58:10B-12.1, 58:10C-16.1 et al. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF:	2019	CHAP	TER:	263				
NJSA:	58:10B-12.1, 58:10C-16.1 et al. (Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of contaminated sites.)							
BILL NO:	A5293	(Substi	ituted for S3682)					
SPONSOR(S)	Nancy J. Pinkin and others							
DATE INTRODUCED: 5/13/2019								
COMMITTEE:	ASSEMBLY:		Environment & Solid Waste					
	S	ENATE:	Enviror	nment & Energy				
AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:			Yes					
DATE OF PAS	SAGE:	ASSEM	MBLY:	6/27/2019				
		SENA	ΓE:	6/20/2019				
DATE OF APPROVAL: 8/23/2			019					
	ARE ATTAC	CHED IF AVA	ILABLE	:				
FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second Reprint enacted)						Yes		
A5293 SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 63 of introduced bill)						Yes		
	СОММІТТ	TEE STATEM	ENT:		ASSEMBLY:	Yes		
					SENATE:	No		
(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, <i>may possibly</i> be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)								
FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:						Yes		
	LEGISLA	TIVE FISCAL	ESTIM	ATE:		No		
S3682								
	SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page of 62 introduced bill)							
	СОММІТТ	TEE STATEM	ENT:		ASSEMBLY:	No		
					SENATE:	Yes		

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:		No			
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:		No			
VETO MESSAGE:		No			
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes				
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED: To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <u>mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org</u>					
REPORTS:	No				
HEARINGS:	No				
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No				

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§9 C.58:10B-12.1
§23 C.58:10C-16.1

(CORRECTED COPY)

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 263, approved August 23, 2019 Assembly, No. 5293 (Second Reprint)

1 AN ACT concerning the remediation of contaminated sites, and 2 amending and supplementing various parts of the statutory law. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-8) is amended to read as 8 follows: 9 3. As used in this act: 10 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action to be undertaken at an industrial establishment, or at any area to which 11 a discharge originating at the industrial establishment is migrating or 12 13 has migrated; a description of the remedial action to be used to 14 remediate the industrial establishment; a time schedule and cost 15 estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and any other relevant information the department deems necessary; 16 17 "Closing operations" means: 18 (1) the cessation of operations resulting in at least a 90 percent 19 reduction in the total value of the product output from the entire 20 industrial establishment, as measured on a constant, annual date-21 specific basis, within any five-year period, or, for industrial 22 establishments for which the product output is undefined, a 90 percent 23 reduction in the number of employees or a 90 percent reduction in the 24 area of operations of an industrial establishment within any five-year period; provided, however, the department may approve a waiver of 25 the provisions of this paragraph for any owner or operator who, upon 26 27 application and review, evidences a good faith effort to maintain and 28 expand product output, the number of employees, or area of operations 29 of the affected industrial establishment; 30 (2) any temporary cessation of operations of an industrial 31 establishment for a period of not less than two years; 32 (3) any judicial proceeding or final agency action through which 33 an industrial establishment becomes nonoperational for health or 34 safety reasons; 35 (4) the initiation of bankruptcy proceedings pursuant to Chapter 7 36 of the federal Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. s.701 et seq. or the filing of 37 a plan of reorganization that provides for a liquidation pursuant to

Matter underlined thus is new matter

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Assembly AEN committee amendments adopted June 10, 2019. ²Senate floor amendments adopted June 20, 2019.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Chapter 11 of the federal Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. s.1101 et seq.;

Classification number to one that is not subject to this act; or

(5) any change in operations of an industrial establishment that

(6) the termination of a lease unless there is no disruption in

establishment's

Standard

Industrial

6 operations of the industrial establishment, or the assignment of a lease; 7 "Transferring ownership or operations" means: 8 (1) any transaction or proceeding through which an industrial 9 establishment undergoes a change in ownership; 10 (2) the sale or transfer of more than 50 [%] percent of the assets of an industrial establishment within any five-year period, as measured 11 on a constant, annual date-specific basis; 12 13 (3) the execution of a lease for a period of 99 years or longer for an 14 industrial establishment; or 15 (4) the dissolution of an entity that is an owner or operator or an 16 indirect owner of an industrial establishment, except for any 17 dissolution of an indirect owner of an industrial establishment whose 18 assets would have been unavailable for the remediation of the 19 industrial establishment if the dissolution had not occurred; 20 "Change in ownership" means: 21 (1) the sale or transfer of the business of an industrial establishment or any of its real property; 22 23 (2) the sale or transfer of stock in a corporation resulting in a 24 merger or consolidation involving the direct owner or operator or 25 indirect owner of the industrial establishment; 26 (3) the sale or transfer of stock in a corporation, or the transfer of a 27 partnership interest, resulting in a change in the person holding the 28 controlling interest in the direct owner or operator or indirect owner of 29 an industrial establishment; (4) the sale or transfer of title to an industrial establishment or the 30 31 real property of an industrial establishment by exercising an option to 32 purchase; or 33 (5) the sale or transfer of a partnership interest in a partnership that 34 owns or operates an industrial establishment, that would reduce, by 10 35 [%] percent or more, the assets available for remediation of the 36 industrial establishment; 37 "Change in ownership" shall not include: (1) a corporate reorganization not substantially affecting the 38 39 ownership of the industrial establishment; 40 (2) a transaction or series of transactions involving the transfer of 41 stock, assets or both, among corporations under common ownership, if 42 the transaction or transactions will not result in the diminution of the net worth of the corporation that directly owns or operates the 43 44 industrial establishment by more than 10 [%] percent, or if an equal or greater amount in assets is available for the remediation of the 45 46 industrial establishment before and after the transaction or 47 transactions;

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1 (3) a transaction or series of transactions involving the transfer of 2 stock, assets or both, resulting in the merger or de facto merger or 3 consolidation of the indirect owner with another entity, or in a change 4 in the person holding the controlling interest of the indirect owner of 5 an industrial establishment, when the indirect owner's assets would 6 have been unavailable for cleanup if the transaction or transactions had 7 not occurred; 8 (4) a transfer where the transferor is the sibling, spouse, child,

9 parent, grandparent, child of a sibling, or sibling of a parent of the
10 transferee;

(5) a transfer to confirm or correct any deficiencies in the recordedtitle of an industrial establishment;

13 (6) a transfer to release a contingent or reversionary interest except
14 for any transfer of a lessor's reversionary interest in leased real
15 property;

16 (7) a transfer of an industrial establishment by devise or intestate17 succession;

(8) the granting or termination of an easement or a license to anyportion of an industrial establishment;

20 (9) the sale or transfer of real property pursuant to a condemnation
21 proceeding initiated pursuant to the "Eminent Domain Act of 1971,"
22 P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.);

(10) execution, delivery and filing or recording of any mortgage,
security interest, collateral assignment or other lien on real or personal
property; or

(11) any transfer of personal property pursuant to a valid
security agreement, collateral assignment or other lien, including, but
not limited to, seizure or replevin of such personal property which
transfer is for the purpose of implementing the secured party's rights in
the personal property which is the collateral;

31 "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection;

32 "Hazardous substances" means those elements and compounds, 33 including petroleum products, which are defined as such by the 34 department, after public hearing, and which shall be consistent to the maximum extent possible with, and which shall include, the list of 35 36 hazardous substances adopted by the Environmental Protection 37 Agency pursuant to Section 311 of the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972" (33 U.S.C. s.1321) and the list of 38 39 toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the Environmental 40 Protection Agency pursuant to Section 307 of that act (33 U.S.C. 41 s.1317); except that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be considered 42 as hazardous substances for the purposes of this act;

43 "Hazardous waste" shall have the same meaning as provided in
44 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38);

45 "Industrial establishment" means any place of business engaged in
46 operations which involve the generation, manufacture, refining,
47 transportation, treatment, storage, handling, or disposal of hazardous
48 substances or hazardous wastes on-site, above or below ground,
49 having a Standard Industrial Classification number within 22-39

1 inclusive, 46-49 inclusive, 51 or 76 as designated in the Standard 2 Industrial Classifications Manual prepared by the Office of 3 Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President of 4 the United States. Those facilities or parts of facilities subject to 5 operational closure and post-closure maintenance requirements 6 pursuant to the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, c.39 7 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.), the "Major Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting 8 Act," sections 1 through 43 of P.L.1981, c.279 (C.13:1E-49 et seq.) or 9 the "Solid Waste Disposal Act" (42 U.S.C. s.6901 et seq.), or any 10 establishment engaged in the production or distribution of agricultural 11 commodities, shall not be considered industrial establishments for the 12 purposes of this act. The department may, pursuant to the 13 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), 14 exempt certain sub-groups or classes of operations within those sub-15 groups within the Standard Industrial Classification major group 16 numbers listed in this subsection upon a finding that the operation of 17 the industrial establishment does not pose a risk to public health and 18 safety;

19 "Negative declaration" means a written declaration, submitted by 20 the owner or operator of an industrial establishment or other person 21 assuming responsibility for the remediation under paragraph (3) of 22 subsection b. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 to the department, 23 certifying that there has been no discharge of hazardous substances or 24 hazardous wastes on the site, or that any such discharge on the site or 25 discharge that has migrated or is migrating from the site has been 26 remediated in accordance with procedures approved by the department 27 and in accordance with any applicable remediation regulations;

"Discharge" means an intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of a hazardous substance or
hazardous waste into the waters or onto the lands of the State;

32 "No further action letter" means a written determination by the 33 department that, based upon an evaluation of the historical use of the 34 industrial establishment and the property, or of an area of concern or 35 areas of concern, as applicable, and any other investigation or action 36 the department deems necessary, there are no discharged hazardous 37 substances or hazardous wastes present at the site of the industrial 38 establishment, at the area of concern or areas of concern, or at any 39 other site to which discharged hazardous substances or hazardous 40 wastes originating at the industrial establishment have migrated, and 41 that any discharged hazardous substances or hazardous wastes present 42 at the industrial establishment or that have migrated from the site have 43 been remediated in accordance with applicable remediation 44 regulations;

45 "Indirect owner" means any person who holds a controlling
46 interest in a direct owner or operator, holds a controlling interest in
47 another indirect owner, or holds an interest in a partnership which is an
48 indirect owner or a direct owner or operator, of an industrial
49 establishment;

"Direct owner or operator" means any person that directly owns or operates an industrial establishment. A holder of a mortgage or other security interest in the industrial establishment shall not be deemed to be a direct owner or operator of the industrial establishment unless or until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993, c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court order or other process;

8 "Area of concern" means any location where hazardous substances 9 or hazardous wastes are or were known or suspected to have been 10 discharged, generated, manufactured, refined, transported, stored, 11 handled, treated, or disposed, or where hazardous substances or 12 hazardous wastes have or may have migrated;

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual who
is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board
pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the department
pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12);

17 "Owner" means any person who owns the real property of an 18 industrial establishment or who owns the industrial establishment. A 19 holder of a mortgage or other security interest in the industrial 20 establishment shall not be deemed to be an owner of the industrial 21 establishment unless or until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993, c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial 22 23 establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court order 24 or other process;

25 "Operator" means any person, including users, tenants, or 26 occupants, having and exercising direct actual control of the operations 27 of an industrial establishment. A holder of a mortgage or other 28 security interest in the industrial establishment shall not be deemed to 29 be an operator of the industrial establishment unless or until it loses its 30 exemption under P.L.1993, c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains 31 title to the industrial establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court order or other process; 32

33 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 34 identifying areas of concern and determining whether hazardous 35 substances or hazardous wastes are or were present at an industrial 36 establishment or have migrated or are migrating from the industrial 37 establishment, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 38 existing site specific operational and environmental information, both 39 current and historic, to determine if further investigation concerning 40 the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge of any 41 hazardous substance or hazardous waste is required. The evaluation of 42 historic information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, 43 except that the department may require the search for and evaluation 44 of additional information relating to ownership and use of the site prior 45 to 1932 if such information is available through diligent inquiry of 46 public records;

47 "Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to
48 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or
49 threatened discharge of hazardous substances or hazardous wastes,

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including [, as necessary,] the preliminary assessment, site
investigation, remedial investigation, and remedial action , or any
portion thereof ¹, provided, however, that "remediation" or
"remediate" shall not include the payment of compensation for damage
to, or loss of, natural resources¹;

6 "Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric 7 standards that establish a level or concentration and narrative 8 standards, to which hazardous substances or hazardous wastes must be 9 treated, removed, or otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or 10 surface water, as provided by the department pursuant to section 35 of 11 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or 12 environmental standards;

13 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at an industrial 14 establishment or offsite of an industrial establishment if hazardous 15 substances or hazardous wastes have migrated or are migrating 16 therefrom, as may be required by the department to protect public 17 health, safety, and the environment. These actions may include the 18 removal, treatment, containment, transportation, securing, or other 19 engineering measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 20 designed to ensure that any discharged hazardous substances or 21 hazardous wastes at the site or that have migrated or are migrating 22 from the site, are remediated in compliance with the applicable health 23 risk or environmental standards;

24 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the nature 25 and extent of a discharge of hazardous substances or hazardous wastes 26 at an industrial establishment or a discharge of hazardous substances 27 or hazardous wastes that have migrated or are migrating from the site 28 and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include data 29 collection, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 30 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary to 31 determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 32 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary;

33 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 34 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site was 35 remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of the site, or of any 36 37 area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any other investigation 38 or action the department deems necessary, there are no contaminants 39 present at the site, or at any area of concern, at any other site to which 40 a discharge originating at the site has migrated, or that any 41 contaminants present at the site or that have migrated from the site 42 have been remediated in accordance with applicable remediation 43 regulations, and all applicable permits and authorizations have been 44 obtained;

45 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data
46 adequate to determine whether or not discharged hazardous substances
47 or hazardous wastes exist at the industrial establishment or have
48 migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in excess of the

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1 applicable remediation standards. A site investigation shall be 2 developed based upon the information collected pursuant to the 3 preliminary assessment. (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.33) 4 5 6 2. Section 1 of P.L.1995, c.139 (C.2A:53A-26) is amended to 7 read as follows: 1. As used in this act, "licensed person" means any person who 8 9 is licensed as: 10 a. an accountant pursuant to P.L.1997, c.259 (C.45:2B-42 et seq.); 11 12 b. an architect pursuant to R.S.45:3-1 et seq.; c. an attorney admitted to practice law in New Jersey; 13 d. a dentist pursuant to R.S.45:6-1 et seq.; 14 15 e. an engineer pursuant to P.L.1938, c.342 (C.45:8-27 et seq.); 16 a physician in the practice of medicine or surgery pursuant f. 17 to R.S.45:9-1 et seq.; g. a podiatrist pursuant to R.S.45:5-1 et seq.; 18 h. a chiropractor pursuant to P.L.1989, c.153 (C.45:9-19 20 41.17 et seq.); i. a registered professional nurse pursuant to P.L.1947, c.262 21 22 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); a health care facility as defined in section 2 of P.L.1971, 23 j. 24 c.136 (C.26:2H-2); 25 k. a physical therapist pursuant to P.L.1983, c.296 (C.45:9-26 37.11 et seq.); 27 1. a land surveyor pursuant to P.L.1938, c.342 (C.45:8-28 27 et seq.); 29 m. a registered pharmacist pursuant to P.L.2003, c.280 30 (C.45:14-40 et seq.); 31 n. a veterinarian pursuant to R.S.45:16-1 et seq.; 32 o. an insurance producer pursuant to P.L.2001, c.210 (C.17:22A-26 et seq.); [and] 33 p. a certified midwife, certified professional midwife, or 34 certified nurse midwife pursuant to R.S.45:10-1 et seq.; and 35 q. a licensed site remediation professional pursuant to section 7 36 37 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7). 38 (cf: P.L.2010, c.88, s.1) 39 40 3. Section 3 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b) is amended to 41 read as follows: 42 3. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following 43 terms shall have the following meanings: 44 "Act of God" means an act exclusively occasioned by an unanticipated, grave natural disaster without the interference of any 45 46 human agency; "Administrator" means the chief executive of the New Jersey 47 48 Spill Compensation Fund;

