



# Special Notice

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## Notice to Water Common Carriers

CALIFORNIA  
STATE BOARD  
OF EQUALIZATION

450 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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The sales and use tax exemption for qualified purchases of fuel and petroleum products has been reinstated, operative April 1, 2004.

You must have an active fuel exemption number or an active seller's permit issued by the Board of Equalization.

### Exempt Purchases

Operative April 1, 2004, the exemption from the California sales and use tax for fuel and petroleum products (such as bunker fuel) sold to water common carriers as provided in Revenue and Taxation Code section 6385(c) is reinstated. As a water common carrier, you can purchase fuel and petroleum products without payment of California sales or use tax if

The fuel is purchased for immediate shipment outside this state,

The fuel will be consumed by the common carrier in the conduct of its business as a common carrier after its first out-of-state destination, and

You submit proof of the exemption.

This exemption will remain in effect until January 1, 2014.

### Fuel Exemption Number Requirements

The Board of Equalization (Board) issues fuel exemption numbers (FEN) to qualified water common carriers who do not hold seller's permits. An FEN or seller's permit must be provided to the retail fuel vendors with proof of the exemption as outlined in Regulation 1621, *Sales to Common Carriers*. You can download a copy of Regulation 1621 from [www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/staxregs.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/staxregs.htm).

If you are a water common carrier and have never held an FEN permit with the Board, you must apply to obtain an FEN before claiming the exemption. If you previously held an FEN permit, you will need to reinstate your permit with the Board and provide updated information.

To apply for a new FEN permit, complete and submit form BOE-400-FEN, *Application for Fuel Exemption Number*, from our website [www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/staxformsn.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/staxformsn.htm).

To reactivate a previous FEN permit, please contact a local Board office. For a list of Board office locations and phone numbers, please see our website at [www.boe.ca.gov/info/phone.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/phone.htm).

For assistance with any of these requirements, please contact the Information Center at 800-400-7115.