



**BLAIR COUNTY
07-000**

**LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
EXAMINATION REPORT**

**FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011**

Released August 2013

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE - AUDITOR GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL



BLAIR COUNTY
07-000

LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
EXAMINATION REPORT

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018
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EUGENE A. DePASQUALE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E.
Secretary
Department of Transportation
Harrisburg, PA 17120

We examined the accompanying Forms MS-991 With Adjustments for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments of Blair County for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011. The county's management is responsible for the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Forms MS-991 With Adjustments and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. An examination includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting Blair County's Forms MS-991 and Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011 and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are mandated by Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*, 72 P.S. § 403, to audit each county's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to ensure that funds received are expended in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States include attestation engagements as a separate type of audit. An attestation engagement performed pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards* involves additional standards that exceed the standards provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, this attestation engagement complies with both *Government Auditing Standards* and Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*.

As described in Note 4, the adjustments included on the Forms MS-991 With Adjustments and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments are made by the Department of the Auditor General.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

As discussed in the Finding and Recommendations section of this report, the county expended \$93,210.00 from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund in the 2011 calendar year for indirect/administrative costs, which is greater than 10 percent of the yearly Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation to the county of \$466,447.29.

In our opinion, except for the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the Forms MS-991 With Adjustments and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments present, in all material respects, the information required by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund and Act 44 Tax Fund of Blair County for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011, in conformity with the criteria set forth in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report findings of significant deficiencies in internal control, violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that are material to the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund and any fraud and illegal acts that are more than inconsequential that come to our attention during our examination. We are also required to obtain the views of management on those matters. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund are presented in accordance with the criteria described above and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund or on compliance and other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinions.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects Blair County's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report data reliably in accordance with the applicable criteria such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of Blair County's Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by Blair County's internal control.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)


A material weakness is a significant deficiency or combination of significant deficiencies that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund will not be prevented or detected by Blair County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, as defined above, in internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-991 and the Reports of Act 44 Tax Fund.

The results of our tests disclosed the following instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*:

- Expenditures In Excess Of The 10 Percent Limit On Indirect/Administrative Costs.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the management of Blair County and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE
Auditor General

November 29, 2012

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BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
BACKGROUND
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

Background

The Vehicle Code makes provisions and provides funding for County Liquid Fuels and Act 44 Programs. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has regulatory administration and oversight of the funds supporting these county programs. Counties are required to comply with those provisions and to report annually.

The Vehicle Code imposes a state tax on liquid fuels and fuels used or sold and delivered by distributors within the Commonwealth (75 Pa. C.S. § 9004(a)). One-half cent of the tax collected on each gallon of liquid fuels is deposited in the Commonwealth's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. The Vehicle Code further provides for the disposition and use of this tax, including the allocations to counties in June and December of each year to fund construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of county roads, streets and bridges. The allocation to the respective counties is made in the ratio that the average amount returned to each county during the three preceding years bears to the average amount returned to all counties during the three preceding years (75 Pa C.S. § 9010).

The Vehicle Code, as recently amended by Act 44 of 2007 (July 18, 2007, P.L.169), requires the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission to make annual contributions for the benefit of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Motor License Fund, and further requires the Department of Transportation to distribute \$5,000,000 of the annual contribution to counties (75 Pa. C.S. § 8915.6). The annual distribution to counties is determined based upon the ratio of square footage of deck area of a county's county-owned bridges to the total square footage of deck area of county-owned bridges throughout the Commonwealth. The reporting of the square footage of deck area of a county's county-owned bridges is required as part of the National Bridge Inspection Standards Program.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2010 FORM MS-991 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

	Reported	Adjustments (Note 4)	Adjusted Amount
Balance, January 1, 2010	\$ 274,107.09	\$ -	\$ 274,107.09
<u>Receipts:</u>			
State allocations	465,652.65	-	465,652.65
Interest (Note 3)	96.07	-	96.07
Reimbursable agreements (Note 5)	56,741.43	-	56,741.43
Miscellaneous (Note 6)	8,485.57	991.94	9,477.51
Total receipts	530,975.72	991.94	531,967.66
Total funds available	805,082.81	991.94	806,074.75
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Construction	34,994.50	(34,994.50)	-
Maintenance and repair	408,079.10	62,602.85	470,681.95
Administrative	43,500.75	-	43,500.75
Grants to political subdivisions	27,608.35	(27,608.35)	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total expenditures	514,182.70	-	514,182.70
Balance, December 31, 2010	290,900.11	991.94	291,892.05
Unpaid encumbrances	137,800.00	-	137,800.00
Unencumbered balance, December 31, 2010	\$ 153,100.11	\$ 991.94	\$ 154,092.05

