

Water Board Program Areas

401 Water Quality Certification

Under federal Clean Water Act Section 401, every applicant for a federal permit or license for any activity that may result in a discharge to a water body must obtain state water quality certification that the proposed activity will comply with state water quality standards. Most Water Board 401 water quality certifications are issued for dredge and fill discharges. Other 401 water quality certifications pertain to projects seeking licensing for hydropower projects. Each program area is described in more detail below:

401 Water Quality Certification (FERC)

This program involves the review of applications for 401 water quality certification from projects seeking a license or relicense from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), such as hydroelectric dams, power plants, and other facilities, comply with water quality standards. The certification process for these projects is coordinated with the State water rights permit process.

401 Water Quality Certification (Dredge and Fill) and Wetlands

A core responsibility of this program is to review applications for 401 water quality certification for projects that involve dredge and fill discharges to waters, including wetlands, and that require U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Such discharges may result from navigational dredging, flood control channelization, levee construction, channel clearing, fill of wetlands for development, or other activities. In addition, the program has responsibility for the protection of wetlands and riparian areas, and the regulation of hydromodification impacts, many of which occur from instream fill and excavation projects.

Abandoned Mine Remediation

This program, established under the California Water Code, provides a process for public agencies and cooperating private parties to reduce the threat to water quality caused by abandoned mine lands. Under this program, a remediating agency is responsible for implementing approved remediation measures without being deemed responsible for completely remediating abandoned mine waste to a point that meets water quality objectives and related regulatory requirements. The State Water Board or a Regional Water Board, depending on the assignment or the remediating agency, acts as an oversight agency for implementation of the approved remediation plan.

Administrative Support

Each function and task that the Water Boards perform requires some level of administrative support. Supporting roles include, but are not limited to, contracts, personnel, accounting, budgets, legal, information technology, and clerical or administrative assistance.

Basin Planning

Basin planning is the water quality planning of the Regional Water Boards. Mandated by both the federal Clean Water Act and the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Regional Water Boards develop, adopt, implement, and amend regional water quality control plans, or Basin Plans, which are approved by the State Water Board. Basin Plans, along with

the statewide water quality control plans and policies, are the cornerstone of California's regulatory programs and provide the basis for protecting water quality in California. The California Water Code specifies the required contents of a Basin Plan, which include: (1) beneficial uses that each water body supports (including drinking, swimming, fishing, protection of aquatic life, and agricultural irrigation among others); (2) water quality objectives that ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses and the prevention of nuisance; and (3) a program of implementation for achieving those objectives. The program of implementation includes a description of the nature of actions that are necessary to achieve the objectives, time schedules for the actions to be taken, and a description of surveillance to be undertaken to determine compliance with objectives. Basin Plans are regulatory tools used by the Regional Water Boards, as well as other agencies, in their permitting and resource management activities. They also serve as educational and reference documents for the regulated community and the general public. Part of the basin planning process is a triennial review that involves solicitation of input from stakeholders.

Bay-Delta

This program is designed to protect the beneficial uses of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary through the development and implementation of water quality control plans and policies. These plans and policies are adopted consistent with, and pursuant to the authority contained in, the California Water Code. The current Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary was adopted on December 13, 2006. The State Water Board periodically will review this plan to ensure that it provides reasonable protection for the designated beneficial uses. The State Water Board's measures to implement this plan, including flow and water quality standards, consists of regulating existing water rights, regulatory measures to protect water quality, and recommendations to other entities.

Brownfields

Abandoned or under-utilized properties that are contaminated and have not been redeveloped due to remediation and liability cost concerns are referred to as "brownfields". Typical examples of brownfield sites include former industrial and manufacturing facilities and gas stations. Cal/EPA and its Boards, Departments, and Office are developing partnerships with local governmental agencies and developing brownfield programs that incorporate tools and resources that can be used to assist in or address the three primary concerns of potential developers: legal liability, regulatory compliance, and the financial burden of investigation and cleanup. At brownfield sites, contaminants in both the soil and groundwater often impede or prevent beneficial economic re-use of these sites, resulting in economic impacts to both individual property owners and communities. These communities often look to the cleanup of these facilities to support re-use and redevelopment as a means for maintaining the economic vitality of the immediate neighborhood and the community as a whole. The Water Boards oversee and facilitate the investigation and cleanup at brownfield sites for beneficial re-use or redevelopment, and work with the Department of Toxic Substances Control to develop policy and guidance related to brownfields.

