



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax-Collector

Subject: Certification of Financial Responsibility for Petroleum Underground Storage Tanks

Meeting Date: February 11, 2025

Formal Title: Approve Certification of Financial Responsibility for Petroleum Underground Storage tanks, and take related actions

Recommended Action

Approve Certification of Financial Responsibility for Petroleum Underground Storage tanks, and authorize the County Administrative Officer to sign.

Executive Summary

Each year, the Board must approve the submission of a Certification of Financial Responsibility for Petroleum Underground Storage Tanks as required by Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) regulations. There are a variety of mechanisms that can be used, which are addressed in the regulations, one of which is a State Fund set up for this purpose.

Discussion

To use the State Fund, the County must certify financial responsibility for the first \$10,000 per occurrence and aggregate, exclusive of the Fund. This certification can be accomplished through any one of several means specified by the EPA and promulgated by the SWRCB. The mechanism known as the “worksheet test” has been used in prior years because it was the least restrictive option and clearly demonstrated financial responsibility for the current reporting period.

The formulas and calculations that comprise the test are specifically set forth in the EPA regulations. The attached worksheet and supporting letter have been prepared in accordance with EPA regulations and signed by the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector, who is the Chief Financial Officer of the County of Santa Cruz.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact.

Strategic Initiatives

Operational Plan - Operational Excellence

Submitted By:

Edith Driscoll

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.