

RECEIVED MAR 17 1995

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
2 CUPANIA CIRCLE
MONTEREY PARK, CA 91755-7406

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: MAR 13 1995

OREGON ENERGY SERVICES INC
C/O VICTOR ATIYEH
7800 SW MOHAWK
TUALATIN, OR 97062-9116

Employer Identification Number:
93-1029893
Case Number:
955054111
Contact Person:
TYRONE THOMAS
Contact Telephone Number:
(213) 894-2289
Our Letter Dated:
August 1991
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

This modifies our letter of the above date in which we stated that you would be treated as an organization that is not a private foundation until the expiration of your advance ruling period.

Your exempt status under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) is still in effect. Based on the information you submitted, we have determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are an organization of the type described in section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

You are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. For guidance in determining whether your gross receipts are "normally" more than \$25,000, see the instructions for Form 990. If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of \$10 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed \$5,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so please be sure your return is complete before you file it.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the addendum enclosed is an integral part of this letter.

Letter 1050 (DO/CG)

OREGON ENERGY SERVICES INC

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your private foundation status, please keep it in your permanent records.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown above.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard R. Orosco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard R. Orosco
District Director

Internal Revenue Service

Western Region

Exempt Organizations

IMPORTANT!

FACTS ABOUT THIS DETERMINATION LETTER

IMPORTANCE OF RETAINING THIS DETERMINATION LETTER:

1. This determination letter will not be reissued and must be retained as part of your permanent tax records.
2. An updated determination letter will only be issued if your organization submits a new application and pays another user fee.
3. This determination letter, along with copies of the application filed, annual returns, and all books and records should be delivered to the new officers of the organization as changes in officers occur.

FUTURE CONTACTS WITH THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE:

1. YOUR ORGANIZATION MUST contact the Internal Revenue Service, if the name or address of your organization changes. Write to:

**Internal Revenue Service
EP/EO Division
Attention: EOMF Coordinator
2 Cupania Circle
Monterey Park, CA 91754**

2. YOUR ORGANIZATION MUST file an annual information return (if due). Failure to do so can lead to loss of exempt status. (See annual return instructions of Publication 557 for additional information).

Charitable Contributions - Substantiation and Disclosure Requirements

UNDER THE NEW LAW, CHARITIES WILL NEED TO PROVIDE NEW KINDS OF INFORMATION TO DONORS. Failure to do so may result in denial of deductions to donors and the imposition of penalties on charities.

Legislation signed into law by the President on August 10, 1993, contains a number of significant provisions affecting tax-exempt charitable organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. These provisions include: (1) new substantiation requirements for donors, and (2) new public disclosure requirements for charities (with potential penalties for failing to comply). Additionally, charities should note that donors could be penalized by loss of the deduction if they fail to substantiate. **THE SUBSTANTIATION AND DISCLOSURE PROVISIONS APPLY TO CONTRIBUTIONS MADE AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1993.**

Charities need to familiarize themselves with these tax law changes in order to bring themselves into compliance. This Publication alerts you to the new provisions affecting tax-exempt charitable organizations. Set forth below are brief descriptions of the new law's key provisions. The Internal Revenue Service plans to provide further guidance in the near future.

Donor's Substantiation Requirements

Documenting Certain Charitable Contributions. — Beginning January 1, 1994, no deduction will be allowed under section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code for any charitable contribution of \$250 or more unless the donor has contemporaneous written substantiation from the charity. In cases where the charity has provided goods or services to the donor in exchange for making the contribution, this contemporaneous written acknowledgement must include a good faith estimate of the value of such goods or services. Thus, taxpayers may no longer rely solely on a cancelled check to substantiate a cash contribution of \$250 or more.

The substantiation must be "contemporaneous." That is, it must be obtained by the donor no later than the date the donor actually files a return for the tax year in which the contribution was made. If the return is filed after the due date or extended due date, then the substantiation must have been obtained by the due date or extended due date.

The responsibility for obtaining this substantiation lies with the donor, who must request it from the charity. The charity is not required to record or report this information to the IRS on behalf of donors.

The legislation provides that substantiation will not be required if, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary, the charity reports directly to the IRS the information required to be provided in the written substantiation. At present, there are no regulations establishing procedures for direct reporting by charities to the IRS of charitable contributions made in 1994. Consequently, charities and donors should be prepared to provide/obtain the described substantiation for 1994 contributions of \$250 or more.

There is no prescribed format for the written acknowledgement. For example, letters, postcards or computer-generated forms may be acceptable. The acknowledgement does not have to include the donor's social security or tax identification number. It must, however, provide sufficient information to substantiate the amount of the deductible contribution. The acknowledgement should note the amount of any cash contribution. However, if the donation is in the form of property, then the acknowledgement must describe, but need not value, such property. Valuation of the donated property is the responsibility of the donor.

The written substantiation should also note whether the donee organization provided any goods or services in consideration, in whole or in part, for the contribution and, if so, must provide a description and good-faith estimate of the value of the goods or services. In the new law these are referred to as "quid pro quo contributions."

Please note that there is a new law requiring charities to furnish disclosure statements to donors for such quid pro quo donations in excess of \$75. This is addressed in the next section regarding Disclosure By Charity.

If the goods or services consist entirely of intangible religious benefits, the statement should indicate this, but the statement need not describe or provide an estimate of the value of these benefits. "Intangible religious benefits" are also discussed in the following section on Disclosure By Charity. If, on the other hand, the donor received nothing in return for the contribution, the written substantiation must so state.

The present law remains in effect that, generally, if the value of an item or group of like items exceeds \$5,000, the donor must obtain a qualified appraisal and submit an appraisal summary with the return claiming the deduction.

The organization may either provide separate statements for each contribution of \$250 or more from a taxpayer, or furnish periodic statements substantiating contributions of \$250 or more.

Separate payments are regarded as independent contributions and are not aggregated for purposes of measuring the \$250 threshold. However, the Service is authorized to establish anti-abuse rules to prevent avoidance of the substantiation requirement by taxpayers writing separate smaller checks on the same date.

If donations are made through payroll deductions, the deduction from each paycheck is regarded as a separate payment.

A charity that knowingly provides false written substantiation to a donor may be subject to the penalties for aiding and abetting an understatement of tax liability under section 6701 of the Code.

Disclosure by Charity of Receipt of Quid Pro Quo Contribution

Beginning January 1, 1994, under new section 6115 of the Internal Revenue Code, a charitable organization must provide a written disclosure statement to donors who make a payment, described as a "quid pro quo contribution," in excess of \$75. This requirement is separate from the written substantiation required for deductibility purposes as discussed above. While, in certain circumstances, an organization may be able to meet both requirements with the same written document, an organization must be careful to satisfy the section 6115 written disclosure statement requirement in a timely manner because of the penalties involved.

A quid pro quo contribution is a payment made partly as a contribution and partly for goods or services provided to the donor by the charity. An example of a quid pro quo contribution is where the donor gives a charity \$100 in consideration for a concert ticket valued at \$40. In this example, \$60 would be deductible. Because the donor's payment (quid pro quo contribution) exceeds \$75, the disclosure statement must be furnished, even though the deductible amount does not exceed \$75.

Separate payments of \$75 or less made at different times of the year for separate fundraising events will not be aggregated for purposes of the \$75 threshold. However, the Service is authorized to develop anti-abuse rules to prevent avoidance of this disclosure requirement in situations such as the writing of multiple checks for the same transaction.

The required written disclosure statement must:

- (1) inform the donor that the amount of the contribution that is de-