

**APPENDIX B**  
**California Transportation Commission Resolution G-91-2**  
**Commission Policy Resolution for Hazardous Waste Identification**  
**and Cleanup for Rail Right-of-way**

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CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION G-91-2  
Commission Policy Resolution for Hazardous Waste Identification  
and Cleanup for Rail Right-of-Way

WHEREAS, the Commission has programmed funding for rail right-of-way acquisition in the 1990 State Transportation Improvement Program and may allocate funds for rail right-of-way acquisition from the Clean Air and Transportation Improvement Act; and

WHEREAS, hazardous wastes, based upon federal and state statutes and regulations, include but are not limited to such categories as heavy metals, (e.g., lead), inorganic (e.g., excessive mineral levels) and organic compounds (e.g., petroleum products), and can occur on a property's surface and subsurface; and

WHEREAS, rail properties often have hazardous wastes exceeding State of California and federal hazardous waste standards; and

WHEREAS, such properties contaminated with hazardous wastes require mitigation prior to using them for rail purposes; and

WHEREAS, hazardous wastes discovered on rail property may significantly impact property value, project scheduling and future liability for the grant applicant; and

WHEREAS, the Commission must be assured that acquisition of rail properties have been fully reviewed by the grant applicant, and if warranted, the grant applicant has tested for hazardous wastes; and

WHEREAS, if hazardous wastes exist, the Commission must be assured that the hazardous wastes identified has either been cleaned up, or financial responsibility for the cleanup has been determined prior to title transfer to the grant applicant, or easement has been secured in lieu of purchasing the property, and the subsurface rights and liability for hazardous wastes remain with the property seller; and

WHEREAS, hazardous wastes identified subsequent to title transfer to the grant applicant will be cleaned up by the seller or a mechanism to recover cleanup costs is established and executed as a condition prior to title transfer; and

WHEREAS, full due diligence is necessary in discovering hazardous waste and is an essential element in acquiring rail right-of-way properties by the grant applicant; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that acquisition of all rail right-of-way properties will be fully investigated by the grant applicant to determine the absence/presence of hazardous wastes. Investigations shall be conducted in accordance to the standards and practices of the local, state and/or federal regulatory agencies having jurisdiction and by personnel adequately trained in hazardous waste investigation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all properties, discovered with hazardous wastes which exceed the federal/state standards, will be cleaned up to the satisfaction of the responsible local, state and/or federal regulatory agency. The appropriate regulatory agency shall certify to grant applicant that the cleanup has been completed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant applicant will certify by formal resolution to the Commission that all reasonable steps have been completed to assure full due diligence in the discovery of hazardous waste has been achieved during the acquisition of rail right-of-way and the state is held harmless from cleanup liability or damages, both present and future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant applicant will certify by formal resolution that it will not seek further state funding, for cleanup, damages, or liability cost associated with hazardous wastes on or below acquired property's surface; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant applicant will certify to the Commission:

- o that all rail right-of-way acquisition properties have been investigated and have been found clean;
- o or that the cleanup of discovered hazardous waste has been completed prior to acquisition of the property;
- o or that the grant applicant has obtained permanent easement and the subsurface rights and liability and full responsibility to pay for and remove such hazardous waste remains with the seller in conformance with applicable State and Federal law;
- o or if hazardous wastes are known to exist prior to acquisition and if the applicant determines that time is of the essence for acquisition, then and in that event, an enforceable agreement will be entered into requiring the responsible party(ies) to clean all hazardous wastes by a date certain, with the option of funds sufficient for the clean-up costs deposited in escrow by the seller.

In the event of failure to clean up by the date determined, the recipient of the grant will make full restitution to the State for its participation. This resolve does not preclude the recipient from requesting re-allocation not to exceed the refunded amount after the hazardous waste(s) have been fully removed from the subject site; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant applicant will certify to the Commission that the seller from whom properties have been acquired retain liability for any hazardous waste investigation and/or cleanup, and damages discovered subsequent to the transfer of title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission declares all future liability resulting from hazardous wastes remain with the seller or the grant applicant, not the state, and the grant applicant has been indemnified by the seller for any costs resulting from failure to eliminate hazardous wastes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, no state funds will be made available for any future costs associated with cleanup, damages, or liability costs associated with hazardous wastes on or below the acquired property's surface.