

**701—255.11(453A) Refund of tax—unused and destroyed stamps.**

**255.11(1)** *Refunds of unused stamps and destroyed stamps.* Refunds shall be issued for unused stamps which are returned to the department for any reason by a person entitled to receive a refund. This includes unused stamps unaffixed at the close of the business day next preceding the effective date of a decrease in the tax rate which are in excess of the unstamped cigarette inventory on hand as of that date. Banks which are authorized to sell stamps or meter settings are not authorized to issue a refund; the stamps must be returned to and a refund will be issued only by the department. This subrule would also cover stamps which are recalled by the director for purposes of effectuating a change of design of the stamps. A refund will also be issued for stamps which have been lost through destruction, since destroyed stamps have not been used. A refund will not be issued for stamps which are lost (misplaced) or stolen, it being the distributor's or manufacturer's responsibility to maintain proper control over cigarette tax stamps. The claim for refund must be supported by proof of the fact of the loss and proof of the quantity of the loss. The claim must be filed within 30 days of the loss.

**255.11(2)** *Return of used stamps.* Refunds shall be issued for stamps which have been affixed to cigarettes which have become unfit for use or consumption or unsaleable. This refund is available to any permitted distributor or manufacturer upon proof that the cigarettes were returned to the person who manufactured the cigarettes. The proof required shall be an affidavit from the distributor setting forth to whom the cigarettes were returned and verifying that cigarette stamps had been affixed thereto. There must also be included therewith an affidavit from the manufacturer to whom the cigarettes were returned verifying the information.

**255.11(3)** *Cigarettes which have been destroyed.* The tax shall be returned on cigarettes which have been destroyed after the tax stamps have been affixed, to the person stamping the cigarettes. The person claiming the loss must be able to prove the fact of the loss and quantity of the loss. The claim, accompanied by proof of the loss and proof of the quantity of the loss, must be filed with the department no later than 30 days following the date the loss occurred. The amount of the refund shall be the face value of the stamps less the applicable discount allowed purchasers of tax stamps. This provision does not apply to cigarettes which are lost (misplaced) or stolen.

**255.11(4)** *Credit in lieu of a refund.* There are no statutory provisions to allow a credit in lieu of a refund of taxes paid for returned or destroyed cigarette stamps.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 453A.8.

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