Notes To Forms MS-991 And Reports Of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2011 FORM MS-991 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

	Reported	Adjustments (Note 4)	Adjusted Amount
Balance, January 1, 2011	\$ 291,882.20	\$ 9.85	\$ 291,892.05
<u>Receipts:</u>			
State allocations	466,447.29	-	466,447.29
Interest (Note 3)	41.75	-	41.75
Reimbursable agreements (Note 5)	15,988.53	-	15,988.53
Miscellaneous (Note 6)	5.00	-	5.00
Total receipts	<u>482,482.57</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>482,482.57</u>
Total funds available	<u>774,364.77</u>	<u>9.85</u>	<u>774,374.62</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Construction	-	-	-
Maintenance and repair	449,278.14	29,351.02	478,629.16
Administrative	115,616.41	(22,406.41)	93,210.00
Grants to political subdivisions	47,991.25	(47,991.25)	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>612,885.80</u>	<u>(41,046.64)</u>	<u>571,839.16</u>
Balance, December 31, 2011	161,478.97	41,056.49	202,535.46
Unpaid encumbrances (Note 7)	<u>137,800.00</u>	<u>(78,570.71)</u>	<u>59,229.29</u>
Unencumbered balance, December 31, 2011	<u>\$ 23,678.97</u>	<u>\$ 119,627.20</u>	<u>\$ 143,306.17</u>

Notes To Forms MS-991 And Reports Of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2010 REPORT OF ACT 44 TAX FUND
WITH ADJUSTMENTS

	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments (Note 4)</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
Balance, January 1, 2010	\$ 192,344.87	\$ -	\$ 192,344.87
<u>Receipts:</u>			
Act 44 Funds	206,371.93	-	206,371.93
Interest (Note 3)	574.64	-	574.64
Reimbursable Agreement Receipts (Note 5)	309,595.21	(6,146.44)	303,448.77
Miscellaneous Receipts (Note 6)	2,290.04	690.25	2,980.29
Total receipts	<u>518,831.82</u>	<u>(5,456.19)</u>	<u>513,375.63</u>
Total funds available	<u>711,176.69</u>	<u>(5,456.19)</u>	<u>705,720.50</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Construction	320,506.91	-	320,506.91
Maintenance and repair	3,739.85	(24.85)	3,715.00
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>324,246.76</u>	<u>(24.85)</u>	<u>324,221.91</u>
Balance, December 31, 2010	<u>\$ 386,929.93</u>	<u>\$ (5,431.34)</u>	<u>\$ 381,498.59</u>

Notes To Forms MS-991 And Reports Of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2011 REPORT OF ACT 44 TAX FUND
WITH ADJUSTMENTS

	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments (Note 4)</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
Balance, January 1, 2011	\$ 386,997.79	\$ (5,499.20)	\$ 381,498.59
<u>Receipts:</u>			
Act 44 Funds	-	102,851.90	102,851.90
Interest (Note 3)	437.77	-	437.77
Reimbursable Agreement Receipts (Note 5)	347,532.45	(96,705.46)	250,826.99
Miscellaneous Receipts (Note 6)	9,569.73	-	9,569.73
Total receipts	<u>357,539.95</u>	<u>6,146.44</u>	<u>363,686.39</u>
Total funds available	<u>744,537.74</u>	<u>647.24</u>	<u>745,184.98</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Construction	255,465.62	-	255,465.62
Maintenance and repair	14,131.02	(2,281.81)	11,849.21
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>269,596.64</u>	<u>(2,281.81)</u>	<u>267,314.83</u>
Balance, December 31, 2011	<u><u>\$ 474,941.10</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,929.05</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 477,870.15</u></u>

Notes To Forms MS-991 And Reports Of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. Criteria

A. *The Vehicle Code* prescribes criteria for liquid fuels program funds (75 Pa C.S. § 9010). The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's *Publication 9* provides more specific policies and procedures to counties for the administration and reporting of the liquid fuels program funds. In the event of any discrepancies between the two, the legislation governs.