"Barrel" means 42 United States gallons or 159.09 liters or an
appropriate equivalent measure set by the director for hazardous
substances which are other than fluid or which are not commonly
measured by the barrel;

5 "Board" means a board of arbitration convened by the 6 administrator to settle disputed disbursements from the fund;

7 "Cleanup and removal costs" means all direct costs associated 8 with a discharge, and those indirect costs that may be imposed by 9 the department pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2002, c.37 associated 10 with a discharge, incurred by the State or its political subdivisions 11 or their agents or any person with written approval from the 12 department in the: (1) removal or attempted removal of hazardous 13 substances, or (2) taking of reasonable measures to prevent or 14 mitigate damage to the public health, safety, or welfare, including, 15 but not limited to, public and private property, shorelines, beaches, 16 surface waters, water columns and bottom sediments, soils and 17 other affected property, including wildlife and other natural 18 resources, and shall include costs incurred by the State for the 19 indemnification and legal defense of contractors pursuant to 20 sections 1 through 11 of P.L.1991, c.373 (C.58:10-23.11f8 et seq.); 21 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Environmental

22 Protection;

"Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged
hazardous substance, hazardous waste as defined pursuant to
section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined
pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3);

27 "Department" means the Department of Environmental28 Protection;

29 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Taxation in the30 Department of the Treasury;

31 "Discharge" means any intentional or unintentional action or 32 omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, 33 pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of hazardous substances 34 into the waters or onto the lands of the State, or into waters outside 35 the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the lands, 36 waters or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State;

37 "Emergency response action" means those activities conducted
38 by a local unit to clean up, remove, prevent, contain, or mitigate a
39 discharge that poses an immediate threat to the environment or to
40 the public health, safety, or welfare;

41 "Fair market value" means the invoice price of the hazardous 42 substances transferred, including transportation charges; but where 43 no price is so fixed, "fair market value" shall mean the market price 44 as of the close of the nearest day to the transfer, paid for similar 45 hazardous substances, as shall be determined by the taxpayer 46 pursuant to rules of the director;

47 "Final remediation document" means a no further action letter
48 issued by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B49 1 et al.), or a response action outcome issued by a licensed site

remediation professional pursuant to section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60
 (C.58:10C-14);

3 "Fund" means the New Jersey Spill Compensation Fund;

4 "Hazardous substances" means the "environmental hazardous 5 substances" on the environmental hazardous substance list adopted by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.315 6 7 (C.34:5A-4); such elements and compounds, including petroleum 8 products, which are defined as such by the department, after public 9 hearing, and which shall be consistent to the maximum extent 10 possible with, and which shall include, the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency 11 12 pursuant to section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 13 Amendments of 1972, Pub.L.92-500, as amended by the Clean 14 Water Act of 1977, Pub.L.95-217 (33 U.S.C.s.1251 et seq.); the list of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the [EPA] United 15 16 States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 307 of 17 that act; and the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal 18 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 101 of the 19 "Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and 20 Liability Act of 1980," Pub.L.96-510 (42 U.S.C.s.9601 et seq.); 21 provided, however, that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 22 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of P.L.1976, 23 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.);

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the
department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12);
"Local unit" means any county or municipality, or any agency or

29 other instrumentality thereof, or a duly incorporated volunteer fire,
30 ambulance, first aid, emergency, or rescue company or squad;

31 "Major facility" includes, but is not limited to, any refinery, 32 storage or transfer terminal, pipeline, deep-water port, drilling 33 platform or any appurtenance related to any of the preceding that is 34 used or is capable of being used to refine, produce, store, handle, 35 transfer, process or transport hazardous substances. "Major facility" shall include a vessel only when that vessel is engaged in a 36 37 transfer of hazardous substances between it and another vessel, and 38 in any event shall not include a vessel used solely for activities 39 directly related to recovering, containing, cleaning up or removing 40 discharges of petroleum in the surface waters of the State, including 41 training, research, and other activities directly related to spill 42 response.

A facility shall not be considered a major facility for the purpose
of P.L.1976, c.141 unless it has total combined aboveground or
buried storage capacity of:

46 (1) 20,000 gallons or more for hazardous substances which are47 other than petroleum or petroleum products, or

48 (2) 200,000 gallons or more for hazardous substances of all49 kinds.

In determining whether a facility is a major facility for the purposes of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), any underground storage tank at the facility used solely to store heating oil for on-site consumption shall not be considered when determining the combined storage capacity of the facility.

6 For the purposes of this definition, "storage capacity" shall mean 7 only that total combined capacity which is dedicated to, used for or 8 intended to be used for storage of hazardous substances of all kinds. 9 Where appropriate to the nature of the facility, storage capacity may 10 be determined by the intended or actual use of open land or 11 unenclosed space as well as by the capacities of tanks or other 12 enclosed storage spaces;

"Natural resources" means all land, fish, shellfish, wildlife, biota,
air, waters and other such resources owned, managed, held in trust
or otherwise controlled by the State;

16 "Owner" or "operator" means, with respect to a vessel, any 17 person owning, operating or chartering by demise such vessel; with 18 respect to any major facility, any person owning such facility, or 19 operating it by lease, contract or other form of agreement; with 20 respect to abandoned or derelict major facilities, the person who 21 owned or operated such facility immediately prior to such 22 abandonment, or the owner at the time of discharge;

"Person" means public or private corporations, companies,
associations, societies, firms, partnerships, joint stock companies,
individuals, the United States, the State of New Jersey and any of
its political subdivisions or agents;

27 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 28 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or 29 30 operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 31 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 32 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 33 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 34 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 35 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 36 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 37 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site; 38 "Petroleum" or "petroleum products" means oil or petroleum of 39 any kind and in any form, including, but not limited to, oil, 40 petroleum, gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, oil sludge, oil refuse, oil 41 mixed with other wastes, crude oils, and substances or additives to 42 be utilized in the refining or blending of crude petroleum or 43 petroleum stock in this State; however, any compound designated by specific chemical name on the list of hazardous substances 44 45 adopted by the department pursuant to this section shall not be 46 considered petroleum or a petroleum product for the purposes of 47 P.L.1976, c.141, unless such compound is to be utilized in the 48 refining or blending of crude petroleum or petroleum stock in this 49 State;

1 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 2 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants 3 are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 4 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 5 existing site specific operational and environmental information, 6 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 7 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 8 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 9 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 10 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 11 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 12 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent inquiry of the public records; 13

14 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 15 16 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 17 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 18 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 19 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 20 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 21 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 22 standards;

23 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 24 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 25 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 26 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 27 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 28 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 29 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the evaluation of remedial actions if necessary; 30

31 "Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 32 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 33 or threatened discharge, including [, as necessary,] the preliminary 34 assessment, site investigation, remedial investigation, and remedial 35 action, or any portion thereof, provided, however, that 36 "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the payment of 37 compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural resources;

38 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 39 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 40 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 41 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 42 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 43 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 44 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 45 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 46 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have 47 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with

1 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 2 authorizations have been obtained; 3 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist 4 5 at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in 6 excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation 7 shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to 8 the preliminary assessment; 9 "Taxpayer" means the owner or operator of a major facility 10 subject to the tax provisions of P.L.1976, c.141; 11 "Tax period" means every calendar month on the basis of which the taxpayer is required to report under P.L.1976, c.141; 12 13 "Transfer" means onloading or offloading between major 14 facilities and vessels, or vessels and major facilities, and from 15 vessel to vessel or major facility to major facility, except for fueling 16 or refueling operations and except that with regard to the movement 17 of hazardous substances other than petroleum, it shall also include any onloading of or offloading from a major facility; 18 19 "Vessel" means every description of watercraft or other 20 contrivance that is practically capable of being used as a means of 21 commercial transportation of hazardous substances upon the water, 22 whether or not self-propelled; 23 "Waters" means the ocean and its estuaries to the seaward limit 24 of the State's jurisdiction, all springs, streams and bodies of surface 25 or groundwater, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries 26 of this State. 27 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.35) 28 29 4. Section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g) is amended to 30 read as follows: 31 8. a. The fund shall be strictly liable, without regard to fault, 32 for all cleanup and removal costs and for all direct and indirect 33 damages no matter by whom sustained, including but not limited to: 34 (1) The cost of restoring, repairing, or replacing any real or 35 personal property damaged or destroyed by a discharge, any income lost from the time such property is damaged to the time such 36 37 property is restored, repaired or replaced, and any reduction in 38 value of such property caused by such discharge by comparison 39 with its value prior thereto; 40 (2) The cost of restoration and replacement, where possible, of 41 any natural resource damaged or destroyed by a discharge; 42 (3) Loss of income or impairment of earning capacity due to 43 damage to real or personal property, including natural resources 44 destroyed or damaged by a discharge; provided that such loss or 45 impairment exceeds 10 [%] percent of the amount which claimant 46 derives, based upon income or business records, exclusive of other 47 sources of income, from activities related to the particular real or 48 personal property or natural resources damaged or destroyed by

such discharge during the week, month or year for which the claim
 is filed;

3 (4) Loss of tax revenue by the State or local governments for a
4 period of one year due to damage to real or personal property
5 proximately resulting from a discharge;

(5) Interest on loans obtained or other obligations incurred by a
claimant for the purpose of ameliorating the adverse effects of a
discharge pending the payment of a claim in full as provided by this
act.

10 The damages which may be recovered by the fund, without b. 11 regard to fault, subject to the defenses enumerated in subsection d. 12 of this section against the owner or operator of a major facility or 13 vessel, shall not exceed \$50,000,000.00 for each major facility or 14 \$1,200 per gross ton for each vessel, except that such maximum limitation shall not apply and the owner or operator shall be liable, 15 16 jointly and severally, for the full amount of such damages if it can 17 be shown that such discharge was the result of (1) gross negligence 18 or willful misconduct, within the knowledge and privity of the 19 owner, operator or person in charge, or (2) a gross or willful 20 violation of applicable safety, construction or operating standards or 21 regulations. Damages which may be recovered from, or by, any 22 other person shall be limited to those authorized by common or 23 statutory law.

24 c. (1) Except as provided in section 2 of P.L.2005, c.43 25 (C.58:10-23.11g12), any person who has discharged a hazardous 26 substance, or is in any way responsible for any hazardous 27 substance, shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without 28 regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs no matter by 29 whom incurred. Such person shall also be strictly liable, jointly and 30 severally, without regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs 31 incurred by the department or a local unit pursuant to subsection b. 32 of section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11f).

33 (2) In addition to the persons liable pursuant to this subsection, 34 in the case of a discharge of a hazardous substance from a vessel 35 into the waters of the State, the owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline facility to which the vessel was en 36 37 route to deliver the hazardous substance who, by contract, 38 agreement, or otherwise, was scheduled to assume ownership of the 39 discharged hazardous substance, and any other person who was so 40 scheduled to assume ownership of the discharged hazardous 41 substance, shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without 42 regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs if the owner or 43 operator of the vessel did not have the evidence of financial 44 responsibility required pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.58 45 (C.58:10-23.11g2).

Where a person is liable for cleanup and removal costs as provided in this paragraph, any expenditures made by the administrator for that cleanup and removal shall constitute a debt of that person to the fund. The debt shall constitute a lien on all

1 property owned by that person when a notice of lien identifying the 2 nature of the discharge and the amount of the cleanup, removal and 3 related costs expended from the fund is duly filed with the clerk of 4 the Superior Court. The clerk shall promptly enter upon the civil 5 judgment or order docket the name and address of the liable person 6 and the amount of the lien as set forth in the notice of lien. Upon 7 entry by the clerk, the lien, to the amount committed by the 8 administrator for cleanup and removal, shall attach to the revenues 9 and all real and personal property of the liable person, whether or 10 not that person is insolvent.

11 For the purpose of determining priority of this lien over all other 12 claims or liens which are or have been filed against the property of 13 an owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline 14 facility, the lien on the facility to which the discharged hazardous 15 substance was en route shall have priority over all other claims or 16 liens which are or have been filed against the property. The notice 17 of lien filed pursuant to this paragraph which affects any property 18 of a person liable pursuant to this paragraph other than the property 19 of an owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline 20 facility to which the discharged hazardous substance was en route, 21 shall have priority from the day of the filing of the notice of the lien 22 over all claims and liens filed against the property, but shall not 23 affect any valid lien, right, or interest in the property filed in 24 accordance with established procedure prior to the filing of a notice 25 of lien pursuant to this paragraph.

To the extent that a person liable pursuant to this paragraph is not otherwise liable pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, or under any other provision of law or under common law, that person may bring an action for indemnification for costs paid pursuant to this paragraph against any other person who is strictly liable pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection.

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to extend or negate the right of any person to bring an action for contribution that may exist under P.L.1976, c.141, or any other act or under common law.

35 (3) In addition to the persons liable pursuant to this subsection, 36 any person who owns real property acquired on or after September 37 14, 1993 on which there has been a discharge prior to the person's 38 acquisition of that property and who knew or should have known 39 that a hazardous substance had been discharged at the real property, 40 shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without regard to fault, 41 for all cleanup and removal costs no matter by whom incurred. 42 Such person shall also be strictly liable, jointly and severally, 43 without regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs incurred 44 by the department or a local unit pursuant to subsection b. of 45 section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11f). Nothing in this 46 paragraph shall be construed to alter liability of any person who 47 acquired real property prior to September 14, 1993.

48 d. (1) In addition to those defenses provided in this 49 subsection, an act or omission caused solely by war, sabotage, or God, or a combination thereof, shall be the only defenses which
 may be raised by any owner or operator of a major facility or vessel
 responsible for a discharge in any action arising under the
 provisions of this act.

5 (2) A person, including an owner or operator of a major facility, 6 who owns real property acquired on or after September 14, 1993 on 7 which there has been a discharge, shall not be liable for cleanup and 8 removal costs or for any other damages to the State or to any other 9 person for the discharged hazardous substance pursuant to 10 subsection c. of this section or pursuant to civil common law, if that 11 person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that 12 subparagraphs (a) through (d) apply, or if applicable, subparagraphs (a) through (e) apply: 13

(a) the person acquired the real property after the discharge ofthat hazardous substance at the real property;

16 (b) (i) at the time the person acquired the real property, the 17 person did not know and had no reason to know that any hazardous 18 substance had been discharged at the real property, or (ii) the person 19 acquired the real property by devise or succession, except that any 20 other funds or property received by that person from the deceased 21 real property owner who discharged a hazardous substance or was 22 in any way responsible for a hazardous substance, shall be made 23 available to satisfy the requirements of P.L.1976, c.141, or (iii) the 24 person complies with the provisions of subparagraph (e) of 25 paragraph (2) of this subsection;

(c) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not
in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a
corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way
responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for
cleanup and removal costs pursuant to this section;

31 (d) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department32 upon actual discovery of that discharge.

33 To establish that a person had no reason to know that any 34 hazardous substance had been discharged for the purposes of this 35 paragraph (2), the person must have undertaken, at the time of 36 acquisition, all appropriate inquiry into the previous ownership and 37 uses of the property. For the purposes of this paragraph (2), all 38 appropriate inquiry shall mean the performance of a preliminary 39 assessment, and site investigation, if the preliminary assessment 40 indicates that a site investigation is necessary, as defined in section 41 23 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1), and performed in accordance 42 with rules and regulations promulgated by the department defining 43 these terms.

