## FUNDAMENTALS OF REAL ESTATE LAW WORKSHOP

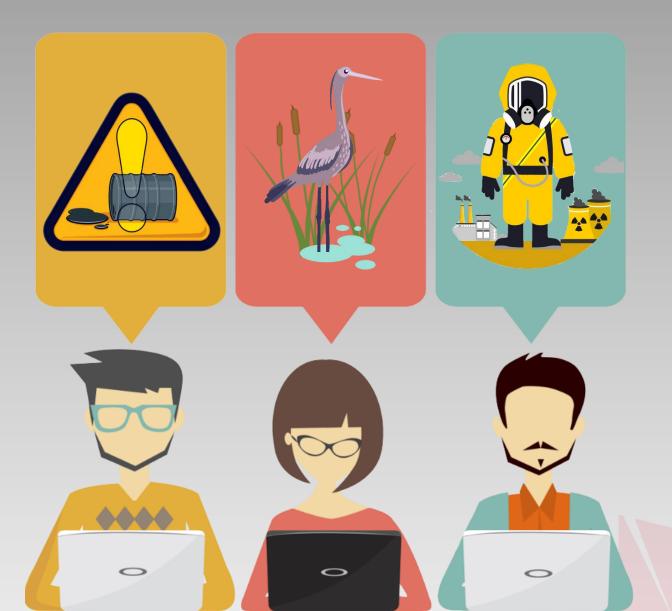
## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Presented by

Polly B. Jessen, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell

March 7, 2018

#### **Environmental Issues**

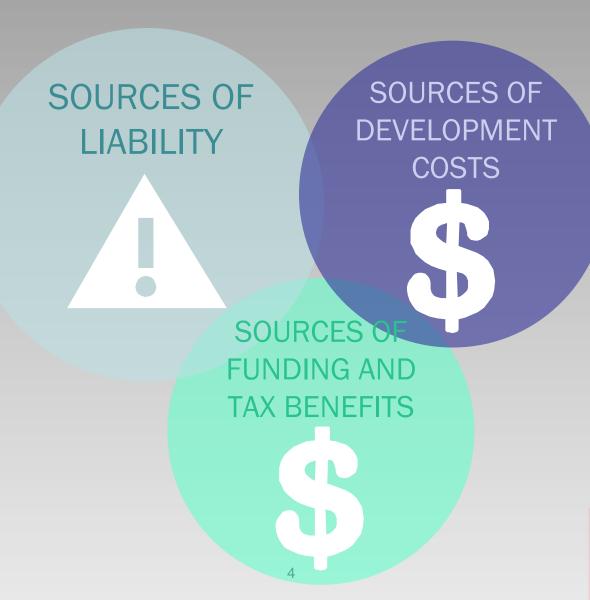


#### **Contamination Poses What Risks?**

- Regulatory enforcement
- Cost overruns
- Third party claims
- Natural resource damages
- Off-site disposal liability

BUT there are some incentives too.









#### **SOURCES OF LIABILITY**

CERCLA or "Superfund" and its defenses

- Innocent purchaser
- BFPP
- Contiguous Property
- Voluntary Cleanup

#### State common law

- Statutes
- Non-disclosure
- Tort claims





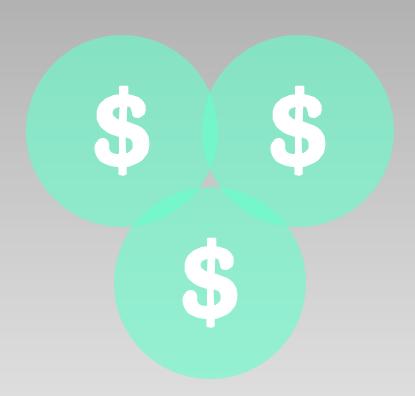
#### SOURCES OF LIABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS

#### Other federal statutes

- RCRA
- Clean Water Act
- TSCA

#### State statutes

- Hazardous Waste
- Solid Waste



#### SOURCES OF FUNDING AND TAX BENEFITS

Other federal statutes

- RCRA
- Clean Water Act

State statutes

- Hazardous Waste
- Solid Waste

# **Environmental Resource Laws Affect Real Estate Transactions?**

- Development costs
- Operational costs
- Regulatory enforcement



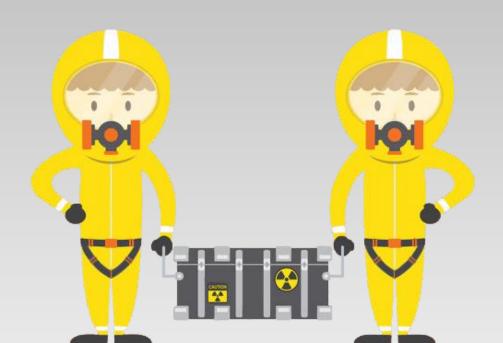
#### **Environmental Requirements**

- Wetlands
- Endangered Species
- Migratory Birds
- Floodplains
- Environmental Permits



#### **Building Demolition and Renovation**

- Hazardous material disposal
- Asbestos abatement



#### **Management Mechanisms**

Due

Contractual



**Project** Management

**Financial** 

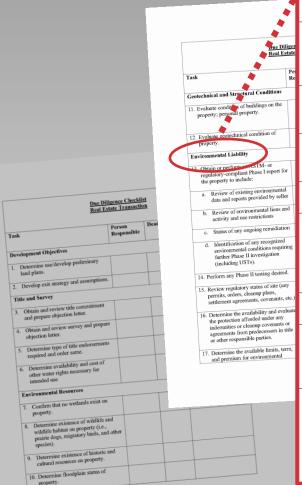
state Transaction	on	
Person Responsible	Deadline	Notes
	Person Responsible	Responsible

<u>Due Dill</u> Real Est	gence Checkli tate Transactio	<u>on</u>		
	Person	Deadline	Notes	
ask	Responsible			
evelopment Objectives				
evelopment Objeti				
. Determine use/develop preliminary				
land plans.				
<ol><li>Develop exit strategy and assumptions.</li></ol>				
Title and Survey				
title commitment				
and prepare objection		-		
and prepare	•			
objection letter.				
Determine type of title endorsements     and order same.				
required and order		_		
3. Fility and cost of				
intended use				
Environmental Resources				
7. Confirm that no wetlands exist on				
property.				
Determine existence of wildlife at     biet on property (i.e.,	nd			
<ol> <li>Determine existence of which wildlife habitat on property (i.e., prairie dogs, migratory birds, and</li> </ol>	other			
enecies).				
interior of historic a	and			
<ol> <li>Determine existence of cultural resources on property.</li> </ol>				
10. Determine floodplain status of				
property.				

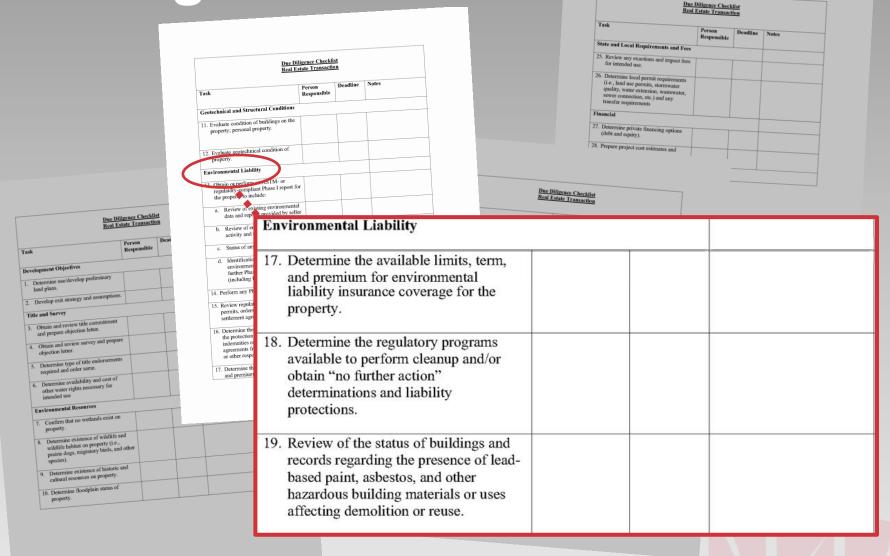
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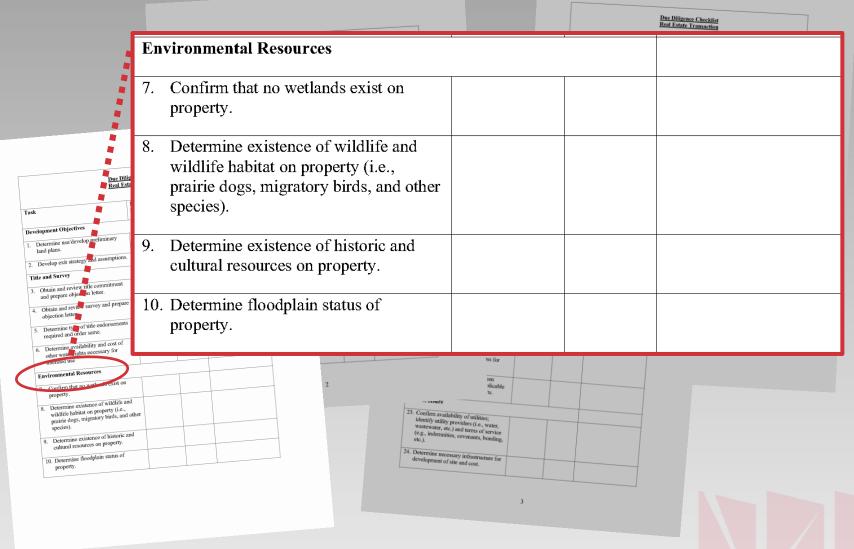
<u>Due</u> Rea	Diligence Check Estate Transac	dist tion	
	Person Responsible	Deadline	Notes
nsurance coverage for the			
the regulatory programs			
ons and liability			
e status of buildings and			
lding materials or uses			
- Totale.			
ould -			
cable zoning for cess for any changes			
any changes			
ntitlement documents			
g., Master Plan, Identify any			
and process for			
P-00033 10F			
-1.			
planning and zoning de			
planning and zoning documents.			
frastructure			
Confirm availability of utilities;			
identify utility providers (i.e., water,			
wastewater, etc.) and terms of service (e.g., indemnities, covenants, bonding, etc.).			