Clean Beaches

In 1997, California created a beach program to protect public health from pathogen contamination in coastal waters. The program requires sampling and reporting by coastal county health agencies. If a sewage spill occurs or bacterial indicators show that the water quality standards have been exceeded, then the beach is closed or posted until the water

quality is back within compliance. The program maintains the statewide California Beachwatch database to collect all State beach water quality information, displays the counties' closure and posting data on the Internet monthly, and compiles information into an annual report that includes additional data on sources of pollution, testing methods, and causes of beach posting and closures. The program also distributes funds for local assistance projects aimed at reducing pathogen contamination in California's coastal waters, and for research to develop detection methods, study the relationship between bacterial indicators and the incidence of disease, and other relevant issues.

Compliance and Enforcement

Compliance and enforcement is an integral part of environmental protection. Where compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and permits is not achieved, enforcement encourages the regulated community to meet their environmental obligations. The Water Board conducts activities to implement and enforce water rights and water quality laws, regulations, policies, and plans to protect the waters of the State. Enforcement not only protects public health and the environment, but also deters potential violators and ensures that those who do comply are not placed at a competitive disadvantage. It is important to note that enforcement of the State's water quality requirements are not solely the purview of the Water Boards, but other agencies as well (e.g., the California Department of Fish and Game).

Confined Animal Facilities (CAFs)/Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)

California has approximately 2,200 dairies with an average size of about 700 milk cows per dairy. There are also several hundred feedlots, poultry operations, and other animal feeding operations in the State. This program is responsible for protecting water quality by regulating wastes, including manure, at the facilities. Each Regional Water Board develops the regulatory program it uses for these facilities. Most of the commercial facilities are in the Central Valley Region, including over 80 percent of the dairies.

Department of Defense (DoD)

The State Water Board and the Regional Water Boards partner with the Department of Defense (DoD) through the Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) to oversee the investigation and remediation of water quality issues at military facilities. Approximately 200 military facilities listed on Attachment A of the DSMOA require environmental cleanups that range from a few UST cleanups to complex Superfund cleanups. The DoD environmental restoration program is carried out within the environmental legal framework of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund. State Water Resources Control Board/Regional Water Quality Control Boards authority for cleanup of contaminated sites is found under the California Water Code and the California Health and Safety Code.

Financial Assistance (see attached Appendix 2A)

Forest Activities

The goal of this program is to protect water quality from various activities (such as timber harvest, mining, grazing, and recreation) that occur at the public and private forest lands. The State Water Board implements Management Agency Agreements (MAAs) with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (the lead State agency for forest practices) and the U.S. Forest Service (the lead federal agency for forest practices) in order to promote

coordination and cooperation among these agencies and leverage their authorities, expertise, resources, and funding for water quality protection. Some Regional Water Boards have developed waiver policies to cover a variety of timber operations both on federal and non-federal lands.

Groundwater Ambient Monitoring Assessment (GAMA)

This program was created by the State Water Board to address the concern of chemicals (MTBE, solvents, and perchlorate) being detected in public water wells. The purpose of the program is to improve statewide ambient groundwater quality monitoring and assessment, and to increase the availability of information about groundwater quality to the public.

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

This program monitors, assesses, and controls the impact of discharges from irrigated agricultural lands to waters of the State. To implement the program, the Los Angeles, Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards have adopted comprehensive conditional waivers, and the Colorado River Basin Water Board has adopted a Conditional Prohibitions as a TMDL implementation plan incorporated into their Basin Plan. Monitoring data are used to develop farm water quality management plans (MPs) and best management practices (BMPs), which are designed to reduce agricultural related pollution to protect both surface and ground water. The Water Boards track water quality improvements as the result of BMP implementation to provide an inventory of proven BMPs to be used by the agricultural community. Another function of the program is to develop partnerships among various stakeholders through education and outreach.

