

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

ORDINANCE REGULATING OIL TERMINALS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows: That the City of Boston Municipal Code, Section 17-15.2 is hereby amended by adding the following provisions:

SECTION 1

DEFINITIONS

1. *Marine Terminal Operator* shall mean a person overseeing the operations of offloading and unloading petroleum and other hazardous materials from ship vessels to motor vehicles at oil terminals. Such persons must hold industry-recognized certifications and complete periodic training as required under this ordinance.
2. *Oil Terminal* shall mean any facility or location within the City of Boston used for the storage, transfer, or handling of petroleum, petrochemicals, or other hazardous materials from maritime vessels to other modes of transportation, including motor vehicles.
3. *Emergency Response Plan* shall mean a comprehensive plan, updated annually, outlining the procedures for addressing spills, fires, explosions, and other hazardous material emergencies at oil terminals.

SECTION 2

STAFFING AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

1. Staffing Requirements:
 - a. All oil terminals within the boundaries of the City of Boston shall have at minimum two trained employees on duty at all times.
 - i. At least one such trained employee shall be a Marine Terminal Operator who has knowledge and training in the following areas:
 1. Storage tank type, location, and operation of all valves including pressure relief devices, operations of all piping and valves, and emergency venting operations.
 2. Operations of the loading rack(s), including emergency venting operations.
 3. Offloading operations at the dock, including ship-to-shore connections and emergency procedures.
 4. Operations of the fire suppression system(s).
 5. Spill and product release procedures, including proper notification of the fire department,
 - ii. The second trained employee shall have knowledge and training in the following areas:
 1. Storage tank type, location, and emergency procedures.

2. Operations of loading rack(s), including emergency procedures.
 3. Operations of the fire suppression system(s).
 4. Spill and product release procedures, including proper notification of the fire department.
 - b. Whenever there are offloading operations at the dock involving hazardous materials, there shall be at least two Marine Terminal Operators on duty, with one stationed at the loading rack and one at the dock site for immediate response capability.
2. Training Standards:
 - a. All employees designated as Marine Terminal Operators or fulfilling duties outlined in this section must complete training programs compliant with OSHA standards, NFPA 30, and HAZWOPER regulations.
 - b. Employees shall undergo refresher training at least annually, with documentation maintained on-site and available for inspection by the City of Boston Fire Department.
3. Emergency Preparedness:
 - a. Oil terminals shall develop and submit an Emergency Response Plan to the Boston Fire Department for approval annually. This plan must include:
 - i. Spill containment, cleanup procedures, and notification protocols.
 - ii. Fire suppression and evacuation protocols.
 - iii. Coordination procedures with local emergency services including the Boston Fire Department and MassPort Fire Rescue for terminals within proximity to MassPort owned facilities.
 1. Terminals must maintain a dedicated 24/7 communication line to facilitate immediate coordination with emergency services.
4. Enforcement:
 - a. The City of Boston Fire Department, in collaboration with the Inspectional Services Department, shall conduct unannounced inspections of oil terminals to ensure compliance with staffing, training, equipment, and safety requirements.
 - b. Violations of this ordinance shall result in fines as determined by applicable laws and enforced by the Boston Fire Department. Repeated or severe violations may result in the suspension or revocation of fire safety permits until deficiencies are rectified.

SECTION 3

Effective Date: This ordinance shall take effect 180 days from the date of passage. All oil terminals must certify compliance with staffing and training requirements and submit Emergency Response Plans within this timeframe.

Filed on: January 8, 2025