

State Water Board Launches Webpage Listing Businesses Disqualified From Working With the Board Due to Fraud

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SACRAMENTO – In its continued effort to reduce fraud against its cleanup programs, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has launched a new webpage listing businesses and persons disqualified from State Water Board programs, including the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund.

The new <u>webpage</u> lists disqualified businesses and persons and the State Water Board programs for which they are no longer permitted to perform work. The disqualifications are the result of allegations of fraud against the Cleanup Fund.

Senate Bill 445, passed on Sept. 25, 2014, authorizes additional safeguards to fight fraud against the Cleanup Fund. The law gives the State Water Board the authority to disqualify consultants, as well as claimants, from participating in the Cleanup Fund; impose penalties of up to \$500,000 per violation; recover costs for investigation and prosecution; and prosecute cases administratively.

"The webpage provides the public with vital details about the disqualifications. People working on projects required or funded by the Water Boards now have an important tool for evaluating entities with whom they do business," said Cris Carrigan, director of the Office of Enforcement. "This one-stop summary is a testament to our efforts on cracking down on fraud, waste and abuse."

For information on the State Water Board's efforts to prevent, investigate and prosecute cases of fraud against the Cleanup Fund, see the <u>fact sheet</u>.

Reporting suspected fraud against the Cleanup Fund is easy. Report by email at reportfraud@waterboards.ca.gov, toll-free phone at (1-855) 263-0863, or by mailing or faxing a Fraud Reporting Complaint Form to the State Water Board at:

State Water Board Office of Enforcement P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812 Fax: (916) 341-5896

The Fraud Reporting Complaint Form is online.

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