Land Disposal

This program regulates waste discharge to land for treatment, storage, and disposal in waste management units. Waste management units include waste piles, surface impoundments, and landfills. For facilities subject to Land Disposal Program regulations, the Regional Water Boards issue waste discharge requirements (WDRs), perform inspections, review self-monitoring reports from the owners/operators to determine compliance, and take appropriate informal and formal enforcement action. State and Regional Water Board authority for regulation of waste discharges to land are found in California Water Code. The regulations specifically addressing solid waste are found in California Code of Regulations. In addition, requirements are found in State and Regional Board plans and policies and the Region's water quality control plans (Basin Plans). The Program works with the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), US EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle D program for municipal solid waste landfills, and the Department of Toxic Substance Control for the regulation of hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits

As authorized by the Clean Water Act (CWA), the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. Point sources are discrete conveyances such as pipes or man-made ditches. This federal program has been delegated to the State of California for implementation. NPDES permits are issued as Waste Discharge Requirements to comply with State as well as federal laws and regulations. NPDES permits are issued for both stormwater, and treated municipal and industrial wastewater. Each program area is described in more detail below:

NPDES Permits -- Stormwater

The NPDES Storm Water Program is a subset of the NPDES General Permit permitting program. The goal of the program is to prevent or minimize the discharge of pollutants contained in stormwater or urban runoff to waters of the State. The Storm Water Program consists of three components: municipal, industrial, and construction. The municipal storm water program regulates storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable (MEP, a performance standard specified in the Clean Water Act). Unlike NPDES wastewater permits, which typically contain specific end-of-pipe effluent limits based on water quality standards or available treatment technology, municipal stormwater permits usually include programmatic requirements involving the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants discharged to the MEP. Discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities are regulated under the State Water Board-adopted "General Industrial Storm Water Permit" (or Industrial General Permit, IGP). This permit regulates the discharge of storm water from ten broad categories of industry that are defined by the federal regulations. Discharges of storm water associated with construction activities that result in a land disturbance of one acre or more are regulated under the State Water Board-adopted "General Construction Storm Water Permit" (or the Construction General Permit, CGP). The State Board also regulates construction activities associated with small linear construction projects (those disturbing less than five acres of land) under the "General Permit for Small Linear Underground/Overhead Projects" (or the Small LUP GP). Linear projects include activities such as the installation of fiber optic cables, laying of gas or water line, and burying of electric lines.

NPDES Permits — Wastewater

The NPDES Wastewater Program issues permits to regulate the discharges to surface waters, including municipal wastewater, industrial process, cleaning, or cooling wastewaters, commercial wastewater, and treated groundwater from cleanup projects. The permits can also regulate discharges to land and groundwater, as well as regulate reclaimed/recycled water. NPDES permits are issued to municipal facilities, such as publicly-owned treatment works (POTWs), which rely on the assistance of industry, developers, homeowners, and others to ensure that they can meet the requirements contained in their municipal permits. The NPDES permit program also establishes specific requirements for discharges from industrial sources. An industrial facility that discharges wastewater to a municipal sewer system is subject to the NPDES pretreatment program. The industrial facility may also discharge wastewater directly to a surface water and require an individual or general NPDES permit. While the State Water Board has issued some NPDES permits, the vast majority of NPDES permits are issued by the Regional Water Boards.

Non-Point Source

This program addresses non-point source pollution, which typically results from diffused sources of pollutants such as agricultural, silvicultural, and urban runoff, precipitation, atmospheric deposition, drainage, seepage, or hydrologic modification. The federal Clean Water Act requires the State Water Board to develop and implement a non-point source pollution control program and provides funding for this purpose. This program reaches out to dischargers with technical and educational information, and financial support, to assist with management practice implementation to reduce or eliminate non-point source pollution.

Ocean (Coastal Waters)

The State Water Board's ocean program is responsible for the development and updating of statewide water quality control plans, policies, and standards involving marine waters. These include the California Ocean Plan, the California Thermal Plan, and the development of sediment quality objectives in bays and estuaries. The program is also responsible for providing scientific support to the Water Boards, and inter-agency coordination, regarding marine pollution and resource management issues.

