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State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
RUST Program
P. O. Box 944212
Sacramento, CA 94244-2120
(916) 341-5657

“To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California’s water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.”

Creation date: March 2016
RUST PROGRAM OVERVIEW

RUST grants and loans are available to assist small business Underground Storage Tank (UST) owners and operators to come into compliance with UST regulatory requirements by removing, replacing, or upgrading USTs. This is not a reimbursement program. Work cannot begin until you have a signed agreement with the State Water Board.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

Typical eligible costs are removing and replacing single-walled USTs and/or piping with double-walled USTs and/or piping, UST upgrades including installing containment sumps, under-dispenser containment boxes/pans, and electronic monitoring systems, and conducting enhanced leak detection tests.

GRANTS

Grants range from $3,000 to $70,000. An additional $140,000 in RUST grant moneys is available for remote public fueling stations for the purpose of removing and replacing a single-walled UST.

Eligibility Requirements

- The grant applicant is a small business, employs fewer than 20 employees;
- The grant applicant is independently owned and operated, and is not dominant in its field of operation;
- The principal office (officers/principals) of the grant applicant is domiciled in the state;
- The facility where the project tank is located was legally in business retailing gasoline after January 1, 1999;
- The grant applicant must have a current operating permit for the UST from the regulatory agency for all UST work (if an applicant does not meet the permit requirements, a waiver may be obtained only if [1] the applicant owns or operates the tank, [2] the project is for removal only, and [3] the applicant cannot obtain a RUST loan for the removal only project); and
- The facility where the project tank is located has sold at retail less than 900,000 gallons of gasoline annually for each of the two years preceding the submission of the grant application. The number of gallons sold shall be based upon taxable sales figures provided to the State Board of Equalization for that facility. (BOE 401-GS including schedule G)

How to Apply

Complete the application which is available on the RUST website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/rust.shtml.

Send hardcopy to:
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
RUST Program
P. O. Box 944212
Sacramento, CA  94244-2120

LOANS

Loans range from $10,000 to $750,000 and may be obtained for 100% of eligible costs.

Loan Terms

- Interest rate: ½ most recent State General Obligation (GO) Bond Rate at time of funding approval
- 10-year loans: secured by the Uniform Commercial Code Financing Statement on business assets
- 20-year loans: secured by a deed of trust on real estate with adequate equity
- Loan fee: 2% of the amount funded

Eligibility Requirements

- The loan applicant is a small business that employs fewer than 500 full-time and part-time employees, is independently owned and operated, and is not dominant in its field of operation;
- The loan applicant's principal office and its officers must be domiciled in California;
- All of the tanks owned and operated by the loan applicant are subject to compliance with Health and Safety Code chapter 6.7 and the regulation adopted pursuant to that chapter; and
- The loan applicant must provide financial and legal documents necessary to demonstrate the ability to repay the loan and availability of adequate collateral to secure the loan.

How to Apply

Please contact a Financial Development Corporation in your area (see reverse) for a loan application.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information and program updates, please visit the RUST website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/rust.shtml.

Questions?

We are here to help! If you have any questions, please contact the RUST Unit at (916) 341-5657.