(1) Funds received by the counties must be deposited in a special fund designated as the County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund and no other money may be deposited and commingled. Money should be invested to earn interest until expended.

- For purposes of payments under (2), below, the county may borrow and place in the special fund money not in excess of the liquid fuels tax funds to be received during the current calendar year.

(2) Payments from the special fund may be used for:

- construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of roads, highways, bridges and curb ramps from a road or highway to provide for access by individuals with disabilities consistent with Federal and State law;
- property damages and compensation of viewers for services in eminent domain proceedings involving roads, highways, and bridges;
- construction, reconstruction, operation and maintenance of publicly owned ferryboat operations;
- interest and principal payments on road, bridge, or publicly owned ferryboat operation bonds or sinking fund charges;
- acquisition, maintenance, repair and operation of traffic signs and signals;
- erection and maintenance of stop and go signal lights, blinkers and other like traffic control devices;
- indirect costs, including benefit costs, overhead and other administrative charges for those county employees directly engaged in eligible projects, not to exceed 10 percent of the yearly allocation to the county; and

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. Criteria (continued)

- individual vehicle liability insurance for equipment purchased under the fund, not to exceed 10 percent of the yearly allocation to the county.
- (3) Counties may not make expenditures from the special fund for new construction on roads, bridges, curb ramps, or publicly owned ferryboat operations without the approval of the plans for construction by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. And, counties may not allocate money from the special fund to political subdivisions within the county until the application and the contracts or plans for the proposed expenditures have been made on a form prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.
- (4) Counties may encumber current funds for future road and bridge construction, reconstruction, and maintenance projects including viable municipal projects. Counties must redistribute any unencumbered balance in the special fund to political subdivisions if the unencumbered balance is more than the county's receipts during the preceding twelve month period.
- (5) Counties must submit a report to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation by January 15 for the period ending December 31 on prescribed Form MS-991, The Report of County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund, showing the receipts and expenditures of the money received by the county from the Commonwealth. Upon failure to file the report or instances of any non-compliant payments, allocations, or expenditures, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation will withhold further funding until the delinquent report is filed, the money is allocated, or the expenditures for the prior 12 months are approved.
- B. *The Vehicle Code*, as recently amended by Act 44 of 2007 (July 18, 2007, P.L. 169), prescribes the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation with oversight authority of the Act 44 funds distributed to the counties from the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's annual contribution of \$5,000,000 to the Commonwealth's Motor License Fund. The County's Act 44 Tax Fund is used to account for the distribution made to the county from the Department of Transportation and the payments made for construction and maintenance of county-owned bridges.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. Criteria (continued)

Basis Of Presentation

In accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the Report of County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund With Adjustments and the Report of Act 44 Tax Fund With Adjustments do not constitute complete financial presentations of the county's assets, liabilities, expenses, and fund balance but include the receipts, expenditures, and fund balances of the County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund and the County Act 44 Tax Fund, respectively.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation prescribes that the county report the following on the MS-991 form, *Report of County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund*:

- A. The balance in the County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund at the beginning of the report calendar year.
- B. Receipts which must be itemized and include interest, reimbursable agreements, and miscellaneous items such as loans, sale of salvageable material, and damage claims to road or bridge property.

Refer to the related Notes: Note 3, Interest Earnings; Note 5, Reimbursable Agreements; and Note 6, Miscellaneous Receipts.
- C. Accounts receivable (to be realized within 60 days of the year end).
- D. Total Liquid Fuels Tax funds available for expenditure and encumbrances.
- E. Expenditures for county-owned roads, highways, and bridges.
- F. Accounts payable (accrued wages, accrued payroll taxes, and accounts payable vendors to be realized within 60 days of the year end).
- G. The balance in the fund at the close of the report calendar year.
- H. Encumbered and unencumbered balances on hand at the close of the report calendar year.

Refer to Note 7, Encumbrances.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

2. Deposits

The County Code, Title 16 P.S § 17067, authorizes the county to deposit its funds in the following:

- Deposits in savings accounts or time deposits, other than certificates of deposit or share accounts of institutions having their principal place of business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or other like insurance. For any amount above the insured maximum, the depository shall pledge approved collateral.
- Certificates of deposit from institutions having their principal place of business in or outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that are insured by the FDIC or other like insurance. For any amounts in excess of the insured maximum, such deposits shall be collateralized by a pledge or assignment of assets. Certificates of deposit may not exceed 20 percent of a bank's total capital surplus or 20 percent of a savings and loan's or savings bank's assets minus liabilities.

