



# Department of Justice

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## **FAKE ENGINEER TO PLEAD GUILTY TO FRAUDULENT TAX CREDITS SCHEME**

Tampa, Florida - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announced today that Robert Henry Anderson (age 59, of Bloomington, Illinois) has agreed to plead guilty to conspiracy to defraud the United States and to commit mail fraud. Anderson faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison and may be ordered to pay restitution to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

According to the plea agreement, Anderson conspired with others to defraud the IRS via a fraudulent tax credits scheme. The Internal Revenue Code permits producers of certain fuels from non-conventional sources (FNS) to claim a tax credit if the fuels are sold to unrelated third parties. From 2003 through 2006, conspirators promoted a tax credit scheme involving the sale to individual taxpayers of fraudulent FNS tax credits.

The conspirators identified landfills in various locations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico from which they purported to secure rights to the methane gas, if any, generated by such landfills. Anderson fraudulently claimed to be a professional engineer. He created bogus engineering reports containing baseless findings that the landfills identified by conspirators qualified for FNS tax credits. The conspirators recruited a network of tax return preparers to whom they promoted their tax credit scheme. The

conspirators referenced their purported rights in landfills as well as the bogus engineering reports.

Conspirators provided to tax return preparers, who agreed to promote the tax credit scheme to their individual taxpayer-clients, a computer software program which generated the amounts of the FNS tax credits to be claimed by the individual taxpayers as well as the false and fictitious template documents to be used in support of the claimed tax credits. The individual taxpayers were then obligated to remit a substantial portion of their refunds to the conspirators. The individual taxpayers' funds were sent to the conspirators' companies, Gas Recovery Partners - 2GP and CH4 Florida Partners, at an address in Hernando County, Florida. The conspirators utilized a portion of the proceeds generated to compensate the tax return preparers for their participation in the scheme. They used the balance of the proceeds to pay other expenses and for their own personal enrichment.

On April 2, 2009, the United States initiated a parallel civil proceeding with the filing of a civil complaint. See United States v. George B. Calvert, et al, Case No. 9:09-CV-618-T-26EAJ.

The criminal case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation. The criminal case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Rachelle DesVaux Bedke.