

For immediate release: Thursday, July 11, 2013

For more information: Andy Fergel, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Revenue,
605.773.3311

Contractor Sentenced for Operating Without a License

PIERRE, S.D. – A Huron contractor was sentenced to two years in the state penitentiary and ordered to pay more than \$46,000 in restitution and other costs after pleading guilty to a Class 6 felony for operating as a contractor without obtaining a contractors' excise tax license.

Sixty-five-year-old Dennis A. Estabrook, in a plea bargain, plead guilty to a charge of Engaging in Business as a Contractor without Obtaining a Contractors' Excise Tax License After Notification in violation of SDCL 10-46-13.1(8), a class 6 felony.

At sentencing, Circuit Judge Jon R. Erickson suspended all but 180 days of a two-year penitentiary sentence on conditions. Estabrook was placed on probation for a period of two years.

In addition, Judge Erickson ordered Estabrook to pay \$41,812.77 in tax, penalty and interest to the State of South Dakota, as well as prosecution costs and other related court costs totaling \$5,000.

Estabrook began serving his penitentiary sentence on May 21, 2013. Restitution and costs of prosecution have been paid.

The case was investigated by the South Dakota Department of Revenue Investigative Services Bureau, audited by the Department's Audit Division and was prosecuted by special assistant attorney general Donald Srstka.