METHOD NOTE

153 tanks, seven projects, one record

How AVA ran the 24 CFR 51 Subpart C tank survey for seven projects from one shared record — and the error a better rule caught.

CLIENT
Seven Part 58 reviews

PROGRAM
24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C

PERIOD
2026

OUR ROLE
Tank surveys and separation-distance calculations



METHOD NOTE **139** HUD ASD runs

A diesel tank recorded during one of the surveys, May 2026.

153	139	1
tanks recorded with photos and measurements	official HUD ASD calculations with PDF filed	compliance error caught and corrected on every project

The challenge

Every HUD-assisted project needs an acceptable separation distance from above-ground tanks of flammable or explosive material nearby. Across seven projects that meant 153 tanks to find, photograph, measure, compute and document — and a tank measured in the field had to be the same tank on the map, in HUD's calculator and in the report.

What we did

We put the whole survey in **one shared record**. Engineers capture tanks on the phone with photos and GPS; measurements typed as free text are read by a parser (with a language model for wordy notes) and the gallons are computed in code. Each tank's distance to the Site and the Off-Site areas is computed, HUD's official online calculator runs automatically, and its PDF is filed with the tank.

How technology helped

- **139 official HUD calculations** filed without retyping.
- **Excel, KMZ, maps, exhibit and report** generated from the same records for five projects.
- **A better rule.** Measuring to the Off-Site corridor as well as the Site revealed a tank 180 ft from the corridor against a 238 ft separation distance. It had been marked compliant; the rule was changed and every project with tanks was recomputed.

Results

One record per tank, from the phone to the report — and a compliance error caught by a rule applied everywhere, not by luck.

From the field



An above-ground propane tank recorded during another survey, August 2026.

PROJECT FACTS

PERFORMED BY
AVA Environmental Consultants, Inc.

SERVICES
Site Assessments & Contamination · Environmental Reviews (Part 58 & NEPA)

REFERENCE
Client reference on request

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