

**115C.111 CONSULTANT AND CONTRACTOR SANCTIONS; ACTIONS BASED ON CONDUCT OCCURRING BEFORE MARCH 14, 1996.**

Subdivision 1. **Application.** This section applies to administrative actions based on conduct that occurred before March 14, 1996.

Subd. 2. **Authority.** The commissioner of commerce may by order censure, suspend, or revoke a registrant and require payment of all costs of proceedings resulting in an action instituted under this subdivision and impose a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 if the commissioner of commerce finds: (i) that the order is in the public interest; and (ii) that the registrant or, in the case of a registrant that is not a natural person, any partner, officer, or director, any person occupying a similar status or performing similar functions, or any person directly or indirectly controlling the registrant:

(1) has engaged in conduct that departs from or fails to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing engineering, hydrogeological, or other technical practices within the reasonable control of the consultant or contractor;

(2) has participated in a kickback scheme prohibited under section 115C.045;

(3) has engaged in conduct likely to deceive or defraud, or demonstrated a willful or careless disregard for public health or the environment;

(4) has committed fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsified or destroyed records, made false statements, received stolen property, made false claims, or obstructed justice;

(5) is the subject of an order revoking, suspending, restricting, limiting, or imposing other disciplinary action against the contractor's or consultant's license or certification in another state or jurisdiction; or

(6) if the person is a consultant, has failed to comply with any of the ongoing obligations for registration as a consultant in section 115C.11, subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. **Amount of civil penalty.** The civil penalty that may be imposed under subdivision 2 shall be in an amount that the commissioner of commerce determines will deprive the consultant or contractor of any economic advantage gained by reason of the consultant's or contractor's conduct or to reimburse the board for the cost of the investigation and proceeding.

**History:** 1996 c 308 s 9