 Determine necessary infrastructure for development of site and cost.



Environmental Liability	Due Diliones Cs. 20
Environmental Etablicy	
13. Obtain or perform an ASTM- or regulatory-compliant Phase I report for the property to include:	
Review of existing environmental data and reports provided by seller	
b. Review of environmental liens and activity and use restrictions	
c. Status of any ongoing remediation	
d. Identification of any recognized environmental conditions requiring further Phase II investigation (including USTs).	
14. Perform any Phase II testing desired.	
15. Review regulatory status of site (any permits, orders, cleanup plans, settlement agreements, covenants, etc.)	
16. Determine the availability and evaluate the protection afforded under any indemnities or cleanup covenants or agreements from predecessors in title or other responsible parties.	





## Identify the Management Mechanisms Regulatory Enforcement – Federal

	RISK MANAGEMENT MATRIX				
		Project Risk Management Too  Sontractual terms Financial Assura  Indemnity/release from Pollution legal current owner  Tile stays with current Professional Profe	nce Project Management  Maintain BFPP Defense Independence Po	Loan Terms  lemnity illution legal liability coverage ase I relance letter	***************************************
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Project Risk M  Contractual Terms	anagement Tools  Fianncial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Regulatory Enforcement – Federal	Comfort Letter     Reasonable Steps     Letter     Prospective     Purchaser     Agreement     Administrative     Settlement/Order on     Consent     State VCUP or order     (EPA defers     enforcement to     State)	Indemnity/release from current owner     Title stays with current owner     Contractor indemnities	Pollution legal liability insurance     Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance     Escrowed funds	Maintain BFPP Defense  • ASTM Compliant Phase I ESA • Continuing Obligations Plan • Materials Management Plan Implement cleanup/comply with Orders or reasonable steps letter	<ul> <li>Indemnity</li> <li>Pollution legal liability coverage</li> <li>Phase I reliance letter</li> <li>Reps and warranties</li> <li>Project management covenants/default</li> <li>Additional collateral</li> <li>Phased funding</li> </ul>