44 Nothing in this paragraph (2) shall be construed to alter liability
45 of any person who acquired real property prior to September 14,
46 1993; and

47 (e) For the purposes of this subparagraph the person must have
48 (i) acquired the property subsequent to a hazardous substance being
49 discharged on the site and which discharge was discovered at the

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1 time of acquisition as a result of the appropriate inquiry, as defined 2 in this paragraph (2), (ii) performed, following the effective date of 3 P.L.1997, c.278, a remediation of the site or discharge consistent 4 with the provisions of section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12), 5 or, relied upon a valid final remediation document for a remediation 6 performed prior to acquisition, or, obtained a remedial action 7 workplan certified by a licensed site remediation professional 8 retained for the site after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 9 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) and continued to comply with the conditions of 10 that workplan, or obtained approval of a remedial action workplan 11 by the department after the effective date of P.L.1997, c.278 and 12 continued to comply with the conditions of that workplan, and (iii) established and maintained all engineering and institutional controls 13 14 as may be required pursuant to sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1993, c.139. A person who complies with the provisions of this 15 16 subparagraph by actually performing a remediation of the site or 17 discharge as set forth in (ii) above shall be issued, upon application, 18 a no further action letter by the department or a response action 19 outcome by a licensed site remediation professional, as applicable. 20 A person who complies with the provisions of this subparagraph 21 either by receipt of a final remediation document following the 22 effective date of P.L.1997, c.278, or by relying on a previously 23 issued final remediation document shall not be liable for any further 24 remediation including any changes in a remediation standard or for 25 the subsequent discovery of a hazardous substance, at the site, or 26 emanating from the site, if the remediation was for the entire site, 27 and the hazardous substance was discharged prior to the person 28 acquiring the property. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subparagraph, a person who complies with the provisions of 29 30 this subparagraph only by virtue of the existence of a previously 31 issued final remediation document shall receive no liability protections for any discharge which occurred during the time period 32 33 between the issuance of the final remediation document and the 34 property acquisition. Compliance with the provisions of this 35 subparagraph (e) shall not relieve any person of any liability for a 36 discharge that is off the site of the property covered by the final 37 remediation document, for a discharge that occurs at that property 38 after the person acquires the property, for any actions that person 39 negligently takes that aggravates or contributes to a discharge of a 40 hazardous substance, for failure to comply in the future with laws 41 and regulations, or if that person fails to maintain the institutional 42 or engineering controls on the property or to otherwise comply with 43 the provisions of the final remediation document.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of this
subsection to the contrary, if a person who owns real property
obtains actual knowledge of a discharge of a hazardous substance at
the real property during the period of that person's ownership and
subsequently transfers ownership of the property to another person
without disclosing that knowledge, the transferor shall be strictly

liable for the cleanup and removal costs of the discharge and no
 defense under this subsection shall be available to that person.

3 (4) Any federal, State, or local governmental entity which 4 acquires ownership of real property through bankruptcy, tax 5 delinquency, abandonment, escheat, eminent domain, condemnation 6 or any circumstance in which the governmental entity involuntarily 7 acquires title by virtue of its function as sovereign, or where the 8 governmental entity acquires the property by any means for the 9 purpose of promoting the redevelopment of that property, shall not 10 be liable, pursuant to subsection c. of this section or pursuant to 11 common law, to the State or to any other person for any discharge 12 which occurred or began prior to that ownership. This paragraph shall not provide any liability protection to any federal, State or 13 14 local governmental entity which has caused or contributed to the 15 discharge of a hazardous substance. This paragraph shall not 16 provide any liability protection to any federal, State, or local 17 government entity that acquires ownership of real property by 18 condemnation or eminent domain where the real property is being 19 remediated in a timely manner at the time of the condemnation or 20 eminent domain action.

21 (5) A person, including an owner or operator of a major facility, 22 who owns real property acquired prior to September 14, 1993 on 23 which there has been a discharge, shall not be liable for cleanup and 24 removal costs or for any other damages to the State or to any other 25 person for the discharged hazardous substance pursuant to 26 subsection c. of this section or pursuant to civil common law, if that 27 person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that 28 subparagraphs (a) through (d) apply:

(a) the person acquired the real property after the discharge ofthat hazardous substance at the real property;

31 (b) (i) at the time the person acquired the real property, the 32 person did not know and had no reason to know that any hazardous 33 substance had been discharged at the real property, or (ii) the person 34 acquired the real property by devise or succession, except that any 35 other funds or property received by that person from the deceased 36 real property owner who discharged a hazardous substance or was 37 in any way responsible for a hazardous substance, shall be made 38 available to satisfy the requirements of P.L.1976, c.141;

39 (c) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not
40 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a
41 corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way
42 responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for
43 cleanup and removal costs pursuant to this section;

(d) the person gave notice of the discharge to the departmentupon actual discovery of that discharge.

To establish that a person had no reason to know that any hazardous substance had been discharged for the purposes of this paragraph (5), the person must have undertaken, at the time of acquisition, all appropriate inquiry on the previous ownership and uses of the property based upon generally accepted good and
 customary standards.

Nothing in this paragraph (5) shall be construed to alter liability
of any person who acquired real property on or after September 14,
1993.

6 e. Neither the fund nor the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund 7 established pursuant to P.L.1981, c.306 (C.13:1E-100 et seq.) shall 8 be liable for any damages incurred by any person who is relieved 9 from liability pursuant to subsection d. or f. of this section for a 10 remediation that involves the use of engineering controls but the 11 fund and the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund shall be liable for 12 any remediation that involves only the use of institutional controls if after a valid final remediation document has been issued the 13 14 department orders additional remediation except that the fund and 15 the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund shall not be liable for any 16 additional remediation that is required to remove an institutional 17 control.

18 f. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a 19 person, who owns real property acquired on or after the effective 20 date of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-1.1 et al.), shall not be liable for 21 any cleanup and removal costs or damages, under this section or 22 pursuant to any other statutory or civil common law, to any person, 23 other than the State and the federal government, harmed by any 24 hazardous substance discharged on that property prior to 25 acquisition, and any migration off that property related to that 26 discharge, provided all the conditions of this subsection are met:

(1) the person acquired the real property after the discharge ofthat hazardous substance at the real property;

(2) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not
in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a
corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way
responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for a
discharge pursuant to this section;

34 (3) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department35 upon actual discovery of that discharge;

36 (4) (a) within 30 days after acquisition of the property, the 37 person commenced a remediation of the discharge, including any 38 migration, pursuant to a department oversight document executed 39 prior to acquisition, or (b) for property acquired after the date of 40 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), the person 41 provides written notice of the acquisition to the department prior to 42 or on the date of acquisition and the person remediates the property 43 pursuant to the provisions of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 44 (C.58:10B-1.3), and (c) the department is satisfied that remediation 45 was completed in a timely and appropriate fashion; and

46 (5) Within ten days after acquisition of the property, or within
47 30 days after the expiration of the period or periods allowed for the
48 right of redemption pursuant to tax foreclosure law, the person

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1 agrees in writing to provide access to the State for remediation and 2 related activities, as determined by the State. 3 The provisions of this subsection shall not relieve any person of 4 any liability: 5 (1) for a discharge that occurs at that property after the person 6 acquired the property; 7 (2) for any actions that person negligently takes that aggravates 8 or contributes to the harm inflicted upon any person; 9 (3) if that person fails to maintain the institutional or 10 engineering controls on the property or to otherwise comply with 11 the provisions of a final remediation document or a remedial action 12 workplan and a person is harmed thereby; (4) for any liability to clean up and remove, pursuant to the 13 14 department's regulations and directions, any hazardous substances 15 that may have been discharged on the property or that may have 16 migrated therefrom; and 17 (5) for that person's failure to comply in the future with laws 18 and regulations. 19 g. Nothing in the amendatory provisions to this section adopted 20 pursuant to P.L.1997, c.278 shall be construed to remove any 21 defense to liability that a person may have had pursuant to 22 subsection e. of this section that existed prior to the effective date 23 of P.L.1997, c.278. 24 h. Nothing in this section shall limit the requirements of any 25 person to comply with P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.). 26 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.38) 27 5. Section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u) is amended 28 29 to read as follows: 30 22. a. (1) Whenever, on the basis of available information, the 31 department determines that a person is in violation of a provision of 32 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), including any rule, 33 regulation, plan, information request, access request, order or 34 directive promulgated or issued pursuant thereto, or that a person 35 knowingly has given false testimony, documents or information to 36 the department, the department may: 37 (a) bring a civil action in accordance with subsection b. of this 38 section; 39 (b) levy a civil administrative penalty in accordance with 40 subsection c. of this section; or 41 (c) bring an action for a civil penalty in accordance with 42 subsection d. of this section. 43 Use of any remedy specified in this section shall not preclude use 44 of any other remedy. The department may simultaneously pursue 45 administrative and judicial remedies provided in this section. 46 b. The department may commence a civil action in Superior 47 Court for, singly or in combination: 48 (1) a temporary or permanent injunction;

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1 (2) the costs of any investigation, cleanup or removal, and for 2 the reasonable costs of preparing and successfully litigating an 3 action under this subsection;

(3) the cost of restoring, repairing, or replacing real or personal
property damaged or destroyed by a discharge, any income lost
from the time the property is damaged to the time it is restored,
repaired or replaced, and any reduction in value of the property
caused by the discharge by comparison with its value prior thereto;

9 (4) the cost of restoration and replacement, where practicable, of 10 any natural resource damaged or destroyed by a discharge; and

(5) any other costs incurred by the department pursuant toP.L.1976, c.141.

Compensatory damages for damages awarded to a person otherthan the State shall be paid to the person injured by the discharge.

c. (1) The department may assess a civil administrative penalty of not more than \$50,000 for each violation, and each day of violation shall constitute an additional, separate and distinct violation. A civil administrative penalty shall not be levied until a violator has been notified by certified mail or personal service of:

(a) the statutory or regulatory basis of the violation;

(b) the specific citation of the act or omission constituting theviolation;

(c) the amount of the civil administrative penalty to be imposed;
(d) the right of the violator to a hearing on any matter contained
in the notice and the procedures for requesting a hearing.

26 (2) (a) A violator shall have 20 calendar days following receipt 27 of notice within which to request a hearing on any matter contained 28 in the notice, and shall comply with all procedures for requesting a 29 hearing. Failure to submit a timely request or to comply with all 30 departmental procedures shall constitute grounds for denial of a 31 hearing request. After a hearing and upon a finding that a violation has occurred, the department shall issue a final order assessing the 32 33 amount of the civil administrative penalty specified in the notice. If 34 a violator does not request a hearing or fails to satisfy the statutory 35 and administrative requirements for requesting a hearing, the notice 36 of assessment of a civil administrative penalty shall become a final 37 order on the 21st calendar day following receipt of the notice by the 38 violator. If the department denies a hearing request, the notice of 39 denial shall become a final order upon receipt of the notice by the 40 violator.

41 (b) A civil administrative penalty may be settled by the
42 department on such terms and conditions as the department may
43 determine.

44 (c) Payment of a civil administrative penalty shall not be
45 deemed to affect the availability of any other enforcement remedy
46 in connection with the violation for which the penalty was levied.

47 (3) If a civil administrative penalty imposed pursuant to this
48 section is not paid within 30 days of the date that the penalty is due
49 and owing, and the penalty is not contested by the person against

19 20

1 whom the penalty has been assessed, or the person fails to make a 2 payment pursuant to a payment schedule entered into with the 3 department, an interest charge shall accrue on the amount of the 4 penalty from the 30th day that amount was due and owing. In the 5 case of an appeal of a civil administrative penalty, if the amount of 6 the penalty is upheld, in whole or in part, the rate of interest shall be 7 calculated on that amount as of the 30th day from the date the 8 amount was due and owing under the administrative order. The rate 9 of interest shall be that established by the New Jersey Supreme 10 Court for interest rates on judgments, as set forth in the Rules 11 Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

(4) The department may assess and recover, by civil
administrative order, the costs of any investigation, cleanup or
removal, and the reasonable costs of preparing and successfully
enforcing a civil administrative penalty pursuant to this subsection.
The assessment may be recovered at the same time as a civil
administrative penalty, and shall be in addition to the penalty
assessment.

19 d. Any person who violates a provision of P.L.1976, c.141 20 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), or a court order issued pursuant thereto, or 21 who fails to pay a civil administrative penalty in full or to agree to a 22 schedule of payments therefor, shall be subject to a civil penalty not 23 to exceed \$50,000.00 per day for each violation, and each day's 24 continuance of the violation shall constitute a separate violation. 25 Any penalty incurred under this subsection may be recovered with costs in a summary proceeding pursuant to ["the penalty 26 law" (N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.)] the "Penalty 27 enforcement 28 Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.) in 29 the Superior Court or a municipal court. The Superior Court and 30 the municipal courts shall have jurisdiction to impose a civil penalty 31 for a violation of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) pursuant 32 to this subsection and in accordance with the procedures set forth in 33 the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

e. All conveyances used or intended for use in the willful
discharge of any hazardous substance are subject to forfeiture to the
State pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1981, c.387 (C.13:1K1 et seq.).

38 (cf: P.L.1990, c.75, s.1)

39

40 6. Section 23 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1) is amended to 41 read as follows:

42 23. As used in sections 23 through 43 and section 45 of 43 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et seq.), as may be amended and 44 supplemented:

45 "Area of concern" means any location where contaminants are or
46 were known or suspected to have been discharged, generated,
47 manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated, or
48 disposed, or where contaminants have or may have migrated;

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"Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development
 Authority established pursuant to P.L.1974, c.80 (C.34:1B-1 et
 seq.);

Brownfield development area" means an area that has been so
designated by the department, in writing, pursuant to the provisions
of section 7 of P.L.2005, c.223 (C.58:10B-25.1);

7 "Brownfield site" means any former or current commercial or
8 industrial site that is currently vacant or underutilized and on which
9 there has been, or there is suspected to have been, a discharge of a
10 contaminant;

"Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged
hazardous substance as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1976,
c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b), hazardous waste as defined pursuant to
section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined
pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3);

16 "Department" means the Department of Environmental17 Protection;

"Discharge" means an intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of a contaminant onto the
land or into the waters of the State;

"Engineering controls" means any mechanism to contain or
stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial
action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps,
covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences
and physical access controls;

"Environmental opportunity zone" has the meaning given that
term pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1995, c.413 (C.54:4-3.152);

"Final remediation document" means a no further action letter
issued by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1
et al.), or a response action outcome issued by a licensed site
remediation professional pursuant to section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-14);

34 "Financial assistance" means loans or loan guarantees;

35 "Institutional controls" means a mechanism used to limit human activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the 36 37 effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants remain at a contaminated site in levels or concentrations above the 38 39 applicable remediation standard that would allow unrestricted use 40 of that property. Institutional controls may include, without limitation, structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well 41 42 restriction areas, and deed notices;

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the
department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12);
"Limited restricted use remedial action" means any remedial
action that requires the continued use of institutional controls but

49 does not require the use of an engineering control;

1 "No further action letter" means a written determination by the 2 department that based upon an evaluation of the historical use of a 3 particular site, or of an area of concern or areas of concern at that 4 site, as applicable, and any other investigation or action the 5 department deems necessary, there are no discharged contaminants 6 present at the site, at the area of concern or areas of concern, at any 7 other site to which a discharge originating at the site has migrated, 8 or that any discharged contaminants present at the site or that have 9 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 10 applicable remediation regulations;

11 "Person" means an individual, corporation, company,12 partnership, firm, or other private business entity;

"Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 13 14 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 15 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or 16 operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 17 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 18 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 19 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 20 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 21 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 22 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 23 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site; 24 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 25 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants 26 are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 27 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 28 existing site specific operational and environmental information, 29 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 30 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 31 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 32 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 33 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 34 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 35 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent 36 inquiry of the public records;

37 "Presumptive remedy" means a remedial action established by
38 the department pursuant to paragraph (10) of subsection g. of
39 section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12);

40 "Recreation and conservation purposes" means the use of lands 41 for beaches, biological or ecological study, boating, camping, 42 fishing, forests, greenways, hunting, natural areas, parks, 43 playgrounds, protecting historic properties, water reserves, 44 watershed protection, wildlife preserves, active sports, or a similar 45 use for either public outdoor recreation or conservation of natural 46 resources, or both;

47 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if
48 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be
49 required by the department, including the removal, treatment,

containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or
 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise,
 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or
 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in
 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental
 standards;

7 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action
8 to be undertaken at a site, or at any area to which a discharge
9 originating at a site is migrating or has migrated; a description of
10 the remedial action to be used to remediate a site; a time schedule
11 and cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and
12 any other information the department deems necessary;

13 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 14 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 15 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 16 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 17 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 18 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 19 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 20 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary;

"Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 21 22 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 23 or threatened discharge of contaminants, including [, as necessary,] 24 preliminary assessment, site investigation, the remedial investigation, and remedial action, or any portion thereof, provided, 25 26 however, that "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the 27 payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural 28 resources;

29 "Remediation fund" means the Hazardous Discharge Site
30 Remediation Fund established pursuant to section 26 of P.L.1993,
31 c.139 (C.58:10B-4);

32 "Remediation funding source" means the methods of financing
33 the remediation of a discharge required to be established by a
34 person performing the remediation pursuant to section 25 of
35 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3);

36 "Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric 37 standards that establish a level or concentration, and narrative 38 standards to which contaminants must be treated, removed, or 39 otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or surface water, as 40 provided by the department pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, 41 c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or 42 environmental standards;

43 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 44 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 45 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 46 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 47 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 48 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and authorizations have been obtained;

7 "Restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action that
8 requires the continued use of engineering and institutional controls
9 in order to meet the established health risk or environmental
10 standards;

"Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to the preliminary assessment;

"Unrestricted use remedial action" means any remedial action
that does not require the continued use of engineering or
institutional controls in order to meet the established health risk or
environmental standards;

"Voluntarily perform a remediation" means performing a
remediation without having been ordered or directed to do so by the
department or by a court and without being compelled to perform a
remediation pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.330
(C.13:1K-6 et al.).

