

State Water Resources Control Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2005

SWRCB 05-013

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UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FACILITIES BROUGHT INTO COMPLIANCE BY JOINT AGENCY INVESTIGATION

SACRAMENTO—Nearly 40 underground storage tank facilities are in compliance with designated operator requirements after a joint investigation by the State Water Resources Control Board's Underground Storage Tank Enforcement Unit, Stanislaus County's Department of Environmental Resources, and the California District Attorneys' Circuit Prosecutor Project through the Stanislaus County's District Attorney's Office.

California regulations required underground storage tank owners to identify a designated operator for their facilities, provide verification, and have the designated operator begin conducting monthly inspections of the facility By January 1, 2005.

In February 2005, the Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources referred the facilities in the county that were out of compliance with the designated operator requirements to the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office.

"The joint prosecution was very successful. It achieved compliance with current designated operator requirements and provides protections against future violations," said Leslie Graves, chief of the State Water Board's Underground Storage Tank Enforcement Unit. "All of the agencies worked together to achieve consistent and fair results in these joint prosecutions."

For more information on the State Water Board's Underground Storage Tank Enforcement Unit, see

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/enforcement/index.html>.

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