
State Water Resources Control Board

Fraud, Waste & Abuse Prevention Update: SB 445 SIGNED INTO LAW New Safeguards in Place to Fight Fraud

On September 25, 2014, the Governor signed into law SB 445 (Hill) Underground storage tanks (UST): hazardous substances: petroleum: groundwater and surface water contamination. This new law provides valuable tools that will assist with investigating and combating fraud against the Cleanup Fund (Fund).

How the New Law Protects the Fund Against Fraud:

- ✓ Authorizes the State Water Board to impose administrative civil liability penalties of up to \$500,000 per violation on those who make fraudulent claims and misrepresentations to the Fund.
- ✓ Bars claimants and consultants convicted of fraud against the Fund from further participation in the Fund.
- ✓ Authorizes the State Water Board to recover the costs associated with investigating and prosecuting fraud cases against the Fund from persons who were proven to have engaged in fraud.
- ✓ Grants administrative authority to prosecute cases.

For questions regarding the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Prevention unit, contact Ms. Kim Sellards, PG, CFE at (916) 341-5869 or Kim.Sellards@waterboards.ca.gov.

To report fraud: Call our toll-free message line at 1-800-813-FUND (3863) or email ReportFraud@waterboards.ca.gov.

Highlights of the New Law that affect the Fund and UST Program can be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/docs/fund_gto/fund_update_sb445.pdf

To read the entire chaptered bill, see: http://leginfo.ca.gov/pub/13-14/bill/sen/sb_0401-0450/sb_445_bill_20140925_chaptered.pdf