

# **Cathodic Protection of Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks and Piping Systems**

API RECOMMENDED PRACTICE 1632  
THIRD EDITION, MAY 1996

REAFFIRMED, DECEMBER 2010



AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

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**Manufacturing, Distribution and Marketing Department**

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## FOREWORD

This recommended practice describes the corrosion problems characteristic in underground steel storage tanks and piping systems and provides a general description of the two methods currently used to provide cathodic protection against corrosion.

Persons planning to construct an underground storage facility, replace existing underground storage tanks and piping systems, or cathodically protect existing underground storage tanks and piping should refer to applicable local, state, and federal fire, safety, and environmental regulations as well as the following publications:

- a. API RP 1615.
- b. API RP 1621.
- c. NACE RP-01-69.
- d. NACE RP-02-85.
- e. NFPA 30.
- f. NFPA 70.
- g. PEI RP100-87.

At the time this recommended practice was written, legislation and regulations related to the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of cathodic protection systems for underground petroleum storage systems were under development at the federal, state, and municipal levels. Therefore, the appropriate government agencies should be consulted for regulations that apply to the area of installation prior to taking any action suggested in this recommended practice.

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Suggested revisions are invited and should be submitted to the director of the Marketing Department, American Petroleum Institute, 1220 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

