

**EGS provides complete cost recovery / claims support services** to our clients who have projects involving investigation and or remediation of fuel Underground Storage Tanks (USTs). For these clients we use billing rates that are in general conformance with the State UST Cost Guidelines and ***EGS has had excellent success in obtaining near 100% cost recovery*** for all reimbursable charges for our UST service area clients. The following is background information on the UST Fund and an outline of EGS's services in this area.

## **The California State UST Cleanup Fund (USTCF)**

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ustcf/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/index.shtml)

The State of California offers reimbursement for corrective action costs related to cleanup of UST sites through the USTCF or Fund, which was created pursuant to Chapter 6.75 of the California State Health & Safety Code. The Fund helps eligible owners and operators of petroleum UST's to:

- Meet federal and state requirements in demonstrating financial responsibility by providing coverage to pay for the costs of cleanup and third party liability caused by an unauthorized release of petroleum from a UST; and
- Obtain reimbursement for the costs of cleaning up unauthorized releases of petroleum from UST's; and
- Obtain reimbursement for damages awarded to third parties who are injured by unauthorized releases of petroleum from UST's.

The owner or operator of a UST is considered the Responsible Party (RP), and must complete documentation and submit all pertinent information in association with costs related to a UST investigation and/or corrective action cleanup effort.

**EGS provides full assistance in completing and submitting the necessary documentation** to request reimbursement from the Fund and preparing and adhering to Fiscal Year Budgets. The RP assigns EGS as their authorized designated representative. This assistance, referred to as Regulatory Technical Assistance (RTA), is a reimbursable expense for UST work.

The following describes the Fund claims process and the services EGS uses to provide RTA to Clients who may qualify for Fund reimbursement:

- Application for Authorized Designated Representative - EGS prepares and submits this form to the Client so they can assign EGS as their Authorized Designated Representative (ADR). EGS then submits the Authorized Designated Representative form to the Fund. This gives EGS the authorization to administer and file claims to obtain reimbursements on behalf of our Clients.
- Communication with Fund personnel - The Fund assigns personnel for different regions of the State. EGS has consulted with various Fund personnel and has developed working relationships with numerous Fund staff during previous and on-going RTA work for our Clients.
- State Fund Claim Application - The initial step for State reimbursement is the submittal of this Application which EGS completes as part of our RTA services. It is through this Application that the Client is pre-qualified and a Claim Number is assigned. The Application provides the Fund with RP information, proof that the RP is the owner and/or operator of the petroleum UST, a brief Site Background, information for determination of Priority Class (i.e. residential, business, etc.), indicates the regulatory agency overseeing the UST cleanup, and defines the RP as financially responsible for cleanup costs.
- Claim Number and Priority Class Assignment - Upon review and approval of the Claim Application, the Fund assigns a Claim number and Priority Class.