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# **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

John Polak, Chairman

David Gibson

John Bredenkamp

Young B. Kim

Paul Kwak

Jerome Lewicki

Charles Kwon

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Williams & Company Consulting, Inc.

Council administrator offices are located at:

814 Pierce Street Sioux City, Iowa 51101 1000 Tower Lane, Suite 140 Bensenville, Illinois 60106 COUNCIL MEMBERS John Bredenkamp • David Gibson • Young B. Kim • Paul K. Kwak • Charles Kwon • Jerome Lewicki • John Polak

July 15, 2011

Honorable William G. Holland Auditor General Iles Park Plaza 740 East Ash Street Springfield, Illinois 62703-3154 Attention: Lisa Warden, Audit Manager

YCIFAN

VIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

TRUST FUND OF ILLINOIS

Dear Mr. Holland:

We are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements that could have a material effect on the operations of the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council (Agency). We are responsible for and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over compliance requirements. We have performed an evaluation of the Agency's compliance with the following assertions during the one-year period ended June 30, 2010. Based on this evaluation, we assert that during the year ended June 30, 2010, the Agency has materially complied with the assertions below.

- A. The agency has obligated, expended, received and used public funds of the State in accordance with the purpose for which such funds have been appropriated or otherwise authorized by law.
- B. The agency has obligated, expended, received and used public funds of the State in accordance with any limitations, restrictions, conditions or mandatory directions imposed by law upon such obligation, expenditure, receipt or use.
- C. The agency has complied, in all material respects, with applicable laws and regulations, including the State uniform accounting system, in its financial and fiscal operations.
- D. State revenues and receipts collected by the agency are in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the accounting and recordkeeping of such revenues and receipts is fair, accurate and in accordance with law.
- E. Money or negotiable securities or similar assets handled by the agency on behalf of the State or held in trust by the agency have been properly and legally administered, and the accounting and recordkeeping relating thereto is proper, accurate and in accordance with law.

Yours very truly,

Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council of Illinois

John Polak, Chairman

H. Patrick Eriksen, Third Party Administrator

# **COMPLIANCE REPORT**

## **SUMMARY**

The compliance testing performed during this examination was conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and in accordance with the Illinois State Auditing Act.

### ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The Independent Accountants' Report on State Compliance, on Internal Control Over Compliance and on Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers, or other significant non-standard language.

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Number of	Current Report	Prior Report				
Findings	1	1				
Repeated findings	1	1				
Prior recommendations implemented						
or not repeated	0	2				
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS						
Item No. Page Des	cription	Finding Type				
FINDINGS (STATE COMPLIANCE)						

10-1	9	Expired Council member appointments	Noncompliance
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#### **EXIT CONFERENCE**

The Council waived a formal exit conference in correspondence from Dorcee Lauen, Third Party Administrator representative. The Council's response to the recommendation was provided in correspondence from H. Patrick Eriksen, Third Party Administrator. SPRINGFIELD OFFICE: ILES PARK PLAZA 740 EAST ASH • 62703-3154 PHONE: 217/782-6046 FAX: 217/785-8222 • TTY: 888/261-2887



CHICAGO OFFICE: MICHAEL A. BILANDIC BLDG. - SUITE S-900 160 NORTH LASALLE - 60601-3103 PHONE: 312/814-4000 FAX: 312/814-4006

# OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL WILLIAM G. HOLLAND

# INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON STATE COMPLIANCE, ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE, AND ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR STATE COMPLIANCE PURPOSES

Honorable William G. Holland Auditor General State of Illinois

# Compliance

We have examined the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's compliance with the requirements listed below, as more fully described in the Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies (Audit Guide) as adopted by the Auditor General, during the year ended June 30, 2010. The management of the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council is responsible for compliance with these requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's compliance based on our examination.

- A. The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with the purpose for which such funds have been appropriated or otherwise authorized by law.
- B. The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with any limitations, restrictions, conditions or mandatory directions imposed by law upon such obligation, expenditure, receipt or use.
- C. The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council has complied, in all material respects, with applicable laws and regulations, including the State uniform accounting system, in its financial and fiscal operations.
- D. State revenues and receipts collected by the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council are in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the accounting and recordkeeping of such revenues and receipts is fair, accurate and in accordance with law.
- E. Money or negotiable securities or similar assets handled by the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council on behalf of the State or held in trust by the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council have been properly and legally administered and the accounting and recordkeeping relating thereto is proper, accurate, and in accordance with law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the Audit Guide as adopted by the Auditor General pursuant to the Act; and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's compliance with those requirements listed in the first paragraph of this report and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements listed in the first paragraph of this report during the year ended June 30, 2010. However, the results of our procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance with those requirements, which are required to be reported in accordance with criteria established by the Audit Guide, issued by the Illinois Office of the Auditor General and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as finding 10-1.