#### Regulatory Enforcement – State

Environmental					
Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Regulatory Enforcement – State	<ul> <li>State VCUP</li> <li>State comfort letter</li> <li>Other State letters</li> <li>Consent Order</li> <li>No Further Action/No Action Determination</li> </ul>	Indemnity/release from current owner     Title stays with current owner     Contractor indemnities	<ul> <li>Pollution legal liability insurance</li> <li>Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance</li> <li>Escrowed funds</li> </ul>	Implement cleanup/comply with orders or reasonable steps letter	<ul> <li>Indemnity</li> <li>Pollution legal liability coverage</li> <li>Phase I reliance letter</li> <li>Reps and warranties</li> <li>Project management covenants/default</li> <li>Additional collateral</li> <li>Phased funding</li> </ul>
***************************************	Consent State VCI (EPA defi enforcement- State VCI State on Other State	ent to State)  JP	legal Implement cleanup/comply with orders or reasonable steps letter nail and/or	Phased funding  Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Phase I reliance letter	
	Consent (     No Further	Order owner contractor indemnities pollution liability in Escrewe  Cleanup Seller cost share/ Seller owner pays insurance insu	legal surance d funds  Careful cost estimates/contingency a	Reps and warranties Project management covenants/default Additional collateral Phased funding Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter	



#### Cleanup Cost Overruns - Delay

Environmental		Project Risk Management Tools				
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>	
Cleanup Cost Overruns – Delay	<ul> <li>Approved cleanup plan (State VCUP, Order, Work Plan)</li> <li>Brownfields funding/tax credits (i.e., more money in budget)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Seller cost share/ Seller owner pays overruns</li> <li>Fixed price remediation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cost cap/stop loss insurance</li> <li>Escrowed funds</li> <li>Letter of credit</li> <li>Parent and/or personal guarantees</li> </ul>	Careful cost estimates/contingency	<ul> <li>Indemnity</li> <li>Pollution legal liability coverage</li> <li>Phase I reliance letter</li> <li>Reps and warranties</li> <li>Project management covenants/default</li> <li>Additional collateral</li> <li>Phased funding</li> </ul>	
******************	State comort lette  Other State letters  Consent Order  No Further Action  Action Determinable		valual entrance entra	Poliution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management covenants/dofault Additional collateral Phased funding	******	
	Cleanup Cost Overruns – Delay  Park (State VCUP, Order, Work Plan)  Brownfields fundinghax credits (i.e. more money is budget)	Fixed price     remediation     Parent and/	unds edit or	Indemnity Poliution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management covenants/default Additional collateral Phased funding		



### **Third Party Claims**

***********	Third party claims EPA Settl	y Agreements Contractual terms  ement  Indemnity/release from current owner th/fultion Contractor indemnity		al Implement cleanup ance Materials management plan/best practices to avoid further exposure, ongoing releases al Engineering controls	Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Project management coverants/default Additional collateral	*****
, esterte esterte esterte			Pollution legal liat insurance		Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management covenants/default	************
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Tel	rms !	nagement Tools Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Third party claims	EPA Settlement Agreement/ Administrative Order (contribution protection)	Indemnity/rele from current or Contractor indemnity     Environment covenants	wner	<ul> <li>Pollution legal liability insurance</li> <li>Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance</li> <li>Escrowed funds</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Implement cleanup</li> <li>Materials         management         plan/best practices         to avoid further         exposure, ongoing         releases</li> <li>Engineering         controls</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Indemnity</li> <li>Pollution legal liability coverage</li> <li>Project management covenants/ default</li> <li>Additional collateral</li> </ul>



#### **Natural Resource Damages**

Environmental		Project Risk Management Tools					
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>		
Natural Resource Damages	EPA/State Settlement Agreement/ Administrative Order (contribution protection)	Indemnity/release from current owner	Pollution legal liability insurance	Maintain BFPP defense	<ul> <li>Indemnity</li> <li>Pollution legal liability coverage</li> <li>Phase I reliance letter</li> <li>Reps and warranties</li> <li>Project management covenants/default</li> <li>Additional collateral</li> </ul>		
******************	Third party claims EPA S Agreen Order ( protect	ment/Administrative current owner (contribution ition) - Contractor indemnity - Environmental covenants	Pollution legal ilability insurance Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal ilability insurance Escrowed funds    Implement cleanup   Materials management plan/best practices to avoid further exposur ongoing releases   Engineering controls	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Project management covenants/default     Additional collateral	**********		
	Damages Agreen	ment/Administrative current owner insu (contribution	tion legal liability  Maintain BFPP defense	Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management coverants/default Additional collateral	••		
	Disposal Liability at Off-Site locations		Pollution legal ilability insurance Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal ilability insurance	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Project management covenants/default     Additional collateral			



