohibited on unit wash racks.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS

Fuel containers, tanker vehicles or trailer units may contain vapors or a residue that may be dangerous and cause explosion if there is an ignition source nearby.

### WASTE CHARACTERIZATION

Fuel in tanks and in containers should first be analyzed to determine if the product is still usable. Contact your unit Fuel Quality Officer to conduct fuel testing for this determination. If the fuel is still usable, it may be possible to make arrangements with another unit to transfer the fuel. If it is no longer usable, it may be recyclable.

### HANDLING AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

**Step 1:** Contact the unit's fuel platoon/staff to determine if the fuel is still usable.

**Step 2:** If the fuel is still usable, contact the DPW Environmental Division Compliance Inspections Program to see if it can be transferred to another unit.

**Step 3:** If fuel can be recycled, contact the DPW Service Contracts Branch to set up a one time purging contract by a qualified contractor. Unit funds must be used for this service.