Operator Certification

This program is responsible for certifying wastewater treatment plant operators. The program conducts the exams required by the regulations, including developing the exam questions, processing applications, printing and mailing the certificates, mailing out renewal notices, and processing renewal applications. The program also updates regulations, investigates violations of laws and regulations by certified operators, and classifies wastewater treatment plants.

Pretreatment

The National Pretreatment Program (established in the Code of Federal Regulations) provides the regulatory basis to require commercial and industrial discharges to comply with pretreatment standards (effluent limitations). The U.S. EPA has delegated this federal program to the State to ensure that publicly-owned treatment works (POTWs) implement pretreatment programs, consistent with federal regulations. POTWs, which collect wastewater from homes, commercial buildings, and industrial facilities and transport it via collection systems to municipal wastewater treatment plants that generally are designed to treat domestic sewage and rather than pollutants discharged by industrial and commercial facilities that may interfere with treatment processes or contaminate sewage sludge. Under the program, POTWs identify, permit, sample, and inspect the significant industrial users that discharge to their collection systems and enforce the pretreatment requirements. The State and Regional Water Boards conduct pretreatment audits and inspections to ensure that the POTWs implement pretreatment programs that are consistent with the federal regulations.

Site Cleanup

This program oversees activities at non-underground storage tank (UST) sites where soil or groundwater contamination have occurred. Many of these sites are former industrial facilities and dry cleaners, where chlorinated solvents were spilled, or have leaked into the soil or groundwater. The program issues cleanup orders that require investigations and source removals, and establish cleanup standards and long-term monitoring requirements. Among others, Department of Defense and Brownfields sites are covered by this program. Under this program, reasonable expenses incurred by the State and Regional Water Boards in overseeing water quality matters can be recovered from the responsible party. The State Water Board bills and collects these reasonable expenses.

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

This program is a statewide monitoring effort designed to assess the conditions of surface waters throughout the State. The program integrates existing water quality monitoring activities of the State and Regional Water Boards, and coordinates with other monitoring programs. Responsibility for implementation of monitoring activities resides with the nine Regional Water Boards that have jurisdiction over their specific geographical areas of the State.

Stormwater Program (see NPDES Permits – Stormwater)**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)**

TMDLs are required by the Clean Water Act for any water not meeting the water quality objectives or supporting the beneficial uses established in the Basin Plans. They are designed to create a "pollution budget" to restore the health of a polluted body of water. The TMDL process provides a quantitative assessment of water quality problems, contributing sources of pollution, and the pollutant load reductions or control actions needed to restore and protect the beneficial uses of an individual water body that is impaired from loading of a particular pollutant. The TMDL process involves involving stakeholders, assessing the water body, defining the total load and developing allocations, and developing an implementation plan. As remedial actions, TMDLs are generally adopted into Basin Plans as regulations (under certain conditions a TMDL could be a discharge permit, enforcement action, or inter-agency agreement). TMDLs cross all surface and some ground water programs (e.g., NPDES wastewater permits, stormwater, agriculture waiver, nonpoint source, and septic systems), both in pursuit of the sources of the pollution and in required implementation actions. Regional Water Board staff works with stakeholders and prepares appropriate plans, orders, or permits for consideration and adoption by the Regional Board. State Water Board staff reviews adopted TMDL and advises State Board on approval or remand of TMDL. TMDLs approved by the State Water Board are subject to approval by the Office of Administrative Law and the U.S. EPA.

Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)

The purpose of this program is to protect public health and safety, and the environment from releases of petroleum and other hazardous substances from underground storage tanks. There are four elements of the UST Program: leak Prevention, cleanup, enforcement, and tank tester licensing. The Leak Prevention Program element includes requirements for tank installation, construction, testing, leak detection, spill containment, and overflow protection. Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs) are the implementing agencies for the leak prevention program element. Cleanup of leaking tanks often involves a soil and groundwater investigation and remediation, under the direction of a regulatory agency. Responsible parties (RPs) who believe cleanup at their site is complete and are denied case closure by the regulatory agency may consider filing a closure petition. The State Water Resources Control Board provides assistance to local agencies enforcing UST requirements. Tank integrity testing is required by law, must meet the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board, and must be conducted by State licensed tank testers.