#### **Disposal at Off-Site Locations**

Environmental	Project Risk Management Tools Environmental				
Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Disposal Liability at Off-Site locations			<ul> <li>Pollution legal liability insurance</li> <li>Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance</li> </ul>	Licensed disposal sites	<ul> <li>Indemnity</li> <li>Pollution legal liability coverage</li> <li>Project management covenants/default</li> <li>Additional collateral</li> </ul>
***************************************	Agi Orc pro	A Settlement reement/Administrative der (contribution tection)  Indemnity/release from current owner Contractor indemnity Environmental covenants	Professional and/or contractor's     Materials management plan/best practices to avoid further exposure, ongoing releases	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Project management     covenants/defaulit     Additional collateral	
***********	Natural Resource EP Damages Ag Or pro	A/State Settlement reement/Administrative der (contribution tection)	insurance	Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management covenants/default Additional collateral	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	Disposal Liability at Off-Site locations		liability insurance Professional and/or contractor's	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Project management     covenants/default     Additional collateral	

### Wetlands

	RISK MANAGEMENT MATRIX	Management Matrix							
	Environmental Risks Regula	Environmental Risks Regulatory Agreements Contractual terms Financial Assurance Project Management			Loan Terms				
	Federal • Re Le Pr PL • Ac Se CC • St (E	easonable Steps current owner	see from Pollution legal liability insurance Professional and contractor's pollution legal liability insurance Escrowed funds	Vior  ASTM Compliant Phase I ESA  Continuing Obligations Plan  Materials Management Plan	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Phase I reliance letter     Reps and warranties     Project management     covenants/default     Additional collateral     Phased funding				
********		tate VCUP • Indemnity/rele tate comfort letter current owner	ese from Pollution legal liability insurance	Implement cleanup/comply with orders or reasonable steps letter	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage	****			
Environmental									
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contrac Terms		<u>Financial</u> <u>Assurances</u>	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>			
Wetlands	<ul> <li>Corps of Engineers L</li> <li>Jurisdiction Determination</li> <li>404 Permits</li> </ul>	etter al on	se Price		Permit compliance	Indemnity     Compliance with laws			



#### **Endangered Species**

Environmental					
Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Endangered Species	<ul> <li>Clearance Letter from U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife</li> <li>Safe Harbor Agreement</li> <li>Habitat Conservation Plan</li> <li>Candidate Conservation Agreement</li> </ul>	Purchase Price		Hire skilled wildlife biologist to prepare survey	Compliance with Laws     Indemnity
********************	Settlement/Order on Consent  State VCUP or order (EFA defers enforcement to State)  Regulatory Enforcement  State VCUP  State VCUP		Implement cleanup/comply with Orders or easonable steps letter  Implement cleanup/comply with orders or employee the cleanup/comply with orders or employe	Additional collateral Phased funding	*******

		1			
	Settlement/Order on Consent  State VCUP or order (EPA defers enforcement to State)		Escrowed funds	Implement cleanup/comply with Orders or reasonable steps letter	Additional collateral     Phased funding
Regulatory Enforcement State	State comfort letter     Other State letters     Consent Order	Indemnity/release from current owner     Title stays with current owner     Contractor indemnities	Pollution legal liability insurance     Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance     Escrowed funds	Implement cleanup/comply with orders or reasonable steps letter	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Phase I reliance letter     Reps and warranties     Project management     covenants/default     Additional collateral     Phased funding
Cleanup Cost Overruns – Delay	Approved cleanup plan (State VCUP, Order, Work Plan)     Brownfields funding/tax credits (i.e. more money in budget)	Seller cost share/ Seller owner pays overruns     Fixed price remediation	Cost cap/stop loss insurance Escrowed funds Letter of credit Parent and/or personal guarantees	Careful cost estimates/contingency	Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management covenants/default Additional collateral Phased funding



### Migratory Birds

Environmental					
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Migratory Birds Bald and Golden Eagles	<ul> <li>ESA</li> <li>Letter from U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife</li> <li>Safe Harbor Agreement</li> <li>MBTA</li> <li>Permit for "take"</li> <li>BGEPA</li> <li>Permit for "take"</li> </ul>	Purchase Price		<ul> <li>U.S. FWS Nationwide         Conservation         Measures</li> <li>U.S. FWS BMPs for         specific industries         (wind, utility lines, oil         &amp; gas, towers)</li> <li>Colorado Parks and         Wildlife Best         Management         Practices</li> <li>Recommended Buffer         Zones and Seasonal         Restrictions for         Colorado Raptors</li> </ul>	Compliance with Laws     Indemnity
***********************	Cleanus Cost Overrus a Appl		Escrowed funds  Cost cap/stop loss  Careful cost estimates/co	covenants/default  Additional collateral  Phased funding	***************************************