# **Internal Control**

The management of the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the requirements listed in the first paragraph of this report. In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's internal control over compliance with the requirements listed in the first paragraph of this report as a basis for designing our examination procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Audit Guide issued by the Illinois Office of the Auditor General, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's internal control over compliance.

A *deficiency* in an entity's internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct noncompliance with the requirements listed in the first paragraph of this report on a timely basis. A *material weakness over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a requirement listed in the first paragraph of this report will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. There were no immaterial findings that have been excluded from this report.

The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's response to the finding identified in our examination is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not examine the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

#### Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes

Our examination was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on compliance with the requirements listed in the first paragraph of this report. The accompanying supplementary information as listed in the table of contents as Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes is presented for purposes of additional analysis. We have applied certain limited procedures as prescribed by the Audit Guide as adopted by the Auditor General to the 2010 Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes, except for information on Service Efforts and Accomplishments on which we did not perform any procedures. However, we do not express an opinion on the supplementary information.

We have not applied procedures to the 2009 Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion thereon.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Auditor General, the General Assembly, the Legislative Audit Commission, the Governor, agency management, and Council members and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

J. Bullard 11168

Bruce L. Bullard, CPA Director of Financial and Compliance Audits

July 15, 2011

#### Current findings

## 10-1. **<u>FINDING</u>** (Expired Council member appointments)

The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council (Council) member appointments or reappointments had not been made as required by statute.

During FY10, the appointed terms had expired for seven of seven (100%) of the Council members. The appointed terms expired on May 1, 2008 for one Council member, on May 1, 2007 for four Council members, and on May 1, 2006 for two Council members.

The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Act (Act) requires the Council be comprised of seven voting members appointed by the Governor to terms of three years. (415 ILCS 135/15)

Council administration stated they had inquired with the Governor's Office regarding the status of appointments in Spring and Fall of 2010, but has not yet received any reappointments or new appointments from the Governor.

Although Council members are allowed to continue to serve past their terms until new appointments are made, lack of current appointments or reappointments fails to satisfy Act provisions for re-evaluation of Council membership every three years. (Finding Code No. 10-1, 09-1, 08-2, 07-3)

### **RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend the Council continue to work with the Governor's Office to obtain current Council member appointments as soon as possible.

### COUNCIL RESPONSE

Council members have applied for reappointment directly and online. The Council has and will continue to make contacts with the Governor's Office to secure reappointments for the terms that have expired. Beyond making these contacts, the appointments are out of the Council's control.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR STATE COMPLIANCE PURPOSES

#### **SUMMARY**

Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes presented in this section of the report includes the following:

• Fiscal Schedules and Analysis:

Schedule of Appropriations, Expenditures and Lapsed Balances Comparative Schedule of Net Appropriations, Expenditures and Lapsed Balances Reconciliation Schedule of Cash Receipts to Deposits Remitted to the State Comptroller Analysis of Significant Variations in Expenditures Analysis of Accounts Receivable

• Analysis of Operations:

Council Functions and Planning Program Service Efforts and Accomplishments (Not Examined)

The accountants' report that covers the Supplementary Information for State Compliance Purposes presented in the Compliance Report Section states the auditors have applied certain limited procedures as prescribed by the Audit Guide as adopted by the Auditor General, except for information on the Service Efforts and Accomplishments on which they did not perform any procedures. However, the accountants do not express an opinion on the supplementary information.

#### STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES AND LAPSED BALANCES

For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

P.A. 96-0046 FISCAL YEAR 2010	-	ppropriations (Net of Transfers)	xpenditures ough June 30	La Ex	proximate pse Period penditures July 1 to ugust 31	E 14 N	Approximate Total Expenditures Months Ended August 31	pproximate Balances Lapsed August 31
APPROPRIATED FUNDS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND - 0548								
For use in accordance with the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Act	\$	5,360,000	\$ 3,792,691	\$	149,787	\$	3,942,478	\$ 1,417,522
GRAND TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$	5,360,000	\$ 3,792,691	\$	149,787	\$	3,942,478	\$ 1,417,522

Note 1: Appropriations, expenditures, and lapsed balances were obtained directly from records of the State Comptroller and were reconciled to Council Records.

Note 2: Expenditure amounts are vouchers approved for payment by the Council and submitted to the State Comptroller for payment to the vendor.

Note 3: Approximate lapse period expenditures do not include interest payments approved for payment by the Council and submitted to the State Comptroller for payment after August.

# STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF NET APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES AND LAPSED BALANCES

For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

Fiscal Year			
2010	2009		
P.A. 96-0046	P.A. 95-0733		
\$ 5,360,000	\$ 6,860,000		
3,942,478	3,656,679		
\$ 3,942,478	\$ 3,656,679		
\$ 1,417,522	\$ 3,203,321		
	2010 P.A. 96-0046 \$ 5,360,000 3,942,478 \$ 3,942,478		

Note: Fiscal year 2010 expenditures and related lapsed balances do not reflect any interest payments approved for payment by the Council and submitted to the Comptroller for payment after August.

# STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS TO DEPOSITS REMITTED TO THE STATE COMPTROLLER

For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30

DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL	Fiscal Year			
RESPONSE TRUST FUND - 0548	2010		2010 20	
Receipts per agency records	\$	815,673	\$	918,394
Plus: deposits in transit, beginning of year		150,512		164,939
Less: deposits in transit, end of year		121,987		150,512
Deposits Recorded by the Comptroller	\$	844,198	\$	932,821

The following information was obtained from agency and Comptroller records and includes that portion of the receipts reported by the Illinois Department of Revenue and the Office of the Treasurer. License fees and solvent taxes collected are reported net of a 4% collection fee charged by the Department of Revenue.

	Fiscal Year					
Reconciliation of Fund Receipts		2010		2009		
Insurance premiums collected	\$	760,100		\$	883,400	
Late payment fees and miscellaneous		84,098			49,421	
Total deposits recorded by the Comptroller						
deposited by the Drycleaner Council	\$	844,198		\$	932,821	
License fees collected	\$	2,073,001		\$	2,233,509	
Solvent taxes collected		602,378			719,435	
Total deposits recorded by the Comptroller						
deposited by the Department of Revenue	\$	2,675,379		\$	2,952,944	
Interest income recorded by the Comptroller						
and deposited by the State Treasurer	\$	27,496		\$	128,977	
Total Deposits to the Drycleaner Environmental						
Response Trust Fund (Fund 0548)	\$	3,547,073		\$	4,014,742	

# STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION ANALYSIS OF SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS IN EXPENDITURES For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

For the Fiscal Teal Ended Jule 30, 2010

The Council expended its lump sum appropriations as follows:

DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL				
<u>RESPONSE TRUST FUND – 0548</u>	FISCAL YEAR			
		<u>2010</u>		<u>2009</u>
Contractual Services	\$	807,774	\$	800,966
Travel		4,129		2,841
Awards and Grants (Claims Payments)		3,122,366		2,832,222
Refunds		8,209		20,650
Total Expenditures	<u>\$</u>	3,942,478	\$	3,656,679

We noted no significant variations in expenditures (fluctuations of 20% or more and \$50,000) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

# STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

	Fiscal Yea (Expressed in Tho	-
DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL	2010	2009
<u>RESPONSE TRUST FUND – 0548</u>		
Current	\$ 35	\$ 169
31-90 days	10	0
91-180 days	10	0
Over 180 days	216	26
GROSS RECEIVABLES	\$ 271	\$ 195
Less estimated uncollectibles	(188)	(175)
NET RECEIVABLES	\$ 83	\$ 20

# ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

#### License fee and late payment fee receivables

Pursuant to statutory authority, the Council assesses a late payment fee of \$5 per day for all license fees received subsequent to the due date. In addition, the Council requires drycleaners to pay for licenses for years in which they were operating without a license. For some drycleaners, the late fees are significant and payment would represent a financial hardship to the facility. To provide a financially viable alternative to such facilities, the Council may enter into a longer term payment arrangement with the drycleaner requiring payment of the total receivable balance. In other instances, the Council may refer outstanding receivables to the Attorney General's Office for collection efforts, which may result in a legal judgment against the drycleaner for a determined amount. The Attorney General's Office and the Council may also enter into an installment agreement with the drycleaner to satisfy the balance owed as determined through legal judgment.

### STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

#### License fee and late payment fee receivables (continued)

Gross receivables increased from \$195,000 in FY09 to \$271,000 in FY10, primarily due to an increase in license renewal fees, associated late fees owed to the Council, and judgments issued by the Attorney General's Office. Drycleaners that have not been able to generate enough revenue to be profitable in the current economy have not been able to pay annual license renewal fees that are based on annual solvent usage. In addition, those drycleaners have not been able to pay the associated late renewal fee of \$5 per day. The Council has pursued payment of these overdue fees through the Illinois Attorney General's Office legal judgment. The Council has estimated \$188,000 of the \$271,000 gross receivables to be uncollectible because the Council has determined the drycleaners owing these balances are discontinuing or have discontinued their operations.

#### Collection procedures

The Council notifies the drycleaner when a receivable subject to an installment agreement becomes approximately 30 to 60 days past due. During this process, the Council attempts to determine the likelihood of collection. Generally, uncollectible receivables over 90 days past due and greater than \$1,000 are referred to the Department of Revenue Collection Bureau and the Comptroller's Offset system. At June 30, 2010 and 2009, the total unpaid license and late fees approximated \$271,000 and \$195,000 respectively.