Waste Discharges to Land (WDR Program)

WDR Program discharges are the most diverse of the core regulatory programs. Wastewater that is discharged to land (such as through percolation through disposal ponds, discharge through leach fields, and irrigation of landscapes and farmland) must have waste discharge requirements (WDRs), unless waived as allowed under the California Water Code. This includes all point source discharges of waste to land that do not require full containment, do not involve confined animal facilities, and do not involve discharge of a pollutant to a surface water of the United States that is subject to the federal Clean Water Act. Facilities that discharge wastewater to land include municipal wastewater treatment plants, dairies, industrial facilities, and commercial facilities such as restaurants, hotels, RV parks, gas stations, and office buildings. Waste discharge requirements for these discharges must ensure that the discharges do not cause violations of water quality objectives listed in Regional Water Boards' Basin Plans.

To comply with the effluent limitations in waste discharge requirements, a wastewater must usually be treated before being discharged.

Water Quality Assessment

The primary purpose of the Water Quality Assessment Program is to assess the State's waters to determine whether or not they are in compliance with water quality standards. This evaluation is carried out every two years in compliance with federal requirements. States are required to assemble and evaluate all existing and readily available water quality-related data and information to develop the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list and to provide documentation for listing or not listing a state's waters. To ensure consistency across the State, and to meet the overall goal of achieving water quality standards and maintaining beneficial uses in all of California's surface waters, the Water Boards use their *Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List*.

Water Quality Standards and Planning

Water quality standards are the foundation of water quality-based pollution control programs established under the federal Clean Water Act and the State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Water quality standards consist of: designated beneficial uses (e.g., municipal supply, agricultural supply, recreation, aquatic habitat) for water bodies; numeric or narrative criteria (federal) or objectives (State) to protect those uses; and an anti-degradation policy to maintain and protect high quality waters. The water quality planning process consists primarily of developing, adopting, reviewing, and updating a variety of water quality control plans by the State and Regional Water Boards. These plans contain enforceable water quality standards and implementation provisions designed to ensure the protection of beneficial uses. Water quality standards contained in these plans are translated into effluent limitations written into NPDES permits and other Waste Discharge Requirements. Both statewide plans (adopted by the State Water Board), such as the Ocean Plan, Thermal Plan, and Bay-Delta Plan, and the basin plans (adopted by the Regional Water Boards) are subject to triennial review, which may lead to periodic updates. Adoption of these plans follows a prescribed process that involves public review and approval by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and U.S. EPA. A number of Water Board water quality policies, resolutions, orders, and have been developed over the years to help guide the planning process.

Water Recycling

This program is responsible for promoting water recycling by providing technical and financial assistance to local agencies and other stakeholders in support of water recycling projects and research. The program is also responsible for developing a statewide Water Recycling Policy to establish more uniform requirements for recycled water projects.

Water Recycling Funding Program (see Attachment)

Water Rights Permitting/Licensing

A water right is a legal entitlement authorizing water to be diverted from a specified source and put to beneficial, nonwasteful, and reasonable use. Water rights are property rights, but their holders do not own the water itself – they possess the right to use it. The exercise of some water rights requires a permit or license from the State Water Board. Water right permits and licenses include terms that not only limit how much and during which season water can be diverted, but also require minimum flows to bypass the point of diversion to protect in-stream beneficial uses. The State Water Board's water rights programs administer a system of water

rights to ensure that the State's waters are put to the best possible use and that the public interest is served, while protecting vested rights, water quality, and the environment. The State Water Board issues water right permits, approves proposed changes in water right permit conditions, adjudicates, and enforces those permits. The California courts have concurrent jurisdiction to enforce water right permits, but the State Water Board's permitting process is the sole means by which a water right can be acquired in California. The courts also have authority to determine water rights that predate the administrative water right program, which began in 1914. The State Water Board assists the courts in this regard by initiating and conducting field verification of water right claims in stream system adjudications of water rights (upon request by an affected party) and by making findings of fact, findings of law, or both when requested by the court in other less comprehensive matters.