### **Floodplains**

*****************************	Third party claims  EPA Sett Agreeme Order (co protection  Natural Resource Damages Agreeme Order (for	t/Administrative thibution Com Env cow Settlement Indemnit current cur	emnity/release from rent owner liabilit intractor indemnity vironmental pollut liabilit enants enants research ty/release from Pollution I	Assurance on legal or insurance on legal or insurance wed funds	mplement cleanup vlaterials management plan/best practices to avoid further exposure, ongoing releases Engineering controls	Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Project management covenants/default Additional collateral  Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter	*****************
**************************************	protection	)				Reps and warranties     Project management	••••••
Environmental		<u>Pr</u>	<u>oject Risk M</u>	<u>anagem</u>	ent Tools		
Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contrac	ctual Terms	Finance Assura		Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Floodplains	<ul><li>CLOMR /LOMR</li><li>Local permit</li></ul>	Purcha	se Price				Indemnity     Compliance with     Laws



### Permitting

Third party claims	EPA Settlement Agreement/Administrative Order (contribution protection)	Indemnity/release from current owner     Contractor indemnity     Environmental covenants	Pollution legal liability insurance     Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance     Escrowed funds	Implement cleanup     Materials management plan/best practices to avoid further exposure, ongoing releases     Engineering controls	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Project management     covenants/default     Additional collateral		
Natural Resource Damages	EPA/State Settlement Agreement/Administrative Order (contribution	Indemnity/release from current owner	Pollution legal liability insurance	Maintain BFPP defense	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Phase I reliance letter		

********************		Natural Resource Damages	EPA/State Settlement Agreement/Administrative Order (contribution	Indemnity/release from current owner	Pollution legal liability insurance	Maintain BFPP defense	Indemnity     Pollution legal liability coverage     Phase I reliance letter	***************************************
<u>Environmental</u>		ulatory		roject Risk I ctual Terms		ent Tools inancial	Project	<u>Loan Terms</u>
<u>Risks</u>	Agre	ements				ssurances	Management Management	
Permitting	tran	rovals ctive on	warr all n pern oper • Coo trans	resentation ranties reg ecessary nits for ong rations peration and sition nirements	arding going		Close communication with regulators	Indemnity     Compliance with Laws

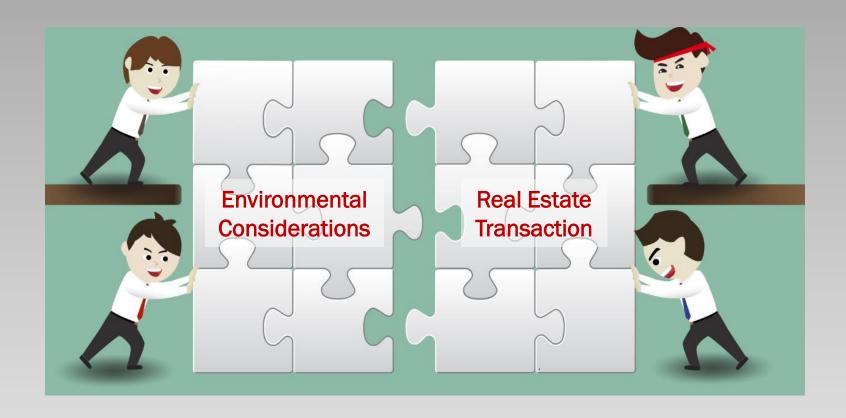


# **Asbestos Abatement and Hazardous Materials Removal**

Envisormental					
Environmental Risks	Regulatory Agreements	Contractual Terms	Financial Assurances	Project Management	<u>Loan Terms</u>
Asbestos abatement and hazardous materials removal	Reg. 8 Permit			<ul> <li>Close regulatory coordination</li> <li>Qualified/ insured contractors</li> </ul>	Indemnity     Compliance with Law
**********************	Damages Agreement Order (conprotection)  Disposal Liability at Off-Site locations	tribution	Pollution legal liability insurance     Professional and/or contractor's pollution legal liability insurance	Pollution legal liability coverage Phase I reliance letter Reps and warranties Project management covenantis/default Additional collateral  Indemnity Pollution legal liability coverage Project management covenantis/default Additional collateral	**********



#### Success



#### Questions

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