The Council establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts for those receivables deemed not collectible. An allowance for doubtful accounts of \$188,000 at June 30, 2010 was reported. The allowance account includes receivables that have been referred to the Attorney General's Office for collection and amounts owed by drycleaners in bankruptcy or out of business.

### COUNCIL FUNCTIONS AND PLANNING PROGRAM

The Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Council (Council) was created August 19, 1997 by the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Act (Act) (415 ILCS 135/1 et seq.). The Council was established to provide financial resources for drycleaning facilities to pay for the cleanup of drycleaning solvent contamination. The Council administers a mandatory license program, a remediation program, and a voluntary insurance program for all retail drycleaning facilities in Illinois.

Beginning January 1998, all active drycleaning facilities in Illinois were required to obtain a license from the Council, to be renewed annually. All drycleaning facilities are required to pay annual license fees and a tax based on the quantity of drycleaning solvent purchases. The Department of Revenue collects all license fees and taxes, and deposits the receipts into the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund (Fund), less a 4% processing fee as set by statute.

Pursuant to the Act, the Council has established a program to reimburse drycleaner facilities for costs of remedial action in the event of solvent releases that were discovered after July 1, 1997 and prior to July 1, 2006. In addition, the Council has established a program to offer insurance to drycleaner facilities to insure against solvent release cleanup costs subsequent to June 30, 2006.

While the Council is ultimately responsible for administering the Fund, it has contracted with Williams & Company Consulting, Inc. (administrator) to provide third party administrative services. The administrator is responsible for all administrative and fiscal duties, under the oversight of the Council. These services include accounting and record keeping, as well as receipt and processing of applications for licensure, insurance coverage, and remedial claims.

The Act requires the Council to be composed of seven members appointed by the Governor to three year terms. Four members are to own or operate a drycleaning facility, one member is to represent wholesale distributors of drycleaning solvents, one member is to represent drycleaning equipment manufacturers and the vendor community, and one member is to have experience in financial markets or the insurance industry. The seven individuals serving on the Council at June 30, 2010, and their respective appointment expiration dates were as follows:

John Polak, Chairman	May 1, 2008
David Gibson	May 1, 2007
Young B. Kim	May 1, 2007
Paul Kwak	May 1, 2007
Charles Kwon	May 1, 2007
John Bredenkamp	May 1, 2006
Jerome Lewicki	May 1, 2006

Council members may continue to serve until a replacement has been appointed, according to the Attorney General's office.

#### PLANNING

The Council's planning activities include program reviews performed on an on-going basis by the administrator. These reviews are discussed at regular Council meetings and annual strategic planning sessions. The annual session addresses the licensure, remedial action, and insurance programs, which are the three major components of the Council's responsibilities. A significant component of the planning session is the discussion of financial projections prepared by the administrator. The projections are prepared using multiple variations of assumptions of the revenues to be collected (solvent taxes and licensure fees), estimated administrative costs, and projected claims. Also discussed is how such assumptions could be impacted by existing and proposed legislation.

During FY10, the Council's Fund financial projections for the period of July 1, 2010 through the Fund's sunset date of January 1, 2020 indicated the Fund would have program deficits of approximately \$11,395,000, based on program assumptions as of July 1, 2010. At the Council's August 25, 2010 meeting, the Council stated they will continue to monitor the Fund's solvency. As of June 30, 2010, the Fund balance was \$3,704,318.

# STATE OF ILLINOIS DRYCLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST FUND COUNCIL COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION SERVICE EFFORTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2010 (Not Examined)

The Council has identified the following key financial and performance data that are significant to the operations, functions, and responsibilities of the Council:

	Fiscal Year 2009 Actual	Fiscal Year 2010 Target	Fiscal Year 2010 Actual
Input Indicators			
Budgeted appropriation/expenditures	\$3,656,679	\$5,360,000	\$3,942,500
License applications received	1,135	1,175	1,112
Insurance applications received	613	585	568
Eligible remedial and insurance claims filed	699	699	699
Output Indicators			
Licenses in force	1,128	1,175	1,104
Insurance policies in force	611	585	567
Eligible remedial and insurance claims closed	326	365	389
Open remedial claims	372	n/a	310
Remedial claims with payments made	673	n/a	677
Open insurance claims	1	n/a	0
Insurance claims with payments made	1	n/a	1
Efficiency/Cost Effectiveness Indicators			
Cost per license application	\$85	\$86	\$99
Cost per insurance application	\$102	\$102	\$101
Cost per eligible claim filed	\$343	\$350	\$582

Note: n/a denotes that no FY10 targets were established by the Council for this output indicator. The increase in cost per eligible claim in fiscal year 2010 is due to increased field time involving sites requiring full scale remediation.