Wetlands and Water Quality Certification (also see 401 Water Quality Certification)

This program regulates discharges of fill and dredged material under Clean Water Act Section 401 and the California Water Code. While this program protects all waters in its regulatory scope, it has special responsibility for wetlands, riparian areas, and headwaters because these water bodies have high resource value, are vulnerable to filling, and are not systematically protected by other programs. The program is also involved with protection of special-status species and regulation of hydromodification impacts. The program encourages basin-level analysis and protection, because some functions of wetlands, riparian areas, and headwater streams -- including pollutant removal, flood water retention, and habitat connectivity -- are expressed at the basin or landscape level. Most projects are regulated by the Regional Water Boards. The State Water Board directly regulates multi-regional projects, and supports and coordinates the Program statewide.

Water Board Financial Assistance Programs

The Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) is responsible for administering the State Water Board's financial assistance programs, which includes loan and grant funding for the construction of municipal sewage facilities and water recycling facilities, remediation of effects of releases from underground storage tanks, watershed protection projects, and non-point source pollution control projects. DFA also provides program implementation assistance in the regulation of waste discharges to land, including underground storage tanks, toxic pits, landfills, and unauthorized waste discharges that may affect the State's groundwaters.

Bond Funding Programs

Several financial assistance programs have been established by the State through voter-approved bond measures to build necessary public infrastructure and assist the regulated community in complying with water quality laws and regulations. The State and Regional Water Boards administer numerous grant-funding programs from these bond measures for the purposes of improving water quality, implementing watershed programs, and monitoring groundwater.

Clean Beaches Initiative (CBI) Grant Program

This program provides funding to local agencies, non-profit organizations, and public agencies for implementing projects that protect and restore beaches and coastal water quality from pollution and toxic contamination. The funded projects address postings and closures at California public beaches caused by bacterial contamination.

Orphan Site Cleanup Account (OSCA)

The OSCA program provides financial assistance for the cleanup of Brownfield sites contaminated by leaking petroleum underground storage tanks where there is no financially responsible party. An important component of the OSCA Program is to clean up blighted properties for reuse and protect water quality. The OSCA program authority is found under the California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.75, Section 25299.50. The OSCA program received an annual \$10 million dollar appropriation for fiscal years, '05, '06 and '07. The OSCA program sunset on January 1, 2008 and all OSCA funds have been awarded to eligible applicants in grant agreements. The maximum available per occurrence was \$1.5 million.

Replacing/Repairing Underground Storage Tank (RUST) Grant and Loan Programs

These programs provide low interest loans and grants for underground storage tank (UST) owners or operators of small independent UST facilities who need to upgrade their tanks to meet new regulatory requirements. Loans range from \$10,000 to \$750,000 and grants range up to \$50,000.

State Revolving Fund Program (SRF)

The SRF Loan Program provides low-interest loan funding for construction of publicly-owned wastewater treatment facilities, local sewers, sewer interceptors, water reclamation facilities, as well as, expanded use projects such as implementation of non-point source projects or programs, development and implementation of estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans, and storm water treatment. The total funds available to the program as of June 30, 2007, is \$4.085 billion.

The State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA)

Established by the California Water Code, the CAA provides funding for the cleanup or abatement of a condition of pollution when there are no viable responsible parties available to undertake the work. The CAA is supported by court judgments and administrative civil liabilities assessed by the Water Boards. The Water Boards or public agencies with authority to clean up or abate a waste are eligible to receive CAA funding.

Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (USTCF)

The USTCF program was created to provide a means for petroleum UST owners and operators to meet the federal and State requirements of maintaining financial responsibility to pay for any damages arising from their tank operations. The program also provides money to the Regional Water Boards and local regulatory agencies to abate emergency situations or to cleanup abandoned sites that pose a threat to human health, safety, and the environment, as a result of a petroleum release from a UST.

Water Recycling Funding Program (WRFP)

The purpose of the program is to promote water recycling by providing technical and financial assistance to local agencies and other stakeholders in support of water recycling projects and research. The program's core activities are to review and process requests for funding of water recycling planning and construction projects in accordance with the WRFP Guidelines adopted in 2004. In addition to the core activities, the program participates in other tasks in support of water recycling.