

UNANTICIPATED CONTAMINATION DECISION TREE

(ADA version of flowchart)

If underground tanks, gas odors, asbestos, or other unanticipated evidence of suspected contamination is encountered, follow steps below. **NOTE:** This process is NOT for use for spills caused by the construction contractor or the motoring public.

Step 1

IMMEDIATELY STOP WORK in the vicinity of the find(s). Evacuate and cordon off the area(s) of concern. Do not allow construction personnel to do any exploratory or investigative work that could result in further personal exposure. Contact District Hazardous Waste Technical Specialist (DHWTS) and Environmental Construction Liaison (ECL) to assist and to perform field review if appropriate.

Step 2

In coordination with the DHWTS and ECL, access the District Construction Emergency Response Contract. Also contact and consult with the District Hazardous Waste Material Coordinator, Maintenance Hazardous Spill Coordinator, and the District Proposition 65 Coordinator, as appropriate. Document actions and results.

Step 3

Construction Emergency Response Contractor makes preliminary determination: Is hazardous waste/contamination present?

- **YES/MAYBE:** Go to Step 4
- **NO:** Follow normal disposal processes for solid wastes. Resume construction activities in the discovery area(s).

Step 4

Contact appropriate Regulatory Agency/Agencies if appropriate (consult with the DHWTS and the hazardous waste emergency contractor).

Step 5

Site Investigation Workplan jointly developed by Caltrans, the hazardous waste emergency contractor, and regulatory agency/agencies.

Step 6

Construction Emergency Response Contractor implements Site Investigation Workplan including characterization of the nature and limits of contamination. If tanks are present, they are removed.



Step 7

Is hazardous waste or contamination requiring clean-up present?

- **YES:** Go to Step 8
- **NO:** Follow normal disposal processes for solid wastes. Resume construction activities in the discovery area(s).

Step 8

Clean-up plan jointly developed by Caltrans, the hazardous waste emergency contractor, and regulatory agency/agencies.

Step 9

Construction Emergency Response Contractor implements approved clean-up plan.

Step 10

Complete mitigation (e.g., proper disposal, transport, safety, EPA numbers).

Step 11

Document actions, findings, and results. Refer the situation to Legal for cost recovery, if appropriate.

Step 12

Resume construction activities in the discovery area(s).