26 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.40)

27

28 7. Section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3) is amended to29 read as follows:

30 30. a. An owner or operator of an industrial establishment 31 subject to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), the 32 discharger of a hazardous substance or a person in any way 33 responsible for a hazardous substance pursuant to the provisions of 34 subsection c. of section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), or 35 the owner or operator of an underground storage tank regulated pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1986, c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), 36 37 that has discharged a hazardous substance, shall remediate the 38 discharge of a hazardous substance.

b. A person who initiates a remediation [of a contaminated
site] at least 180 days after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall:

42 (1) [hire] retain a licensed site remediation professional to
43 perform the remediation;

44 (2) notify the department of the name and license information of
45 the licensed site remediation professional who has been [hired]
46 retained to perform the remediation;

47 (3) conduct the remediation without the prior approval of the48 department, unless directed otherwise by the department;

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(4) establish a remediation funding source if a remediation
 funding source is required pursuant to the provisions of section 25
 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3);

4 (5) pay all applicable fees and oversight costs as required by the 5 department;

(6) provide access to the contaminated site to the department;

7 (7) provide access to all applicable documents concerning the8 remediation to the department;

9 (8) meet the mandatory remediation timeframes and expedited 10 site specific timeframes established by the department pursuant to 11 section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28); and

12 (9) obtain all necessary permits.

6

c. (1) Any person who initiates a remediation prior to the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), or prior to the issuance of temporary licenses to site remediation professionals pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12), shall comply with the provisions of paragraphs (4) through (9) of subsection b. of this section.

19 (2) The department may require a person required to perform a 20 remediation pursuant to subsection a. of this section, or a person 21 who has initiated a remediation prior to the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), to comply with the provisions of 22 23 subsection b. of this section if, after the date of enactment of 24 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), the department (a) issues a final 25 order or a penalty becomes due and payable, concerning the 26 performance of the remediation, or (b) issues a demand for 27 stipulated penalties pursuant to the provisions of an oversight 28 document in which the person waived a right to a hearing on the 29 penalties.

30 (3) No later than three years after the date of enactment of
31 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), a person responsible for
32 conducting the remediation, no matter when the remediation is
33 initiated, shall comply with the provisions of subsection b. of this
34 section.

d. (1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any
person who remediates a discharge from an unregulated heating oil
tank. For any person who remediates a discharge from an
unregulated heating oil tank, the provisions of section 15 of
P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-15) shall apply.

40 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person 41 who: (a) does not own a contaminated site, (b) conducts a 42 preliminary assessment or site investigation of the contaminated site 43 for the purpose of conducting all appropriate inquiry into the 44 previous ownership and uses of the property as provided in section 45 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), and (c) has not discharged a 46 hazardous substance at the site or is not in any way responsible for 47 a hazardous substance discharged at the site pursuant to section 8 of 48 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g).

1 $^{2}(3)$ A person shall not be required to retain a licensed site 2 remediation professional pursuant to this section to conduct 3 sampling or investigation to confirm or evaluate a remediation 4 performed or supervised by a retained licensed site remediation 5 professional, provided that such sampling or investigation: (1) is 6 not required pursuant to this section or any other law, rule, 7 regulation, or order; (2) is not conducted in order to obtain a 8 response action outcome; and (3) is not conducted in order to 9 investigate, clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or 10 threatened discharge of a contaminant.² 11 Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this e. 12 section shall be liable to the enforcement provisions established 13 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u). 14 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.30) 15 16 8. Section 25 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3) is amended to 17 read as follows: 18 25. a. Except as otherwise provided in section 27 of P.L.2009, 19 c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the owner or operator of an industrial 20 establishment or any other person required to perform remediation 21 activities pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), or a 22 discharger, a person in any way responsible for a hazardous 23 substance, or a person otherwise liable for cleanup and removal 24 costs pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) who has 25 been issued a directive or an order by a State agency, who has 26 entered into an administrative consent order with a State agency, or 27 who has been ordered by a court to clean up and remove a hazardous substance or hazardous waste discharge pursuant to 28 29 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), shall establish and 30 maintain a remediation funding source in the amount necessary to 31 pay the estimated cost of the required remediation. A person who 32 [voluntarily undertakes a remediation pursuant to a memorandum 33 of agreement with the department, or without the department's 34 oversight, or who] performs a remediation in an environmental 35 opportunity zone is not required to establish or maintain a 36 remediation funding source. A person who uses an innovative 37 technology or who, in a timely fashion, implements an unrestricted 38 use remedial action or a limited restricted use remedial action for all 39 or part of a remedial action is not required to establish a 40 remediation funding source for the cost of the remediation 41 involving the innovative technology or permanent remedy. A 42 government entity, a person who undertakes a remediation at their 43 primary or secondary residence, the owner or operator of a child care center licensed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) 44 45 who performs a remediation at the licensed child care center, or the 46 person responsible for conducting a remediation at a public school 47 or private school as defined in N.J.S.18A:1-1, or a charter school 48 established pursuant to P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.), shall

not be required to establish or maintain a remediation funding
source. A person required to establish a remediation funding source
pursuant to this section shall provide to the department satisfactory
documentation that the requirement has been met.

5 The remediation funding source shall be established in an 6 amount equal to or greater than the cost estimate of the 7 implementation of the remediation (1) as approved by the 8 department or as determined by the licensed site remediation 9 professional, as applicable, in accordance with rules and regulations 10 adopted by the department pursuant to section 29 of P.L.2009, c.60 11 (C.58:10C-29), (2) as provided in an administrative consent order or 12 remediation agreement or remediation certification as required 13 pursuant to subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, (3) as 14 stated in a departmental order or directive, or (4) as agreed to by a court, and shall be in effect for a term not less than the actual time 15 16 necessary to perform the remediation at the site. Whenever the 17 remediation cost estimate increases, the person required to establish 18 the remediation funding source shall cause the amount of the 19 remediation funding source to be increased to an amount at least 20 equal to the new estimate. Whenever the remediation cost estimate 21 decreases, the person required to obtain the remediation funding 22 source may file a written request to the department to decrease the 23 amount in the remediation funding source or may submit written 24 documentation to the department certified by the licensed site 25 remediation professional of the details of the decrease in the cost 26 estimate, as applicable. The remediation funding source may be 27 decreased to the amount of the new estimate upon written approval 28 by the department delivered to the person who established the 29 remediation funding source or upon submission of the certification 30 by the licensed site remediation professional, as applicable.

31 b. **[**The person who established the remediation funding source 32 may use the remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the remediation.] The department may not require any other 33 34 financial assurance by the person responsible for conducting the 35 remediation other than that required in this section. In the case of a 36 remediation performed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330, the remediation 37 funding source shall be established no more than 14 days after the 38 approval by the department or the certification by the licensed site 39 remediation professional of a remedial action workplan, upon 40 approval of a remediation agreement pursuant to subsection e. of 41 section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or upon submission of a 42 remediation certification pursuant to subsection e. of P.L.1983, 43 c.330, unless the department approves an extension. In the case of 44 a remediation performed pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141, the 45 remediation funding source shall be established as provided in an 46 administrative consent order signed by the parties, as provided by a 47 court, or as directed or ordered by the department. In the case of a 48 remediation performed under the department's oversight pursuant to 49 section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the remediation

1 funding source shall be established at the time the person becomes 2 subject to the department's oversight. The establishment of a 3 remediation funding source for that part of the remediation funding 4 source to be established by a grant or financial assistance from the 5 remediation fund may be established for the purposes of this 6 subsection by the application for a grant or financial assistance from 7 the remediation fund and satisfactory evidence submitted to the 8 department that the grant or financial assistance will be awarded. 9 However, if the financial assistance or grant is denied or the 10 department finds that the person responsible for establishing the 11 remediation funding source did not take reasonable action to obtain 12 the grant or financial assistance, the department shall require that 13 the full amount of the remediation funding source be established 14 within 14 days of the denial or finding. Except as provided in 15 section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the remediation 16 funding source shall be evidenced by the establishment and 17 maintenance of (1) a remediation trust fund, administered by an 18 entity that has the authority to act as a trustee and whose trust 19 operations are regulated and examined by a federal or State agency, 20 or governed by court rule, (2) an environmental insurance policy, 21 issued by an entity licensed by the Department of Banking and 22 Insurance to transact business in the State of New Jersey, to fund 23 the remediation, (3) a line of credit from a financial institution 24 regulated pursuant to State or federal law and satisfactory to the 25 department authorizing the person responsible for performing the 26 remediation to borrow money, (4) a self-guarantee, [or] (5) a letter 27 of credit from a financial institution regulated pursuant to State or 28 federal law that guarantees the performance of the remediation by 29 the person to the satisfaction of the department, or (6) a surety bond 30 from an entity that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal 31 bonds in United States Treasury Department Circular 570, or by any 32 combination thereof. Where it can be demonstrated that a person 33 cannot establish and maintain a remediation funding source for the 34 full cost of the remediation by a method specified in this subsection, 35 that person may establish the remediation funding source for all or a 36 portion of the remediation, by securing financial assistance from the 37 Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund as provided in section 38 29 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-7). 39 A remediation trust fund shall be established pursuant to the c.

40 provisions of this subsection. An originally signed duplicate of the 41 trust agreement shall be delivered to the department (1) by certified 42 mail, overnight delivery, or personal service within 14 days of 43 receipt of notice from the department that the remedial action 44 workplan or remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 45 46 days of submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 47 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 48 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 49 submission of a remediation certification to the department as

1 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, or (4) as 2 specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, or order of 3 the department, as applicable. The remediation trust fund agreement 4 shall conform to a model trust fund agreement as established by the 5 department and shall be accompanied by a certification of 6 acknowledgment that conforms to a model established by the 7 department. The trustee shall be an entity which has the authority 8 to act as a trustee and whose trust operations are regulated and 9 examined by a federal or New Jersey agency.

10 The trust fund agreement shall provide that the remediation trust 11 fund may not be revoked or terminated by the person required to 12 establish the remediation funding source or by the trustee without the written consent of the department. The person who establishes 13 14 the remediation funding source in the form of a trust fund may use 15 the remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the 16 remediation. The trustee shall [release] disburse to the person 17 required to establish the remediation funding source, or to the 18 department or transferee of the property, as appropriate, only those 19 moneys as the department or the licensed site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be [released] disbursed. The 20 21 trustee shall release to the person who established the remediation 22 funding source, or to the department or transferee of the property, 23 as appropriate, only those moneys as the department authorizes, in 24 writing, to be released. For any remediation subject to the oversight 25 of the department pursuant to section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 26 (C.58:10C-27), the person entitled to receive money from the 27 remediation trust fund shall submit documentation to the department detailing the costs incurred or to be incurred as part of 28 29 the remediation. Upon a determination by the department that the 30 costs are consistent with the remediation of the site, the department 31 shall, in writing, authorize a disbursement of moneys from the 32 remediation trust fund in the amount of the documented costs.

33 The department shall return the original remediation trust fund 34 agreement to the trustee for termination after the **[**person required 35 to establish the remediation funding source substitutes] department 36 receives an alternative remediation funding source as specified in 37 this section or the department notifies the person required to 38 establish and maintain the remediation funding source that that 39 person is no longer required to maintain a remediation funding 40 source for remediation of the contaminated site.

41 d. An environmental insurance policy shall be established 42 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. An originally signed 43 duplicate of the insurance policy shall be delivered to the 44 department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal 45 service within [30] 14 days of receipt of notice from the department that the remedial action workplan or remediation 46 47 agreement, as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 48 c.330, is approved, (2) within 14 days of submission to the

1 department of a remedial action workplan certified by a licensed 2 site remediation professional as provided in subsection e. of section 3 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon submission of a 4 remediation certification to the department as provided in 5 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as 6 specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, or order of 7 the department, as applicable. [The insurance company shall 8 release to the person required to establish the remediation funding 9 source, or to the department or transferee of the property, as 10 appropriate, only those moneys as the department or the licensed 11 site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be released. 12 The person entitled to receive money from the environmental 13 insurance policy shall submit documentation to the department 14 detailing the costs incurred or to be incurred as part of the remediation.] The environmental insurance policy shall be issued 15 16 by an entity that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 17 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State. 18 An environmental insurance policy cannot be revoked or 19 terminated without the prior written approval of the department, 20 except upon failure by the insured to pay the premium. The issuer 21 of the environmental insurance policy may revoke or terminate the 22 policy for failure to pay the premium only after notifying the person 23 who established the remediation funding source and the department, 24 by certified mail, of the decision to revoke or terminate the policy. 25 The insurance company that provides the environmental 26 insurance policy shall reduce the policy only as the department 27 directs in writing. The insurance company that provides the 28 environmental insurance policy shall release to the department or to 29 a person authorized to perform the remediation pursuant to

30 subsection g. of this section only moneys authorized by the 31 department, in writing, to be released. The department shall 32 authorize, in writing, the termination of the environmental 33 insurance policy after the department receives an alternative 34 remediation funding source as specified in this section or the 35 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 36 the funding source that the person is no longer required to maintain 37 a remediation funding source for the remediation of the 38 contaminated site.

39 e. A line of credit shall be established pursuant to the 40 provisions of this subsection. A line of credit shall allow the person 41 establishing it to borrow money up to a limit established in a written 42 agreement in order to pay for the cost of the remediation for which 43 the line of credit was established. An originally signed duplicate of 44 the line of credit agreement shall be delivered to the department (1)45 by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal service within 14 46 days of receipt of notice from the department that the remedial 47 action workplan or remediation agreement as provided in subsection 48 e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 is approved, (2) within 14 days of 49 submission to the department of a remedial action workplan

1 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 2 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 3 submission of a remediation certification [pursuant to] to the 4 department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 5 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent 6 order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. The 7 line of credit agreement shall conform to a model agreement as 8 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 9 10 established by the department. The line of credit shall be issued by 11 an institution that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 12 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State, or by a 13 federally regulated bank. 14 The line of credit shall not be allowed to expire, unless the 15 institution provides the appropriate notification to the department 16 and the borrower, as defined in a model agreement established by 17 the department. The person who establishes the remediation 18 funding source in the form of a line of credit may use the 19 remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the 20 remediation. The institution providing the line of credit shall 21 disburse to the person required to establish the remediation funding 22 source, or to the department or transferee of the property, as 23 appropriate, only those moneys as the department or the licensed 24 site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be disbursed. 25 The **[**person or **]** institution providing the line of credit shall release 26 to the person [required to establish] who established the 27 remediation funding source, or to the department or transferee of 28 the property as appropriate, only those moneys as the department 29 [or the licensed site remediation professional] authorizes, in 30 writing, to be released. [The person entitled to draw upon the line 31 of credit shall submit documentation to the department detailing the 32 costs incurred or to be incurred as part of the remediation. Upon a 33 determination that the costs are consistent with the remediation of 34 the site, the department shall, in writing, authorize a disbursement 35 from the line of credit in the amount of the documented costs.]

