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Secretary

California Environmental Protection Agency

Unified Program Bulletin

0304-05

DATE: November 20, 2003

TO: All Certified Unified Program Agencies

FROM: Unified Program Section

SUBJECT: UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK SURCHARGE

This bulletin is intended to clarify questions from new CUPAs regarding transition from the 5-year UST fee to the annual UP surcharge.

All Unified Program bills issued on or after November 18, 2003, are required to include the new annual surcharge fees. For those businesses subject to regulation under the UST program the new annual UP state surcharge for USTs is \$15.00 per tank. Some CUPAs may still have regulated businesses that have paid the UST fee 5 years in advance and that 5 years period has not yet run out.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and Cal/EPA will not require CUPAs to collect the difference between the surcharge that will be in effect November 18, 2003 and the UST 5-year surcharge that has already been paid. The reason for this is that the time to develop supplemental billing of this type is not a cost effective expenditure of staff time. Once the UST fee has run out all subsequent billings must include the current UST surcharge.

If a CUPA chooses to collect the difference, that amount should be identified and remitted via the Quarterly Surcharge Transmittal (Report 1) for the quarter within which it was collected.

The information contained in this bulletin is consistent with SWRCB's LG-142, revision date December 28, 1995.