

### **3. Certification of Tank Closure During Partial Closure**

*Owners or operators of treatment, storage, or disposal facilities (TSDF) must submit a written closure plan identifying the steps to be performed during partial and/or final closure of their facility (§§264.112/265.112). Partial closure is the closure of only one or more hazardous waste management units, while other units at the same facility continue to operate (§260.10). In contrast, final closure means the closure of all hazardous waste management units at the facility. To demonstrate that final closure has been completed, the owner or operator must obtain certification from an independent registered professional engineer that closure has been completed in accordance with the specifications of the closure plan (§§264.115/265.115). Does an owner or operator of a permitted or interim status hazardous waste storage tank need to certify partial closure if the tank is the only unit being closed at the TSDF?*

Owners or operators are not required to certify partial closure of tanks until all hazardous waste management units are closed and final closure is certified for the entire facility. Owners or operators may without difficulty certify closure for tanks, containers, and incinerators in accordance with the approved closure plan at final closure (51 FR 16422, 16433; May 2, 1986). Although these units do not require certification during partial closure, the owner or operator is still required to remove or decontaminate all waste residues, contaminated tank system components, and contaminated soils in accordance with their approved closure plan (§§264.197/265.197). In addition to the federal requirements, owner or operators should contact their state agencies, which may have additional closure provisions.