36 The department shall return the original line of credit agreement 37 to the [person or] institution providing the line of credit for 38 termination after the person required to establish the remediation 39 funding source substitutes department receives an alternative 40 remediation funding source as specified in this section, or after the 41 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 42 the remediation funding source that that person is no longer 43 required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation 44 of the contaminated site.

f. A person may self-guarantee a remediation funding source
upon the submittal of documentation to the department
demonstrating that the cost of the remediation [as estimated in the
remedial action workplan, in the remediation agreement as provided

1 in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, in a remediation certification submitted pursuant to subsection e. of P.L.1983, c.330, 2 3 in an administrative consent order, or as provided in a departmental 4 or court order, would not exceed one-third of the tangible net 5 worth of the person required to establish the remediation funding 6 source, and that the person has a cash flow sufficient to assure the 7 availability of sufficient moneys for the remediation during the time 8 necessary for the remediation. Documentation shall be delivered to 9 the department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal 10 service within 14 days of receipt of notice from the department that 11 the remedial action workplan or remediation agreement as provided 12 in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 is approved, (2) 13 within 14 days of submission to the department of a remedial action 14 workplan certified by a licensed site remediation professional as 15 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-16 9), (3) upon submission of a remediation certification pursuant to 17 the department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 18 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an 19 administrative consent order, civil order, or order of the department, 20 as applicable. Satisfactory documentation of a person's capacity to 21 self-guarantee a remediation funding source shall consist of audited 22 financial statements, in which the auditor expresses an unqualified 23 opinion, that includes a statement of income and expenses or similar 24 statement of that person and the balance sheet or similar statement 25 of assets and liabilities as used by that person for the fiscal year of 26 the person making the application that ended closest in time to the 27 date of the self-guarantee application. In the case of a special 28 purpose entity established specifically for the purpose of acquiring 29 and redeveloping a contaminated site, and for which a statement of 30 income and expenses is not available, the documentation shall 31 include a statement of assets and liabilities certified by a certified 32 public accountant. The self-guarantee application shall be certified 33 as true to the best of the applicant's information, knowledge, and 34 belief, by the chief financial, or similar officer or employee, or 35 general partner, or principal of the person making the self-guarantee 36 application. A person shall be deemed by the department to possess 37 the required cash flow pursuant to this section if that person's gross 38 receipts exceed its gross payments in that fiscal year in an amount 39 at least equal to the estimated costs of completing the remedial 40 action workplan schedule to be performed in the 12-month period 41 following the date on which the application for self-guarantee is 42 made and the individual or entity possesses a net cash flow 43 provided by operating activities in an amount at least equal to the 44 estimated costs of completing the remediation in the 12-month 45 period following the date the application is made. In the event that a 46 self-guarantee is required for a period of more than one year, 47 applications for a self-guarantee shall be renewed annually pursuant 48 to this subsection for each successive year. The department may 49 establish requirements and reporting obligations to ensure that the

person proposing to self-guarantee a remediation funding source
 meets the criteria for self-guaranteeing prior to the initiation of
 remedial action and until completion of the remediation.

4 g. (1) If the person required to establish the remediation 5 funding source fails to perform the remediation as required, or fails 6 to meet the conditions established pursuant to paragraph (3) of 7 subsection a. of section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27) or 8 section 1 of P.L.2013, c.283 (C.58:10C-27.1), or the mandatory 9 remediation timeframes or expedited site specific timeframes 10 established pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28) 11 for the performance of the remedial action, the department shall 12 make a written determination of this fact. A copy of the 13 determination by the department shall be delivered to the person 14 required to establish the remediation funding source and, in the case 15 of a remediation conducted pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-16 6 et al.), to any transferee of the property. Following this written 17 determination, the department may perform the remediation in place 18 of the person required to establish the remediation funding source. 19 In order to finance the cost of the remediation the department may 20 make disbursements from the remediation funding source, or, if 21 sufficient moneys are not available from those funds, from the 22 remediation guarantee fund created pursuant to section 45 of 23 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-20).

24 (2) The transferee of property subject to a remediation 25 conducted pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), may, at 26 any time after the department's determination of nonperformance by 27 the owner or operator required to establish the remediation funding 28 source, petition the department, in writing, with a copy being sent to 29 the owner and operator, for authority to perform the remediation at 30 the industrial establishment. The department, upon a determination 31 that the transferee is competent to do so, may grant that petition which shall authorize the transferee to perform the remediation as 32 33 specified in an approved remedial action workplan, or to perform 34 the activities as required in a remediation agreement, or as provided 35 in a remediation certification, and to avail itself of the moneys in 36 the remediation trust fund, letter of credit, [or] line of credit , or 37 surety bond, or to make claims upon the environmental insurance 38 policy for these purposes. The petition of the transferee shall not be 39 granted by the department if the owner or operator continues or 40 begins to perform its obligations within 14 days of the petition 41 being filed with the department.

42 (3) After the department has begun to perform the remediation 43 in the place of the person required to establish the remediation 44 funding source or has granted the petition of the transferee to 45 perform the remediation, the person required to establish the 46 remediation funding source shall not be permitted by the 47 department to continue its performance obligations except upon the 48 agreement of the department or the transferee, as applicable, or except upon a determination by the department that the transferee is
 not adequately performing the remediation.

3 h. A letter of credit shall be established pursuant to the 4 provisions of this subsection. A letter of credit shall allow a person 5 to guarantee the availability of funds up to a limit established in a written agreement in order to guarantee the payment of the cost of 6 7 the remediation for which the letter of credit was established. An 8 originally signed duplicate of the letter of credit agreement shall be 9 delivered to the department (1) by certified mail, overnight 10 delivery, or personal service within 14 days of receipt of notice 11 from the department that the remedial action workplan or 12 remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 13 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 days of 14 submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 15 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 16 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 17 submission of a remediation certification [pursuant to] to the 18 department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 19 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent 20 order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. The 21 letter of credit agreement shall conform to a model agreement as 22 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a 23 certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 24 established by the department. The letter of credit shall be issued 25 by an entity that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 26 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State, or by a 27 federally regulated bank.

28 The letter of credit shall not be allowed to expire unless the 29 financial institution provides the appropriate notification to the 30 department and the application, as defined by a model agreement 31 established by the department. The financial institution that 32 provides the letter of credit shall release to the department or to a 33 person authorized to perform the remediation pursuant to subsection 34 g. of this section, only moneys authorized by the department, [or 35 the authorized licensed site remediation professional,] in writing, to be released. The department shall return the original letter of credit 36 37 to the financial institution providing the letter of credit for 38 termination after the person required to establish the remediation 39 funding source substitutes department receives an alternative 40 remediation funding source as authorized in this section, or after the 41 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 42 the remediation funding source that that person is no longer 43 required to maintain a remediation funding source for the 44 remediation of the contaminated site. 45 A surety bond shall be established pursuant to the provisions <u>i.</u>

46 of this subsection. A surety bond shall allow a person to guarantee
47 the availability of funds up to a limit established in a written
48 agreement in order to guarantee the payment of the cost of the

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1 remediation for which the surety bond was established. An 2 originally signed duplicate of the surety bond agreement shall be 3 delivered to the department (1) by certified mail, overnight 4 delivery, or personal service within 14 days of receipt of notice 5 from the department that the remedial action workplan or 6 remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 7 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 days of 8 submission to the department of a licensed site remediation 9 professional certified remedial action workplan as provided in 10 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 11 submission of a remediation certification to the department as 12 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-13 9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, 14 or order of the department, as applicable. The surety bond 15 agreement shall conform to a model agreement established by the 16 department and shall be accompanied by a certification of 17 acknowledgment that conforms to a model established by the 18 department. The surety company issuing the bond must be a 19 company that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal bonds in 20 United States Treasury Department Circular 570. 21 The surety bond shall not be cancelled unless the surety company 22 provides the appropriate notice of cancellation to the department 23 and the principal, as defined in a model agreement established by 24 the department. The surety company that provides the surety bond 25 shall release to the department, or to a person authorized to perform 26 the remediation pursuant to subsection g. of this section, only 27 monies authorized by the department, in writing, to be released. 28 The department shall return the original surety bond to the surety 29 company for termination after the department receives an 30 alternative remediation funding source as specified in this section or 31 the department notifies the person that that person is no longer 32 required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation 33 of the contaminated site. 34 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.43) 35 36 9. (New section) The department shall encourage the use of 37 green and sustainable practices during the remediation of a 38 contaminated site. The use of green and sustainable practices shall 39 not alter the requirement that the remediation be protective of the 40 public health and safety and of the environment. 41 42 10. Section 39 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-15) is amended to 43 read as follows: 44 39. a. Any person who, before the effective date of P.L.1993, 45 c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.), has discharged a hazardous substance in 46 violation of P.L.1976, c.141, and: 47 (1) has not been issued a directive to remove or arrange for the 48 removal of the discharge pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 49 (C.58:10-23.11f);

(2) has not been assessed a civil penalty, a civil administrative
 penalty, or is not the subject of an action pursuant to the provisions
 of section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u);

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(3) has not entered into an administrative consent order to clean up and remove the discharge; and

(4) has not been ordered by a court to clean up and remove the 6 7 discharge, shall not be subject to a monetary penalty for the failure 8 to report the discharge or for any civil violation of P.L.1976, c.141 9 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) or P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.) that 10 resulted in the discharge if the person notifies the department of the 11 discharge and enters into an administrative consent order [or a 12 memorandum of agreement with the department to remediate the 13 discharge in accordance with the provisions of P.L.1976, c.141 14 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), or any rules or regulations adopted 15 pursuant thereto, within one year of the effective date of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.). Any person who notifies the department 16 17 of the discharge pursuant to this section shall be liable for all 18 cleanup and removal costs as provided in section 8 of P.L.1976, 19 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g).

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection a. of this 20 21 subsection, any person who enters into [a memorandum of 22 agreement or <u>an</u> administrative consent order pursuant to this 23 section and fails to remediate the discharge in accordance with the 24 [memorandum of agreement or] administrative consent order, shall 25 be subject to all penalties for violations that occurred before the 26 effective date of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.) as well as any 27 penalties for subsequent violations.

c. The provisions of this section shall not apply to violations of
a permit issued pursuant to P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.).

30 d. Any documents or information provided to the department 31 pursuant to this section may not be used in a criminal investigation 32 or criminal prosecution against the person providing the 33 information or documents for those violations that occurred before 34 the effective date of [this act] P.L.1993, c.139 as long as the person 35 remediates the discharge in conformance with the administrative 36 consent order [or memorandum of agreement] entered into 37 pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

- 38 (cf: P.L.1993, c.139, s.39)
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40 11. Section 1 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.1) is amended to 41 read as follows:

42 1. a. Prior to the initiation of the remedial [action] 43 investigation phase of the remediation of a contaminated site, any 44 person who is responsible for conducting a remediation of the 45 contaminated site, including the Department of Environmental 46 Protection when it conducts a remediation of a contaminated site 47 using public monies, shall provide written notification describing 48 the activities that are to take place at the contaminated site to the

1 clerk of the municipality and to the county health department and 2 the local health agency wherein the site is located. The written 3 notice shall include notice of the location of the contaminated site, 4 including address and the lot and block number of the contaminated 5 site. The written notice shall also inform the municipality, county 6 health department, and local health agency that they may receive a 7 copy of the remedial action workplan [and any updates or status 8 reports], any other workplan, report, or validated data required by 9 the department, and any updates thereto, and a copy of the site 10 health and safety plan, from the responsible party, upon request. 11 For any remediation of a contaminated site that will take longer 12 than two years to complete, the person responsible for conducting 13 the remediation shall provide the notification [shall be provided] 14 required by this section every two years until remediation is 15 complete. 16 b. Notice required pursuant to this section shall not be required 17 when the remediation of a contaminated site is caused by a leaking 18 residential underground storage tank used to store heating oil for 19 on-site consumption in a one to four family residential building or 20 an emergency response action. 21 (cf: P.L.2007, c.276, s.1) 22 23 12. Section 2 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.2) is amended to 24 read as follows: 2. Upon request of a municipality, any person who is responsible 25 26 for conducting a remediation of a contaminated site shall submit a copy of a remedial action workplan , any other workplan, report, or 27 28 validated data required by the department ¹pursuant to law, rule, or regulation¹, and any updates or status reports pursuant to the

29 30 "Industrial Site Recovery Act," P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), the 31 "Brownfield and Contaminated Site Remediation Act," P.L.1997, 32 c.278 (C.58:10B-1.1 et al.), or the "Spill Compensation and Control 33 Act," P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), and a copy of the site 34 health and safety plan, to the clerk of the municipality wherein the 35 contaminated site is located at the same time as [the workplan is] 36 those documents are submitted to the Department of Environmental 37 Protection] department. Upon request of a county health department 38 or a local health agency, the person who is responsible for conducting 39 a remediation of a contaminated site shall also submit a copy of the remedial action workplan [and], any other workplan, report, or 40 41 validated data required by the department ¹pursuant to law, rule, or 42 <u>regulation</u>¹, any updates or status reports, and a copy of the site health 43 and safety plan, to the county health department or local health agency, respectively ¹, wherein the contaminated site is located at the 44 45 same time as those documents are submitted to the department¹.

46 (cf: P.L.2007, c.276, s.2)

1 13. Section 3 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.3) is amended to 2 read as follows:

3 3. a. Any person who is responsible for conducting a remediation 4 of a contaminated site shall be responsible for notifying the public of 5 the remediation of the contaminated site pursuant to rules and 6 regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection 7 pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

8 b. Within six months after the date of enactment of this act, the 9 Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt, pursuant to the 10 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and regulations setting forth the notice requirements pursuant to 11 12 subsection a. of this section. The rules and regulations to be adopted by the department pursuant to this section shall require any person 13 14 who is responsible for conducting a remediation of a contaminated site 15 to provide written notification to any local property owners and tenants 16 who reside within 200 feet of the contaminated site. The notification 17 shall summarize site conditions and provide information about actions being taken to remediate the site ¹[and] <u>. The department</u>¹ may 18 require written notification [or] ¹[and] <u>or</u>¹ the posting of a sign 19 visible to the public which shall be located on the boundaries of the 20 contaminated site 1 , or both 1 . 21

22 c. A person responsible for conducting a remediation shall respond to any ¹written or email¹ inquiries from the public ¹regarding 23 the status of the remediation¹ that the person receives, or that the 24 department receives and forwards to the person responsible for 25 conducting the remediation, by providing either: (1) ¹[specific]¹ 26 information or documents that are responsive to the public inquiry; or 27 (2) a written ¹summary¹ status report for the remediation, which shall 28 29 be made in a form and manner as prescribed by the department 30 pursuant to rules and regulations. A person responsible for conducting 31 a remediation may designate a licensed site remediation professional 32 to respond to public inquiries pursuant to this subsection.

