

PCB MANAGEMENT

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3253

In 1988, the Office of the State Architect (OSA), now known as Real Estate Services Division (RESA), completed a survey of department facilities listing electrical equipment which may contain PCB, a hazardous material. The survey report indicated that CDF facilities are predominately served by utility-owned equipment in the form of pole or pad-mounted transformers. Some are located in areas where a spill or leakage of fluid contaminated with PCBs could pose a potential hazard for human health and the environment.

CDF personnel should follow OSA's general recommendations to ensure compliance with federal and state laws and regulations. Recommendations are as follows:

- Department personnel should review the OSA survey data applicable to their facilities and note any changes, errors, or omissions. Personnel should report department-owned electrical equipment not tabulated to Sacramento Technical Services for inclusion in the statewide database.
- Any electrical equipment that is discovered to be operating abnormally (leaking, smoking, burning, etc.) should be reported to the equipment owner (utility or other appropriate department).

Warning: since burning PCB-contaminated materials may emit extremely toxic fumes and/or gases, department personnel must alert responding fire personnel of the potential for PCB involvement unless equipment is known and/or labeled to be non-PCB.

- Each facility should develop and establish a program to monitor state owned equipment designated in the survey as potentially environmentally hazardous.
- PCB-contaminated equipment, which is noted as out-of-service should be properly disposed of. Out-of-service dielectrical-filled equipment retained in storage should be clearly labeled with the amount of PCB content, if any, and stored in an environmentally acceptable method.

- In the event of leaks, ruptures or spills of known or suspected (non-labeled) PCB-contaminated fluids, state personnel should not attempt to perform remedial activities. In the case of nonstate-owned equipment, the serving utility shall be notified immediately. When state-owned equipment is present, responsible personnel should identify local firms specializing in the cleanup of PCB. In the event of spills, these firms will need to perform the cleanup.
- The fluid in state-owned oil-filled electrical equipment, stored for reuse or disposal, should be analyzed for PCBs and clearly labeled as to PCB content in parts per million (ppm).
- Electrical deficiencies in circuits energizing PCB or PCB contaminated equipment should be corrected in accordance with the National Electric Code (NEC). Safety hazards should be corrected regardless of PCB status.

Sacramento Technical Services Section can respond to questions concerning implementations of these guidelines.

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