



Department of Justice

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FAKE ENGINEER PLEADS GUILTY TO FRAUDULENT TAX-CREDITS SCHEME

Tampa, Florida - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that Robert Henry Anderson (age 59, of Bloomington, Illinois) today pleaded 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-credit 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, Anderson and his co-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 claiming to be a professional engineer, created bogus engineering reports containing baseless findings that the landfills identified by conspirators qualified for FNS tax credits. The conspirators then recruited a network

of tax-return preparers to whom they promoted their tax-credit scheme, referencing their purported rights in the landfills as well as the bogus engineering reports.

Conspirators provided to the 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 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 refunds based on the claimed credits to the conspirators.

The individual taxpayers' refunded monies 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 so 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.

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