- 33 (cf: P.L.2006, c.65, s.3)
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35 14. Section 1 of P.L.2005, c.360 (C.58:10B-27.2) is amended to
 36 read as follows:

37 1. a. The provisions of any other law, or rule or regulation 38 adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding, the State 39 may enter into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1997, c. 278 (C.58:10B-27 and 58:10B-28) for a 40 41 redevelopment project that was commenced prior to the effective 42 date of sections 34 through 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-26 43 through 58:10B-31) in which the State may agree to reimburse a 44 developer for 75 [%] percent of remediation costs incurred 45 subsequent to entering into the redevelopment agreement, provided that the **[**Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the Commerce 46 and Economic Growth Commission] <u>Executive Director of the New</u> 47

Jersey Economic Development Authority, in consultation with the
 State Treasurer, finds that:

3 (1) the remediation that has not yet been performed on the 4 subject real property is necessary to ensure that the public health 5 and safety and the environment are protected; and

6 (2) (a) the cost or extent of remediation was unanticipated at the 7 time the redevelopment project was commenced; (b) changes to the 8 rules and regulations governing site remediation were adopted after 9 the redevelopment project was commenced; (c) principles of 10 fairness and consistency indicate that the reimbursement of 11 remediation costs provided by P.L.1997, c.278 should be made 12 available to the developer who agreed to remediate and redevelop a 13 brownfield prior to the enactment of P.L.1997, c.278; (d) an 14 estimate of the cost of the remediation to be performed subsequent 15 to entry into the redevelopment agreement as approved by the 16 Department of Environmental Protection exceeds \$10 million; (e) 17 the subject real property is situated within a Planning Area 1 as 18 designated in the State Development and Redevelopment Plan; and 19 (f) a phase of the redevelopment project has not been commenced.

b. A developer that enters into a redevelopment agreement
pursuant to this section shall be eligible for reimbursement of
remediation costs pursuant to sections 36 and 37 of P.L.1997, c.278
(C.58:10B-28 and 58:10B-29), provided that:

(1) in estimating the amount of State taxes that are anticipated to
be derived from a redevelopment project the director shall only
consider tax revenues generated subsequent to the date of the
redevelopment agreement from a phase of the redevelopment
project that has not generated tax revenues prior to January 1, 2006;
and

30 (2) a developer has entered into **[**a memorandum of agreement 31 or other**]** <u>an</u> oversight document with the Commissioner of 32 Environmental Protection for the remediation of a contaminated site 33 located on the site of the redevelopment project and the developer is 34 in compliance with the **[**memorandum of agreement or**]** oversight 35 document.

c. Nothing in this section shall require that a no further action
letter be obtained by a developer for remediation of groundwater
beneath the subject real property prior to reimbursement of the
remediation costs, provided that the developer has completed any
capital construction or infrastructure required for the remediation of
groundwater on the site.

42 (cf: P.L.2005, c.360, s.1)

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44 15. Section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-28) is amended to 45 read as follows:

36. a. The provisions of any other law, or rule or regulation
adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding, any
developer that enters into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to

section 35 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-27), may be eligible for reimbursement of up to 75 [%] percent of the costs of the remediation of the subject real property pursuant to the provisions of this section upon the commencement of a business operation, or the completion of the construction of one or more new residences, within a redevelopment project.

b. To be eligible for reimbursement of the costs of remediation, 7 8 a developer shall submit an application, in writing, to the director 9 for review and certification of the reimbursement. The director 10 shall review the request for the reimbursement upon receipt of an 11 application therefor, and shall approve or deny the application for 12 certification on a timely basis. The director shall also make a 13 finding of the occupancy rate of the property subject to the 14 redevelopment agreement in the frequency set forth in the 15 redevelopment agreement as provided in section 35 of P.L.1997, 16 c.278 (C.58:10B-27).

17 The director shall certify a developer to be eligible for the18 reimbursement if the director finds that:

(1) residential construction is complete, or a place of business is
located, in the area subject to the redevelopment agreement that has
generated new tax revenues;

22 (2) the developer had (i) entered into [a memorandum of 23 agreement, or other an oversight document, with the 24 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, after the developer 25 entered into the redevelopment agreement, for the remediation of 26 contamination located on the site of the redevelopment project pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) and the 27 28 developer is in compliance with the [memorandum of agreement] 29 oversight document, or (ii) complied with the requirements set forth 30 in subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3); and 31 (3) the costs of the remediation were actually and reasonably 32 incurred. In making this finding the director may consult with the 33 Department of Environmental Protection.

34 c. When filing an application for certification for a reimbursement pursuant to this section, the developer shall submit 35 to the director a certification of the total remediation costs incurred 36 37 by the developer for the remediation of the subject property located 38 at the site of the redevelopment project as provided in the 39 redevelopment agreement, information concerning the occupancy 40 rate of the buildings or other work areas located on the property 41 subject to the redevelopment agreement, and such other information 42 as the director deems necessary in order to make the certifications 43 and findings pursuant to this section.

44 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.53)

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46 16. Section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) is amended to 47 read as follows:

1 37. a. To qualify for the certification of reimbursement of the 2 remediation costs authorized pursuant to section 36 of 3 P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-28), a developer shall: (1) enter into [a 4 memorandum of agreement, or other] an oversight document with 5 the Commissioner of Environmental Protection; or (2) comply with the requirements set forth in subsection b. of section 30 of 6 7 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), for the remediation of the site of the 8 redevelopment project.

b. Under the [memorandum of agreement, or other] oversight
document, the developer shall agree to perform and complete any
remediation activity as may be required by the Department of
Environmental Protection to ensure the remediation is conducted
pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Department of
Environmental Protection pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B1 et al.).

16 c. After the developer has entered into a memorandum of 17 agreement, or other] an oversight document with the Commissioner 18 of Environmental Protection, or after the developer has notified the 19 Department of Environmental Protection of the name and license 20 information of the licensed site remediation professional who has 21 been [hired] retained to perform the remediation as required 22 pursuant to subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-23 1.3), the commissioner shall submit a copy thereof to the developer, 24 the clerk of the municipality in which the subject property is 25 located, the Division of Business Assistance, Marketing and 26 International Trade in the New Jersey Economic Development 27 Authority, and the director.

- 28 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.54)
- 29

30 17. Section 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-31) is amended to
 31 read as follows:

32 39. a. The State Treasurer shall reimburse the developer the 33 amount of the remediation costs agreed upon in the redevelopment 34 agreement, and as provided in sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 35 (C.58:10B-27 and C.58:10B-28) upon issuance of the certification 36 by the director pursuant to section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-37 28). The developer shall be entitled to periodic payments from the 38 fund in an amount, in the frequency, and over the time period as 39 provided in the redevelopment agreement. Notwithstanding any 40 other provision of sections 34 through 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 41 (C.58:10B-26 through C.58:10B-31), the State Treasurer may not 42 reimburse the developer any amount of the remediation costs from 43 the fund until the State Treasurer is satisfied that the anticipated tax revenues from the redevelopment project have been realized by the 44 45 State in an amount sufficient to pay for the cost of the 46 reimbursements.

b. A developer shall submit to the director updated remediationcosts actually incurred by the developer for the remediation of the

1 contaminated property located at the site of the redevelopment 2 project as provided in the redevelopment agreement. The 3 reimbursement authorized pursuant to this section shall continue 4 until such time as the aggregate dollar amount of the agreed upon 5 reimbursement. To remain entitled to the reimbursement authorized pursuant to this section, the developer shall perform and complete 6 7 all remediation activities as may be required pursuant to the 8 [memorandum of agreement or other] oversight [agreement] 9 document entered into with the Commissioner of Environmental 10 Protection pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) 11 or as may be required by the licensed site remediation professional 12 in order to issue a response action outcome for the site. The 13 Department of Environmental Protection may review the 14 remediation costs incurred by the developer to determine if they are 15 reasonable. 16 Reimbursable remediation costs shall include costs that are 17 incurred in preparing the area of land whereon the contaminated site 18 is located for remediation and may include costs of dynamic 19 compaction of soil necessary for the remediation.

20 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.55)

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18. Section 2 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-2) is amended to read asfollows:

24 2. As used in sections 1 through 29 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C25 1 et seq.):

26 "Area of concern" means any location where contaminants are or
27 were known or suspected to have been discharged, generated,
28 manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated, or
29 disposed, or where contaminants have or may have migrated.

"Board" means the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board
established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-3).

"Certified subsurface evaluator" means a person certified to
perform services at the site of an unregulated heating oil tank pursuant
to P.L.1991, c.123 (C.58:10A-24.1 et seq.) as a subsurface evaluator.

"Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged
hazardous substance as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1976,
c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b), hazardous waste as defined pursuant to
section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined
pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3).

40 "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.

41 "Discharge" means any intentional or unintentional action or 42 omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, 43 pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of hazardous substances into 44 the waters or onto the lands of the State, or into waters outside the 45 jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the lands, waters 46 or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State.

47 "Engineering controls" means any mechanism to contain or
48 stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial
49 action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps,

1 covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences and 2 physical access controls. 3 "Environmental crime" means any criminal violation of one of the 4 following State laws: R.S.12:5-1 et seq.; P.L.1975, c.232 (C.13:1D-5 29 et al.); the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.); section 17 of P.L.1975, c.326 (C.13:1E-26); the 6 7 "Comprehensive Regulated Medical Waste Management Act," 8 sections 1 [though] through 25 of P.L.1989, c.34 (C.13:1E-9 48.1 et seq.); P.L.1989, c.151 (C.13:1E-99.21a et al.); the "New Jersey 10 Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act," 11 P.L.1987, c.102 (C.13:1E-99.11 et al.); the "Pesticide Control Act of 12 1971," P.L.1971, c.176 (C.13:1F-1 et seq.); the "Industrial Site 13 Recovery Act," P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.); the "Toxic 14 Catastrophe Prevention Act," P.L.1985, c.403 (C.13:1K-19 et seq.); 15 "The Wetlands Act of 1970," P.L.1970, c.272 (C.13:9A-1 et seq.); the 16 "Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act," P.L.1987, c.156 (C.13:9B-17 1 et al.); the "Coastal Area Facility Review Act," P.L.1973, c.185 18 (C.13:19-1 et seq.); the "Air Pollution Control Act (1954)," P.L.1954, 19 c.212 (C.26:2C-1 et seq.); the "Water Supply Management Act," 20 P.L.1981, c.262 (C.58:1A-1 et al.); P.L.1947, c.377 (C.58:4A-21 5 et seq.); the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," P.L.1976, c.141 22 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.); the "Water Pollution Control Act," P.L.1977, 23 c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.); P.L.1986, c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.); the 24 "Safe Drinking Water Act," P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-1 et al.); the 25 "Flood Hazard Area Control Act," P.L.1962, c.19 (C.58:16A-26 50 et seq.).

27 "Feasibility study" means a study to develop and evaluate options 28 for remedial action using data gathered during the remedial 29 investigation to develop the objectives of the remedial action, and to 30 develop possible remedial action alternatives, to evaluate those 31 alternatives and create a list of feasible alternatives, and to analyze the 32 engineering, scientific, institutional, human health, environmental, and 33 cost of each selected alternative.

34 "Hazardous substance" means the "environmental hazardous 35 substances" on the environmental hazardous substance list adopted by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.315 (C.34:5A-4); 36 37 such elements and compounds, including petroleum products, which 38 are defined as such by the department, after public hearing, and which 39 shall be consistent to the maximum extent possible with, and which 40 shall include, the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal 41 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 311 of the 42 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, Pub. L.92-43 500, as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977, Pub. L.95-217 44 (33 U.S.C. s.1251 et seq.); the list of toxic pollutants designated by 45 Congress or the federal Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to 46 section 307 of that act; and the list of hazardous substances adopted by 47 the federal Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 101 48 of the "Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and 49 Liability Act of 1980," Pub. L.96-510 (42 U.S.C. s.9601 et seq.);

provided, however, that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be
considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of P.L.1976,
c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.).

4 "Immediate environmental concern" means [a condition at a 5 contaminated site where there is]: (1) confirmed contamination in a well used for potable purposes at concentrations [at or] above the 6 7 ground water remediation standards; (2) confirmed contamination that 8 has migrated into [an occupied] <u>a structure</u> ¹[currently used or able to 9 <u>be used for human occupancy</u> $\mathbf{1}^1$ or <u>a</u> confined space producing a toxic 10 or harmful atmosphere resulting in an unacceptable human health 11 exposure, or producing an oxygen-deficient atmosphere, or resulting in 12 demonstrated physical damage to essential underground services; (3) 13 confirmed contamination at the site of a nature that either dermal 14 contact, ingestion, or inhalation of the contamination could result in an 15 acute human health exposure; or (4) any other [condition] confirmed 16 contamination that poses an immediate threat to the environment or to 17 the public health and safety.

18 "Institutional controls" means a mechanism used to limit human 19 activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants remain at a 20 21 contaminated site in levels or concentrations above the applicable 22 remediation standard that would allow unrestricted use of that 23 property. Institutional controls may include, without limitation, 24 structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well restriction 25 areas, and deed notices.

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual who
is licensed by the board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-7) or the department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009,
c.60 (C.58:10C-12).

30 "Limited restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action
31 that requires the continued use of institutional controls but does not
32 require the use of an engineering control.

"Person" means an individual, public or private corporation,
company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock company,
the State, and any of its political subdivisions or agents.

36 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) any 37 person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight document 38 to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or operator of an 39 industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), 40 for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner or operator of an 41 underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, c.102 (C.58:10A-42 21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) any other person 43 who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any way responsible for 44 a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 45 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a contaminated site, or (5) 46 any other person who is remediating a site.

47 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of48 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants are

1 or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from a site, 2 and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, existing site 3 specific operational and environmental information, both current and 4 historic, to determine if further investigation concerning the 5 documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge of any contaminant 6 is required. The evaluation of historic information shall be conducted 7 from 1932 to the present, except that the department may require the 8 search for and evaluation of additional information relating to 9 ownership and use of the site prior to 1932 if such information is 10 available through diligent inquiry of the public records.

"Receptor evaluation" means an evaluation of the potential impact
of contamination on humans and environmentally sensitive natural
resources.

14 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 15 16 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 17 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 18 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 19 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or that 20 has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in compliance 21 with the applicable health risk or environmental standards.

22 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action 23 to be undertaken at a site, or at any area to which a discharge 24 originating at a site is migrating or has migrated; a description of the 25 remedial action to be used to remediate a site; a time schedule and cost 26 estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and any other 27 information the department deems necessary.

28 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the nature 29 and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a discharge of a 30 contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from the site and the 31 problems presented by a discharge, and may include data collected, 32 site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the gathering of any 33 other sufficient and relevant information necessary to determine the 34 necessity for remedial action and to support the evaluation of remedial 35 actions if necessary.

36 "Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 37 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or 38 threatened discharge of contaminants, including [, as necessary,] the 39 preliminary assessment, site investigation, remedial investigation, and 40 remedial action, <u>or any portion thereof</u>, provided, however, that 41 "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the payment of 42 compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural resources.

"Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric
standards that establish a level or concentration, and narrative
standards to which contaminants must be treated, removed, or
otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or surface water, as provided
by the department pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139

1 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or environmental 2 standards.

3 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 4 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site was 5 remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations, 6 and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of the site, or of any 7 area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any other investigation 8 or action the department deems necessary, there are no contaminants 9 present at the site, or at any area of concern, at any other site to which 10 a discharge originating at the site has migrated, or that any 11 contaminants present at the site or that have migrated from the site 12 have been remediated in accordance with applicable remediation 13 regulations, and all applicable permits and authorizations have been 14 obtained.

"Restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action that
requires the continued use of engineering and institutional controls in
order to meet the established health risk or environmental standards.

18 <u>"Retained" means hired, individually or through a firm or other</u> 19 person, by or on behalf of a person responsible for conducting 20 remediation, to perform, manage, or supervise remediation or to 21 periodically review and evaluate a remediation performed by other 22 persons.

"Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to the preliminary assessment.

29 "Small business" means a business entity that does not acquire 30 property for development or redevelopment, and that, during the prior 31 three tax years, employed not more than 50 full-time employees or the 32 equivalent thereof, and qualifies as a small business concern within the 33 meaning of the federal "Small Business Act," 15 U.S.C. s.631 et seq.

34 "Temporary license" means a license issued by the department
35 pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12) to conduct
36 business as a licensed site remediation professional in the State.

