

ORPHAN SITE CLEANUP FUND (OSCF)

The OSCF is a grant program administered by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance. The OSCF Program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants for the costs of response actions to remediate the harm caused by leaking petroleum underground storage tanks (USTs) where there is no financially responsible party, and the applicant is not an eligible claimant to the UST Cleanup Fund.

Senate Bill 445 (Hill, chapter 547, statutes of 2014), effective September 25, 2014, changed the OSCF eligibility criteria by not limiting the program to brownfield sites and reduced the maximum grant amount for an eligible occurrence to \$1.0 million for any grant application filed on or after January 1, 2015. Grant applications filed before January 1, 2015, may still receive up to \$1.5 million.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Interested parties seeking OSCF grants must submit a completed OSCF application for review and meet certain eligibility requirements. The more substantive requirements include:

- Grantee is not eligible for the UST Cleanup Fund.
- Grantee did not cause or contribute to release of petroleum.
- Grantee has no affiliation with a person who caused or contributed to the release of petroleum.
- Principal source of contamination is from a petroleum UST.
- No financially responsible party has been identified to pay for the corrective action costs.

ASSESSMENT AND CLEANUP GRANTS

Applicants can file one OSCF application requesting both an assessment and a cleanup grant.

Assessment Grants: Provide funding for response actions that characterize, assess, and investigate an unauthorized release from a petroleum UST. These actions include a preliminary site assessment, soil and groundwater investigations, and preparation of a corrective action plan in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 16, Article 11. Assessment grants may also provide funding for UST system removal, free product removal, and soil excavation, not to exceed 500 cubic yards at the eligible site.

Cleanup Grants: Provide funding for response actions that carry out cleanup activities, implement a corrective action plan, and perform verification monitoring in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 16, Article 11. If a corrective action plan is required, the State Water Board cannot award a cleanup grant until the applicant demonstrates the corrective action plan is complete and approved by the regulatory agency. However, the applicant may apply for a cleanup grant before completion and approval of the corrective action plan. **Note that only the current property owner is eligible for a Cleanup Grant, unless the applicant is a public agency.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PROGRAM CONTACTS:

Michael Morones, Staff Services Manager, at michael.morones@waterboards.ca.gov

Caryl Sheehan, Supervising Engineering Geologist, at Caryl.Sheehan@waterboards.ca.gov

WEBSITE:

[Orphan Site Cleanup Fund \(OSCF\) general information and forms.](#)

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Updated 01/04/2022