Issue 1.1 · November 2026

AS 1940 site checklist for above-ground diesel storage

Walk your site with this list before you buy, move or add a diesel tank. It follows the topics AS 1940 covers, so you know what to raise with your consultant, council, regulator and insurer.

Site	Checked by
Address	Date
Tanks and capacities	Fuels stored

Tick one box for each line. Anything marked No or Not sure is worth raising before the tank goes in.

What you store	Yes	No	Not sure
You know what each tank holds. Under AS 1940, diesel is a Class C1 combustible liquid: its flash point is above 60 °C and no higher than 93 °C. Under the WHS Regulations it is a Category 4 flammable liquid.	☐	☐	☐
You know whether petrol or another flammable liquid is stored nearby. Petrol is a flammable liquid. It is treated differently from diesel, and storing the two together changes what applies.	☐	☐	☐
You have added up the total quantity on site, across every tank, drum and IBC. The requirements depend on the class and the quantity you store.	☐	☐	☐
A current safety data sheet for each fuel is kept on site.	☐	☐	☐

Spill containment	Yes	No	Not sure
Every tank is either self-bunded (double wall) or sits inside a bund. A self-bunded tank has a built-in secondary containment wall, so no separate bund is needed.	☐	☐	☐
Each bund holds at least 110% of the largest tank in it. Since the 2017 edition, a bund generally needs to hold at least 110% of the largest tank. Work out your figure at tanksolutions.com.au/calculators/as-1940-bund-calculator/	☐	☐	☐
Bunds are clear of rainwater, rubbish and stored goods, and show no cracks.	☐	☐	☐
A leak or overfill can't reach soil, drains or waterways.	☐	☐	☐

Location and separation	Yes	No	Not sure
Separation distances to buildings, site boundaries and ignition sources have been assessed for your fuel class and quantity. Distances depend on the class and quantity stored, so check the standard or ask your consultant for your site. A Fireguard® 4-hour tank can reduce separation distances by as much as 50%.	☐	☐	☐
The tank is protected from vehicles moving around it.	☐	☐	☐

Tank construction and condition	Yes	No	Not sure
The tank is built to a recognised design standard for the liquid stored, such as AS 1692 for steel tanks, and you have its paperwork.	☐	☐	☐
The tank shows no corrosion, dents or weeping at seams and fittings.	☐	☐	☐
If the tank has been moved, it has been recertified. On our tanks, a relocated tank needs recertifying to keep the warranty.	☐	☐	☐

Venting, fittings and overfill protection	Yes	No	Not sure
Overfill protection is fitted, such as an overfill cut-off and an audible safe-fill alarm. Since the 2017 edition, a tank's safe fill level is no more than 95% of its capacity, and larger above-ground tanks need a high-level alarm.	☐	☐	☐
Vents are clear, and emergency venting is fitted where applicable.	☐	☐	☐
Openings sit above the maximum liquid level, so a broken fitting can't drain the tank.	☐	☐	☐
The outlet has an anti-siphon valve, and hoses, nozzles and pumps are in good order.	☐	☐	☐

Signage, fire protection and access	Yes	No	Not sure
Placards and signs are in place for the quantity stored.	☐	☐	☐
Fire extinguishers and a spill kit are close by, and staff know how to use them.	☐	☐	☐
Emergency services can get to the tank.	☐	☐	☐

Approvals and records	Yes	No	Not sure
You have checked with your local council, state dangerous goods regulator and insurer. Each may have requirements of its own for your site.	☐	☐	☐
You have checked whether your quantities need placards, a manifest or a notice to the regulator. Under the WHS Regulations, diesel (a Category 4 flammable liquid) generally needs placards from 10,000L and a manifest from 100,000L. Victoria sets its own thresholds.	☐	☐	☐
Each tank has an inspection and maintenance record, and the site has an emergency plan.	☐	☐	☐

Where our tanks help

Self-bunded double-wall tanks. The outer steel wall is the bund, so there is no concrete bund to build. Manufactured to exceed AS 1692, in accordance with AS 1940, with overfill cut-off, anti-siphon valve, audible safe-fill alarm and emergency venting where applicable fitted.

Fireguard® 4-hour fire-rated tanks. Where separation distances limit the site, a Fireguard® tank can cut them by as much as 50%.

Made in Tomago NSW and Kwinana WA, ISO 9001 certified at both sites. Send us your site details and we reply within 2 business days.

General information only, not compliance advice. AS 1940:2017, The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids (including Amendment 1, 2019 and Amendment 2, 2021), is published by Standards Australia. Check the standard, your consultant, local council, state dangerous goods regulator and insurer for your site.