37 "Unregulated heating oil tank" means any one or combination of 38 tanks, including appurtenant pipes, lines, fixtures, and other related 39 equipment, used to contain an accumulation of heating oil for on-site 40 consumption in a residential building, or those tanks with a capacity of 41 2,000 gallons or less used to store heating oil for on-site consumption 42 in a nonresidential building, the volume of which, including the 43 volume of the appurtenant pipes, lines, fixtures and other related 44 equipment, is 10 [%] percent or more below the ground.

"Waters" means the ocean and its estuaries to the seaward limit of
the State's jurisdiction, all springs, streams and bodies of surface or
groundwater, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries of the
State.

49 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.2)

1 19. Section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) is amended to read as 2 follows:

7. a. The board shall establish a licensing program and licensing
requirements for site remediation professionals, and shall oversee their
licensing and performance.

6 b. The board shall establish standards for education, training and 7 experience that shall be required of any person who applies for a 8 license or a license renewal. The board shall conduct examinations to 9 certify that an applicant possesses sufficient knowledge of the State 10 laws, rules and regulations, standards and requirements applicable to 11 site remediation and that the applicant is qualified to obtain a license 12 or a license renewal. The board shall also adopt standards for the 13 professional conduct of licensed site remediation professionals pursuant to the provisions of section 16 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-14 15 16). The board shall require an applicant to submit references to ensure 16 that the applicant meets the standards and requirements established for 17 training, experience and professional conduct by licensed site 18 remediation professionals. No person may take the licensing 19 examination until the board determines that the applicant meets the 20 standards for education, training and experience.

c. An application for a license shall be made in a manner and on
such forms as may be prescribed by the board. The filing of an
application shall be accompanied by an application fee that shall cover
the costs of processing the application and developing and conducting
the examinations. The board may also charge an annual license fee
that shall cover the costs of the licensing program.

d. An applicant for a site remediation professional license shalldemonstrate to the board that the applicant:

(1) holds a bachelor's degree or higher in natural, chemical or
physical science, or an engineering degree in a discipline related to site
remediation, from an accredited institution of higher education, or has
been issued a temporary license to remediate discharges from
underground storage tanks only pursuant to subsection d. of section 13
of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-13) and meets the other requirements
established in this subsection and in subsection f. of this section;

36 (2) has eight years of full-time professional experience, as
37 described in subsection e. of this section, in the field of site
38 remediation, of which five years shall have occurred in New Jersey
39 and at least three years shall have occurred in New Jersey
40 [immediately] within the five years prior to submission of the
41 application;

42 (3) has a minimum of 5,000 hours of relevant professional 43 experience within the State over the five years immediately prior to 44 submission of the application that is of a professional grade and 45 character that indicates the applicant is competent to issue a response 46 action outcome;

47 (4) has attended and completed the minimum environmental health48 and safety education and training provided pursuant to 29 C.F.R.

Section 1910.120 no more than one year prior to submission of an
 application for a license pursuant to this section;

3 (5) has attended and completed a course approved by the
4 department on the State's rules and regulations concerning the
5 technical requirements for site remediation no more than three years
6 prior to submission of the application;

(6) has not been convicted of, or 1 [plead] <u>pled</u> 1 guilty to, an 7 8 environmental crime, any similar or related ¹[criminal offense] crime¹ 9 under federal or state law, or any crime involving fraud, breach of trust, theft by deception, forgery, or any ¹crime or ¹ offense that would 10 qualify the person for registration pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1994, 11 c.133 (C.2C:7-2), or any other crime ¹[or offense]¹ involving moral 12 turpitude, or any similar or related offense under federal or state law . 13 14 For the purposes of this section, a conviction or plea of guilty shall include a non vult, nolo contendere, no contest, or finding of guilt by a 15 16 judge or jury; and

(7) has not had a professional license or ¹professional¹
 certification revoked by any state licensing board or any other
 professional licensing agency within the previous 10 years <u>, and has</u>
 not surrendered a professional license or ¹professional¹ certification in
 response to a disciplinary investigation within the previous 10 years.

22 e. For the purposes of this section, "full-time professional 23 experience" includes experience in which the applicant is required to 24 apply scientific or engineering principles to contaminated site 25 remediation where the resulting conclusions form the basis for reports, 26 studies or other documents connected with the remediation of a 27 contaminated site. The board may consider the applicant's work 28 activities, field of practice, duration of employment, and work products prepared in determining the credit to be allowed for 29 30 professional experience. The board may allow applicants with 31 relevant advanced degrees up to two years of credit for professional 32 experience, of which one year of credit may be awarded for applicants 33 who have earned a master's degree in a relevant field of study and up 34 to two years of credit may be awarded for applicants who have earned 35 a doctorate degree in a relevant field of study.

36 f. The board shall authorize an applicant who has been issued a 37 temporary license pursuant to subsection d. of section 13 of P.L.2009, 38 c.60 (C.58:10C-13), who meets all other requirements established 39 pursuant to this section but does not hold a bachelor's degree from an 40 accredited institution of higher education to take the licensing 41 examination to qualify for a license pursuant to this section. An 42 applicant who does not satisfactorily complete the examination 43 authorized pursuant to this subsection shall not be authorized to 44 reapply for a license.

g. No person may obtain a license unless that person meets the
standards established for education, training and experience required
in subsection b. of this section, satisfactorily passes the examination,
and satisfies any other requirements established by the board to ensure

1 that licensed site remediation professionals meet the requirements 2 established pursuant to this section. 3 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.7) 4 5 20. Section 11 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-11) is amended to 6 read as follows: 7 11. a. No person shall be, act as, advertise as, or hold himself out to be, or represent himself as being, a licensed site remediation 8 9 professional unless that person has been issued a valid license 10 pursuant to P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). b. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of 11 12 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a person who is not a licensed site 13 remediation professional shall not perform remediation unless the 14 remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and 15 evaluated by a licensed site remediation professional. 16 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.11) 17 18 21. Section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-14) is amended to 19 read as follows: 20 14. a. For any site for which a licensed site remediation 21 professional is required to be [hired] retained pursuant to the provisions of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), the 22 23 person responsible for conducting the remediation shall certify all 24 documents submitted to the department concerning the remediation 25 of the contaminated site. The licensed site remediation professional 26 shall certify that the work was performed, the licensed site 27 remediation professional managed, supervised, or performed the work that is the basis of the submission, and that the work and the 28 29 submitted documents are consistent with all applicable remediation 30 requirements adopted by the department. 31 b. A licensed site remediation professional shall certify 32 electronic submissions made to the department concerning the 33 remediation of a contaminated site. The licensed site remediation 34 professional shall attest that no other person is authorized or able to 35 use any password, encryption method, or electronic signature 36 provided to the licensed site remediation professional by the board 37 or the department. 38 c. The licensed site remediation professional shall employ the 39 following remediation requirements in providing professional 40 services for the remediation of contaminated sites: 41 (1) The licensed site remediation professional shall make each 42 decision concerning a contaminated site in order to meet the 43 following standards: 44 (a) health risk and environmental standards established pursuant 45 to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); 46 (b) remediation standards adopted by the department pursuant to 47 section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12);

1 (c) maximum contaminant levels for building interiors adopted 2 by the Department of Health and Senior Services pursuant to 3 section 1 of P.L.2007, c.1 (C.52:27D-130.4) as applicable; and 4 (d) any other applicable standards adopted pursuant to law. 5 (2) The licensed site remediation professional shall apply the 6 following regulations: 7 (a) rules and regulations adopted by the Site Remediation 8 Professional Licensing Board pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2009, 9 <u>c.60 (C.58:10C-6);</u> 10 (b) technical standards for site remediation adopted by the 11 department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et al.); 12 [(b)] (c) mandatory remediation timeframes and expedited site 13 specific timeframes adopted by the department pursuant to section 14 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28); [and] 15 [(c)] (d) presumptive remedies adopted by the department 16 pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); and 17 (e) any other applicable rules and regulations concerning the 18 remediation. 19 (3) The licensed site remediation professional shall apply any available and appropriate technical guidelines concerning site 20 21 remediation as issued by the department. The department shall provide interested parties the opportunity to participate in the 22 23 development and review of technical guidelines issued for the 24 remediation of contaminated sites. (4) When there is no specific requirement provided by the 25 26 technical standards for site remediation adopted by the department, 27 and guidelines issued by the department are not appropriate or 28 necessary, in the professional judgment of the licensed site 29 remediation professional, to meet the remediation requirements 30 listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the licensed site 31 remediation professional may use the following additional 32 guidelines to make decisions regarding a remediation, and shall set 33 forth justification , including, if applicable, the scientific, technical, 34 or other justification, for such use, in the relevant submittal to the 35 department: 36 (a) relevant guidance from the federal Environmental Protection 37 Agency or other states; and 38 (b) other relevant, applicable, and appropriate methods and 39 practices that ensure the protection of the public health and safety, 40 and of the environment. d. Upon completion of the remediation, the licensed site 41 42 remediation professional shall issue a response action outcome to the person responsible for conducting the remediation when, in the 43 44 opinion of the licensed site remediation professional, the site has 45 been remediated so that it is in compliance with all applicable 46 statutes, rules and regulations protective of public health and safety 47 and the environment. The licensed site remediation professional

1 shall file the response action outcome with the department when it

2 is issued to the person responsible for conducting the remediation.

- 3 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.14)
- 4

5 22. Section 16 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-16) is amended to 6 read as follows:

16. a. A licensed site remediation professional's highest priority
in the performance of professional services shall be the protection
of public health and safety and the environment.

b. A licensed site remediation professional shall exercise
reasonable care and diligence, and shall apply the knowledge and
skill ordinarily exercised by licensed site remediation professionals
in good standing practicing in the State at the time the services are
performed.

15 c. A licensed site remediation professional shall not provide 16 professional services outside the areas of professional competency, 17 unless the licensed site remediation professional has relied upon the 18 technical assistance of another professional whom the licensed site 19 remediation professional has reasonably determined to be qualified 20 by education, training, and experience. A licensed site remediation 21 professional shall not perform services that constitute the practice 22 of professional engineering unless the licensed site remediation 23 professional is a professional engineer licensed in the State.

24 d. A licensed site remediation professional retained by a person 25 responsible for conducting the remediation shall notify the 26 department within 15 calendar days after being retained. In 27 addition, a licensed site remediation professional shall notify the department within 15 calendar days after being released from 28 29 responsibility for a remediation if the release occurs prior to 30 issuance of the response action outcome for the site by the licensed 31 site remediation professional.

e. A licensed site remediation professional and the person
responsible for conducting the remediation shall correct any
deficiency the department identifies in a document submitted
concerning a remediation. The deficiency shall be corrected in
accordance with timeframes established by the department.

37 A licensed site remediation professional may complete any f. 38 phase of remediation based on remediation work performed under 39 the supervision of another licensed site remediation professional, 40 provided that the licensed site remediation professional: (1) reviews 41 all available documentation on which he relies; (2) conducts a site 42 visit to observe current conditions and to verify the status of as much of the work as is reasonably observable; and (3) concludes, in 43 44 the exercise of independent professional judgment, that there is 45 sufficient information upon which to complete any additional phase 46 of remediation and prepare workplans and reports related thereto.

g. A licensed site remediation professional who has taken over
the responsibility for the remediation of a contaminated site from
another licensed site remediation professional shall correct all

deficiencies in a document submitted by the previous licensed site
 remediation professional identified by the department in accordance
 with timeframes established by the department.

4 h. A licensed site remediation professional shall not certify any 5 document submitted to the department unless the licensed site 6 remediation professional : (1) believes that the information in the 7 submission is true, accurate, and complete; and (2) has managed, 8 supervised or performed the work that is the basis of the 9 submission, or has periodically reviewed and evaluated the work 10 performed by other persons that forms the basis for the information 11 in the submission, or has completed the work of another licensed 12 site remediation professional and has concluded such work is 13 reliable pursuant to subsection f. of this section. A licensed site 14 remediation professional shall not knowingly make any false 15 statement, representation, or certification in any document or 16 information required to be submitted to the board or the department. 17 i. A licensed site remediation professional shall exercise 18 independent professional judgment, comply with the requirements and procedures set forth in the provisions of P.L.2009, c.60 19 20 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), make a good faith and reasonable effort to 21 identify and obtain the relevant and material facts, data, reports and 22 other information evidencing conditions at a contaminated site for which he is [responsible] retained that is in possession of the 23 24 owner of the property, or that is otherwise available, and identify 25 and obtain whatever additional data and other information as the 26 licensed site remediation professional deems necessary. The 27 licensed site remediation professional shall disclose and explain in any document submitted to the department any facts, data, 28 29 information, qualifications, or limitations known by the licensed site remediation professional that are not supportive of the 30 31 conclusions reached in the document.

If a licensed site remediation professional [identifies] 32 i. obtains specific knowledge of a condition [at a contaminated site] 33 34 that in his independent professional judgment is an immediate 35 environmental concern, then the licensed site remediation professional shall: (1) immediately verbally advise , and confirm in 36 37 writing to, the person responsible for conducting the remediation of 38 that person's duty to notify the department of the condition, 39 provided the person is known to the licensed site remediation professional; and (2) immediately notify the department of the 40 41 condition by calling the department's telephone hotline.

k. If a licensed site remediation professional retained to
perform remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains
specific knowledge that a discharge has occurred [on a
contaminated site for which he is responsible] at any location on
the site, the licensed site remediation professional shall: (1) notify
the person responsible for conducting the remediation of the
existence of the discharge; and (2) notify the department of the

discharge by calling the department's telephone hotline. The person
responsible for conducting the remediation shall also be responsible
for notifying the department of the existence of the discharge. The
provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a discharge that may
be a result of the existence of historic fill material.

If a licensed site remediation professional learns of an action
or decision by a client that results in a deviation from the remedial
action workplan or other report concerning the remediation
developed by the licensed site remediation professional, the
licensed site remediation professional shall promptly notify the
client and the department, in writing, of the deviation.

m. A licensed site remediation professional shall not reveal information obtained in a professional capacity, except as may be authorized or required by law, without the prior consent of the client, if the client has notified the licensed site remediation professional, in writing, that the information is confidential. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to information that is in the public domain.

n. A licensed site remediation professional who learns of
material facts, data or other information subsequent to the
completion of a report concerning a phase of remediation, which
would result in a report with material differences from the report
submitted, shall promptly notify the client and the department in
writing of those facts, data, information, and circumstances.

25 o. A licensed site remediation professional who succeeds 26 another licensed site remediation professional before the issuance of 27 a response action outcome, and who learns of material facts, data or 28 other information concerning a phase of the remediation for which a 29 report was submitted to the department and the material facts, data 30 or other information were not disclosed in the report, shall promptly 31 notify the client and the department in writing of those facts, data, information, and circumstances. 32

p. A licensed site remediation professional shall not allow the use of his name by a person, and shall not associate with a person in a business venture, if the licensed site remediation professional knows or should know that the person engages in fraudulent or dishonest business or professional practices regarding the professional responsibilities of a licensed site remediation professional.

40 q. A licensed site remediation professional shall cooperate in 41 an investigation by the board or the department by promptly 42 furnishing, in response to formal requests, orders or subpoenas, any 43 information the board or the department, or persons duly authorized 44 by the board or the department, deems necessary to perform its 45 duties. In an investigation by the board of a license application or a 46 license suspension or revocation, a licensed site remediation 47 professional shall not:

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(1) knowingly make a false statement of material fact;

1 (2) fail to disclose a fact necessary to correct a material 2 misunderstanding known by the licensed site remediation 3 professional to have arisen in the matter;

4 (3) knowingly and materially falsify, tamper with, alter, conceal,
5 or destroy any document, data record, remedial system, or
6 monitoring device that is relevant to the investigation, without
7 obtaining the prior approval of the department; or

8 (4) knowingly allow or tolerate any employee, agent, or
9 contractor of the licensed site remediation professional to engage in
10 any of the foregoing activities.

r. A licensed site remediation professional shall be jointly
responsible for a violation of any provision of this section
committed by another licensed site remediation professional whose
work he supervises or reviews if:

(1) the licensed site remediation professional orders, directs, or
agrees to the provision of professional services conducted or
prepared by another licensed site remediation professional under his
supervision;

(2) the licensed site remediation professional knows that theprofessional services constitute a violation of this section; and

(3) the licensed site remediation professional fails to takereasonable steps to avoid or mitigate the violation.

s. A licensed site remediation professional shall comply with
all conditions imposed by the board as a result of a license
suspension or other disciplinary proceeding conducted by the board.