Deposits consist of receipts and deposits in a financial institution. Pennsylvania statutes require all deposits to be insured and, for any amount above the insured maximum, to be secured with approved collateral as defined.

There were no deposits exposed to custodial credit risk as of December 31, 2011. Custodial credit risk, as defined by GASB No. 40, includes deposits that are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the county's name.

Fund Balance

The fund balance for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund as of December 31, 2011, consists of the following:

Cash	\$202,535.46
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The fund balance for the Act 44 Tax Fund as of December 31, 2011, consists of the following:

Cash	\$477,870.15
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BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

3. Interest Earnings

Our examination disclosed that the county deposited idle liquid fuels tax money in an interest-bearing account which earned \$96.07 during 2010, and \$41.75 during 2011, thus providing additional funds for road maintenance and repairs.

Additionally, the county deposited idle Act 44 tax money in an interest-bearing account which earned \$574.64 during 2010, and \$437.77 during 2011, thus providing additional funds for bridge maintenance and repairs.

4. Adjustments

2010 Form MS-991

An adjustment of \$991.94 was made to “Miscellaneous” because these receipts were understated.

Adjustments were made to “Construction,” “Maintenance and repair,” and “Grants to political subdivisions” because expenditures of \$62,602.85 were misclassified.

2011 Form MS-991

An adjustment of \$9.85 was made to “Balance, January 1, 2011” because an incorrect fund balance was reported.

An adjustment of \$29,351.02 was made to “Maintenance and repair” because \$22,406.41 of maintenance and repair expenditures were misclassified as administrative, \$46,561.96 of maintenance expenditures were misclassified as grants to political subdivisions, and expenditures of \$39,617.35 relating to check Nos. 4359 through 4369 were reported in 2011, but were written in 2012.

An adjustment of \$(47,991.25) was made to “Grants to political subdivisions” because \$46,561.96 of maintenance and repair expenditures were misclassified. Additionally, an expenditure of \$1,429.29 relating to check No. 4358 was reported in 2011, but was written in 2012.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
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4. Adjustments (Continued)

2011 Form MS-991 (Continued)

An adjustment of \$(78,570.51) was made to “Unpaid encumbrances” because the balances of the following encumbrances were reported incorrectly:

<u>Encumbrance No.</u>	<u>Actual Amount</u>	<u>Reported Amount</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>
10-07-000-02	\$ 1,429.29	\$ -	\$ 1,429.29
02-07-000-03-CA	20,000.00	100,000.00	(80,000.00)
Totals	<u>\$21,429.29</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>	<u>\$(78,570.71)</u>

2010 Report Of Act 44 Tax Fund

An adjustment of \$(6,146.44) was made to “Reimbursable Agreement Receipts” because these receipts were overstated.

An adjustment of \$690.25 was made to “Miscellaneous Receipts” because these receipts were understated.

An adjustment of \$(24.85) was made to “Maintenance and repair” because check No. 18 was reported as \$559.35 but was issued for \$1,119.70, and check No. 36 was reported as \$585.20 but was voided.

2011 Report Of Act 44 Tax Fund

An adjustment of \$(5,499.20) was made to “Balance, January 1, 2011” because an incorrect fund balance was reported.

An adjustment of \$102,851.90 was made to “Act 44 Funds” because the Act 44 Fund allocation was misclassified as reimbursable agreement receipts.

An adjustment of \$(96,705.46) was made to “Reimbursable Agreement Receipts” because the Act 44 Funds allocation of \$102,851.90 was misclassified and a bridge construction/inspection reimbursement of \$6,146.44 received on January 3, 2011 was not reported.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
REPORTS OF ACT 44 TAX FUND WITH ADJUSTMENTS
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4. Adjustments (Continued)

An adjustment of \$(2,281.81) was made to “Maintenance and repair” because expenditures related to check No’s 88, 89 and 90 were incorrectly reported in 2011 but were paid in 2012.

