

**Contra Costa County Response to Civil Grand Jury Report No. 2404,
entitled “County Petroleum Refineries and Hazardous Materials Releases –
Improving the Hazmat Response”**

Findings

F3. Contra Costa Health Services has hired an outside contractor to perform a CUPA fee study which is in draft status and currently not available for inclusion in this report.

Response: *Respondent agrees with the finding.*

F4. One purpose of the new CUPA fee study is to support the request from Contra Costa Health Services for a change in its organizational structure to establish the job classification of Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist.

Response: *Respondent agrees with the finding.*

F5. Contra Costa Health Services is in the process of receiving approval from the Board of Supervisors to add three Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialists to its staff.

Response: *Respondent agrees with the finding. The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of the job classification Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist and the addition of three (3) positions on June 25, 2024.*

F6. Placing a toxicologist on retainer would enable Contra Costa Health Services to obtain a toxicology report needed for some hazardous material release incidents without the delay of the current procedure.

Response: *Respondent agrees with the finding.*

Recommendations

R3. By December 31, 2024, the Board of Supervisors should approve a modification to HMIMP giving residents the option to receive awareness messaging from CWS for Level One incidents that can be observed or sensed by the public off site.

Response: *The recommendation has not been implemented. Contra Costa Health Services staff intend to bring the recommendation before the Board of Supervisors for consideration by December 31, 2024.*

R4. By December 31, 2024, the Board of Supervisors should consider approval of the request from Contra Costa Health Services to establish the job classification of Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist.

Response: *The recommendation has been implemented. The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of the job classification Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist on June 25, 2024.*

R5. By December 31, 2024, the Board of Supervisors should consider approval of the request from Contra Costa Health Services to add three Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialists to the staff at HazMat.

Response: *The recommendation has been implemented. The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the addition of three (3) Supervising Hazardous Materials Specialist positions on June 25, 2024.*

R6. By December 31, 2024, the Board of Supervisor should consider approval of the retention on retainer of a toxicologist by Contra Costa Health Services.

Response: *The recommendation has not been implemented. Contra Costa Health Services staff intend to bring the recommendation before the Board of Supervisors for consideration by December 31, 2024.*

R7. By December 31, 2024, the Board of Supervisors should consider approval of the new CUPA permit fee schedule proposed by Contra Costa Health Services.

Response: *The recommendation has not been implemented. Contra Costa Health Services staff intend to bring the recommendation before the Board of Supervisors for consideration by December 31, 2024.*