5. Reimbursable Agreements

During our examination, we noted that the county entered into reimbursement agreements with the Department of Transportation and Allegheny Township. During our current examination period, the county deposited \$56,741.43 during 2010 and \$15,988.53 during 2011 into its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund as a result of these agreements.

Additionally, the county deposited \$303,448.77 during 2010 and \$250,826.99 during 2011 into its Act 44 Tax Fund as a result of these agreements.

As of December 31, 2011, \$112.80 was due the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund and \$7,301.33 was due the Act 44 Fund.

6. Miscellaneous Receipts

The following miscellaneous receipts were deposited into the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund during the examination period:

Source	Description	2010	2011
P.E.M.A	Severe weather assistance	\$8,480.57	\$-
Gas company	Bridge occupancy license	5.00	5.00
Vendor	Reimbursement for stone	161.16	-
General Fund	Reimbursement for advertising costs	830.78	-
Total		\$9,477.51	\$5.00

During our current examination period the county transferred \$2,980.29 during 2010 and \$9,569.73 during 2011 from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to its Act 44 Tax Fund for the reimbursement of payroll expenditures.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-991 AND
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7. Encumbrances

As of December 31, 2011, \$59,229.29 was encumbered for county projects.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

Finding - Expenditures In Excess Of The 10 Percent Limit On Indirect/Administrative Costs

Our examination disclosed that the county expended \$93,210.00 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund in the 2011 calendar year for indirect/administrative costs, which is greater than 10 percent of the yearly Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation to the county of \$466,447.29 (\$46,644.73).

The Liquid Fuels and Fuels Tax Act of 75 Pa. C.S.A. § 9010(b)(2)(i)(G) permits the use of county liquid fuels tax funds for “Indirect costs, including benefit costs, overhead and other administrative charges for those county employees directly engaged in eligible projects. . .” However, the use of liquid fuels tax funds for indirect costs “. . . may not exceed 10% of the yearly allocation to the county.” By way of correspondence to county liquid fuels tax fund administrators dated October 28, 1994, and other correspondence, the Department of Transportation explained the use of county Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money for documented, permissible indirect costs.

The indirect/administrative costs charged to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund by the county during 2011 are as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cost Allocation expenditures	\$93,210.00
Less 10% permissible amount	<u>(46,644.73)</u>
Excess expenditures for indirect/administrative costs	<u>\$46,565.27</u>

The failure to comply with the Liquid Fuels and Fuels Tax Act could result in the county having to reimburse \$46,565.27 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

Recommendations

We recommend that the county reimburse \$46,565.27 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund upon official notification by the Department of Transportation.

We further recommend that, in the future, the county limit all indirect/administrative costs charged to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to the 10 percent maximum permitted by the Liquid Fuels and Fuels Tax Act.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

Finding - Expenditures In Excess Of The 10 Percent Limit On Indirect/Administrative Costs
(Continued)

Management's Response

The county officials stated:

Reporting procedures have not changed. Reports have always been prepared in this manner. We do not feel that we have overexpended because of the perceived reporting problem.

Auditor's Conclusion

The expenditures in excess of the 10 percent limit on indirect/administrative costs had nothing to do with a reporting issue. The county reported administrative expenditures of \$115,616.41, which was \$68,971.68 more than the 10 percent limit of \$46,644.73. During our examination we adjusted administrative expenditures down to \$93,210.00 (page 3), which was \$46,565.27 more than the 10 percent limit. The county should limit indirect/administrative costs from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to 10 percent of its allocation each year. During our next examination we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendations.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

An exit conference was held November 29, 2012. Those participating were:

BLAIR COUNTY

Richard J. Peo, CPA, Controller
Mrs. Helen P. Schmitt, Chief Clerk
Ms. Linda Grove, Deputy Controller
Ms. Tammy Matthew, Accounting Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Michele A. Garman, CFE, Auditor

The results of the examination were presented and discussed in their entirety.

BLAIR COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
AND ACT 44 TAX FUND
REPORT DISTRIBUTION
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

This report was initially distributed to:

The Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E.
Secretary
Department of Transportation

Blair County
423 Allegheny Street
Suite 142
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-2022

The Honorable Terry Tomasetti	President of the Board of Commissioners
Richard J. Peo, CPA	Controller
The Honorable James R. Carothers	Treasurer
Mrs. Helen P. Schmitt	Chief Clerk

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