26 t. A licensed site remediation professional shall inform a client 27 or prospective client of any relevant and material assumptions, 28 limitations, or qualifications underlying their communication. 29 Evidence that a licensed site remediation professional has provided 30 the client or prospective client with timely written documentation of 31 these assumptions, limitations, or qualifications shall be deemed by 32 the board or the department to have satisfied the requirements of 33 this subsection.

u. A licensed site remediation professional shall not state or
imply, as an inducement or a threat to a client or prospective client,
an ability to improperly influence a government agency or official.

v. In any description of qualifications, experience, or ability to
provide services, a licensed site remediation professional shall not
knowingly:

(1) make a material misrepresentation of fact;

40

41 (2) omit a fact when the omission results in a materially42 misleading description; or

(3) make a statement that, in the opinion of the board, is likely
to create an unjustified expectation about results the licensed site
remediation professional may achieve, or state or imply that the
licensed site remediation professional may achieve results by means
that violate the provisions of applicable environmental statutes,
rules or regulations, including the provisions of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-1 et al.).

w. A licensed site remediation professional shall provide any
 notification to the board or the department required pursuant to this
 section, even if the licensed site remediation professional is
 discharged by the client prior to doing so.

5 x. A licensed site remediation professional shall not accept 6 compensation, financial or otherwise, for professional services 7 pertaining to a contaminated site from two or more persons whose 8 interests are adverse or conflicting unless the circumstances are 9 fully disclosed and agreed to by all clients engaging the licensed 10 site remediation professional.

y. A licensed site remediation professional shall not be a
salaried employee of the person responsible for conducting the
remediation, or any related entities, for which the licensed site
remediation professional is providing remediation services.

z. A licensed site remediation professional shall not allow any
ownership interest, compensation, or promise of continued
employment, of the licensed site remediation professional or any
immediate family member, to affect the professional services
provided by the licensed site remediation professional.

20 aa. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of 21 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a licensed site remediation 22 professional shall not facilitate, aid, assist, or cooperate with any 23 person in retaining or arranging for the retention of any person who 24 is not a licensed site remediation professional to perform 25 remediation, unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or 26 periodically reviewed and evaluated by a licensed site remediation 27 professional retained for that purpose, and the department has been 28 notified of the retention.

<u>bb. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of</u>
 <u>P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a licensed site remediation</u>
 <u>professional shall not manage, supervise, perform, engage, or</u>
 <u>participate in remediation unless:</u>

33 (1) the licensed site remediation professional has been retained
 34 by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the
 35 department has been notified of the retention; or

36 (2) the remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed
 37 by another licensed site remediation professional retained by the
 38 person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the
 39 department has been notified of the retention of the other licensed
 40 site remediation professional.

41 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.16)

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43 23. (New section) If a licensed site remediation professional 44 obtains specific knowledge of a condition in an unoccupied structure, 45 that, in ¹[his] <u>the licensed site remediation professional's</u>¹ 46 independent professional judgment, constitutes an immediate 47 environmental concern, and the person responsible for conducting the 48 remediation provides to the department a written certification from the 49 property owner that the building (i) is not occupied, (ii) will not be

1 occupied, and (iii) will be demolished, then no further remediation 2 relative to the immediate environmental concern in the unoccupied 3 structure shall be required, provided the conditions of the certification are maintained. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the 4 5 responsibility of a ¹[license] <u>licensed</u>¹ site remediation professional to comply with the notification requirements of subsection j. of section 6 7 16 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-16), or the responsibility of a person 8 to report a discharge pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-9 23.11 et seq.). The department shall prescribe the form and manner of 10 the written certification pursuant to this section.

11

12 24. Section 19 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-19) is amended to 13 read as follows:

14 19. a. The department shall establish a permit program to 15 regulate the operation, maintenance and inspection of engineering 16 or institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a 17 remedial action of a contaminated site. The department may require 18 periodic monitoring, inspections, and maintenance by the person 19 responsible for the engineering or institutional controls and the 20 submission of certifications regarding those activities. The 21 department may issue a permit, permit by rule, or general permit 22 pursuant to this section.

23 b. The department may require any person who is responsible 24 for the monitoring, operation, and maintenance of an engineering or 25 institutional control implemented before the date of enactment of 26 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), and any person required to 27 submit a certification on a biennial basis pursuant to section 6 of 28 P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-13.1), that engineering or institutional 29 controls and related systems are properly maintained and that 30 periodic monitoring for compliance is conducted, to obtain a permit 31 pursuant to this section.

32 c. (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, 33 the department may require that a person issued a permit pursuant 34 to this section maintain insurance, financial assurance or another 35 financial instrument to guarantee that funding is available to 36 operate, maintain, and inspect the engineering controls installed as 37 part of a remedial action of a contaminated site for the period that 38 such controls are required. The person required to maintain the 39 funding source pursuant to this section may petition the department 40 on an annual basis to decrease the amount of funding required to be 41 maintained.

42 (2) A government entity, a person who is not otherwise liable 43 for cleanup and removal costs pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) who purchases contaminated property 44 45 before the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) and undertakes a remediation of the property, a person who 46 47 undertakes a remediation at their primary or secondary residence, 48 the owner or operator of a child care center licensed pursuant to 49 P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) who performs a remediation at

1 the licensed child care center, the person responsible for conducting 2 a remediation at a public school or private school as defined in 3 N.J.S.18A:1-1, or a charter school established pursuant to P.L.1995, 4 c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.), or the owner or operator of a small 5 business responsible for performing a remediation at their business 6 property, shall not be required to establish or maintain a funding 7 source pursuant to this section, for the operation, maintenance, and 8 inspection of the engineering controls installed as part of a remedial 9 action of a contaminated site. 10 A person who is issued a permit pursuant to this section d. shall retain a licensed site remediation professional to manage, 11 12 supervise, or perform the requirements of the permit for the 13 duration of the permit. 14 e. The department may charge, in accordance with a schedule 15 adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), reasonable application fees to cover the 16 17 costs of processing the application, and reasonable annual fees to 18 cover the costs of the administration and enforcement of the 19 permits. 20 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.19) 21 22 25. Section 20 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-20) is amended to 23 read as follows: 24 20. A licensed site remediation professional shall , for each 25 contaminated site, maintain and preserve all data, documents and 26 information concerning the remediation [activities at each 27 contaminated site] that the licensed site remediation professional 28 has [worked on] prepared or relied upon, including but not limited 29 to, technical records and contractual documents, raw sampling and 30 monitoring data, whether or not the data and information, including 31 technical records and contractual documents, were developed by the 32 licensed site remediation professional or the licensee's divisions, 33 employees, agents, accountants, contractors, or attorneys, that relate 34 in any way to the contamination at the site. [Three] An electronic 35 [copies] copy of the records shall be submitted to the department at the time the response action outcome is filed with the department. 36 37 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.20) 38 39 26. Section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27) is amended to read 40 as follows: 27. a. 41 Except as provided in section 1 of P.L.2013, c.283 42 (C. 58:10C-27.1), and this section, the department shall undertake 43 direct oversight of a remediation of a contaminated site under the 44 following conditions: 45 (1) the person responsible for conducting the remediation has a 46 history of noncompliance with the laws concerning remediation, or 47 any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, that includes the 48 issuance of at least two enforcement actions after the date of

1 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) during any five-year 2 period concerning a remediation; (2) the person responsible for conducting the remediation at a 3 4 contaminated site has failed to meet a mandatory remediation 5 timeframe or an expedited site specific timeframe adopted by the department pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28), 6 7 including any extension thereof granted by the department, or a 8 schedule established pursuant to an administrative order or court order; 9 or 10 (3) unless a longer period has been ordered by a court, the person 11 responsible for conducting the remediation has, prior to the date of 12 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), failed to complete the 13 remedial investigation of the entire contaminated site 10 years after the 14 discovery of a discharge at the site and has failed to complete the 15 remedial investigation of the entire contaminated site within five years 16 after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). 17 If a person responsible for conducting a remediation fails to meet 18 the conditions established in paragraph (3) of this subsection, or a 19 requirement established pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of 20 P.L.2013, c.283 (C.58:10C-27.1), the department shall not undertake 21 direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person demonstrates, 22 and the department finds, that: 23 (1) the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe 24 because ¹[he] the person¹ was unable to enter the contaminated site because ¹[he] the person¹ does not own the property, and the person 25 took all appropriate and timely action pursuant to section 40 of 26 27 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-16) prior to the applicable timeframe; or (2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the person 28 29 has made timely submissions to the department, and the person was 30 unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the performance of 31 additional review by the department pursuant to subsection c. of 32 section 21 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-21). 33 As used in this subsection, "enforcement action" means an 34 administrative order, a notice of civil administrative penalty, or a court 35 order. 36 b. The department may undertake direct oversight of a 37 remediation of a contaminated site under the following conditions: 38 (1) the contamination at the site includes chromate chemical 39 production waste; 40 (2) the department determines that more than one environmentally 41 sensitive natural resource has been injured by contamination from the 42 site: 43 (3) the site has contributed to sediments contaminated by 44 polychlorinated biphenyl, mercury, arsenic, or dioxin in a surface 45 water body; or 46 (4) the site is ranked by the department in the category requiring 47 the highest priority pursuant to the ranking system developed pursuant 48 to section 2 of P.L.1982, c.202 (C.58:10-23.16).

c. For any site subject to direct oversight by the department

(1) the department shall review each document submitted by a

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pursuant to this section:

4 licensed site remediation professional and shall approve or deny the 5 submission; 6 (2) a feasibility study shall be performed and submitted to the 7 department for approval; 8 (3) the department shall select the remedial action for the site; 9 (4) the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall 10 establish a remediation [trust fund] funding source other than a selfguarantee pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3) in 11 12 the amount of the estimated cost of the remediation; 13 (5) all disbursements of funds from the remediation [trust fund] 14 funding source shall require prior approval by the department; 15 (6) all submissions prepared by the licensed site remediation 16 professional concerning the remediation required by the department 17 shall be provided simultaneously to the department and the person 18 responsible for conducting the remediation; and 19 (7) the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall 20 implement a public participation plan approved by the department to 21 solicit public comment from the members of the surrounding 22 community concerning the remediation of the site. 23 d. The department shall issue guidelines establishing specific 24 criteria for the conditions under which a site may be subject to direct 25 oversight pursuant to subsection b. of this section. 26 e. (1) Any oversight procedure, remedy, or other obligation in 27 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall not affect a remediation 28 conducted pursuant to and in compliance with a settlement of litigation 29 to which the department is a party if the settlement (a) occurred prior 30 to the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), or (b) is 31 a settlement of litigation pending on the date of enactment of 32 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). 33 (2) For any litigation pending or settled on the date of enactment 34 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), concerning a remediation 35 performed pursuant to the "Resource Conservation and Recovery Act," 42 U.S.C. s.6921 et seq., nothing in P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) 36 37 shall affect an oversight procedure, remedy, or other obligation 38 imposed by a federal administrative order or federal court order. 39 f. When a contaminated site is subject to direct oversight 40 pursuant to this section, the requirements of direct oversight shall run 41 with the site, regardless of who owns the property, and regardless of 42 whether there is a transfer of ownership of the property. 43 g. (1) The department may modify the direct oversight 44 requirements of subsection c. of this section for a contaminated site if: 45 (a) the person responsible for conducting the remediation 46 demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the performance of the 47 remediation due to the imposition of direct oversight pursuant to this 48 section; or

1 (b) there is a public emergency ¹[resulting from a natural 2 disaster]¹, as declared by the Governor or the President of the United States, or an official authorized to act on their behalf, that resulted in a 3 4 delay in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-specific timeframe or 5 other condition that triggered direct oversight. 6 (2) The department may modify the direct oversight requirements 7 of subsection c. of this section for a contaminated site if the 8 department makes a written determination that the modification is in 9 the public interest and protective of the public health and safety and 10 the environment. At least 60 days prior to making a modification 11 pursuant to this paragraph, the department shall publish its written 12 determination and the proposed modification to the requirements of 13 direct oversight, including the reasons for its determination, on the 14 department's Internet website. The department shall solicit and accept 15 public comments on the proposed modification for a period of at least 16 30 days after the date of publication. The department shall consider 17 the public comments received during the comment period prior to 18 making a modification pursuant to this paragraph. 19 (3) The department may, prior to a change in ownership of a 20 contaminated site, enter into an administrative consent order with the 21 prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing for the 22 modification of any or all of the direct oversight requirements of 23 subsection c. of this section for the contaminated site. ¹The 24 department shall not enter into an administrative consent order 25 pursuant to this paragraph with any person who: 26 (a) has discharged a hazardous substance at the contaminated site, 27 is in any way responsible for a hazardous substance at the site, or is 28 otherwise liable for cleanup and removal costs at the site; 29 (b) has owned or operated the contaminated site; or 30 (c) is a predecessor, successor, subsidiary, partner, shareholder, 31 assign, trustee in bankruptcy, responsible corporate official, or receiver 32 appointed pursuant to a proceeding in law or equity, to any person 33 described in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above.¹ 34 (4) The department may reinstate any or all of the direct oversight 35 requirements that it modifies pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2), ¹[and] \underline{or}^1 (3) of this subsection if, after the modification, the department 36 finds that the person responsible for conducting the remediation has 37 38 failed to comply with any applicable timeframe, administrative 39 consent order modifying the requirements of direct oversight, or any 40 law, rule, or regulation concerning the remediation of contaminated 41 sites. (cf: P.L.2013, c.283, s.2) 42 43 44 27. This act shall take effect immediately. 45 46 47 Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of 48 contaminated sites.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5293 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 13, 2019

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN District 18 (Middlesex) Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset) Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON District 27 (Essex and Morris)

SYNOPSIS

Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of contaminated sites.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/11/2019)

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AN ACT concerning the remediation of contaminated sites, and
 amending and supplementing various parts of the statutory law.

3 4

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-8) is amended to read8 as follows:

3. As used in this act:

10 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action 11 to be undertaken at an industrial establishment, or at any area to 12 which a discharge originating at the industrial establishment is 13 migrating or has migrated; a description of the remedial action to be 14 used to remediate the industrial establishment; a time schedule and 15 cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and any 16 other relevant information the department deems necessary;

17 "Closing operations" means:

18 (1) the cessation of operations resulting in at least a 90 percent 19 reduction in the total value of the product output from the entire 20 industrial establishment, as measured on a constant, annual datespecific basis, within any five-year period, or, for industrial 21 22 establishments for which the product output is undefined, a 90 23 percent reduction in the number of employees or a 90 percent 24 reduction in the area of operations of an industrial establishment 25 within any five-year period; provided, however, the department may 26 approve a waiver of the provisions of this paragraph for any owner 27 or operator who, upon application and review, evidences a good 28 faith effort to maintain and expand product output, the number of 29 employees, or area of operations of the affected industrial 30 establishment;

31 (2) any temporary cessation of operations of an industrial
32 establishment for a period of not less than two years;

33 (3) any judicial proceeding or final agency action through which
34 an industrial establishment becomes nonoperational for health or
35 safety reasons;

(4) the initiation of bankruptcy proceedings pursuant to Chapter
7 of the federal Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. s.701 et seq. or the
filing of a plan of reorganization that provides for a liquidation
pursuant to Chapter 11 of the federal Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C.
s.1101 et seq.;

41 (5) any change in operations of an industrial establishment that
42 changes the industrial establishment's Standard Industrial
43 Classification number to one that is not subject to this act; or

44 (6) the termination of a lease unless there is no disruption in
45 operations of the industrial establishment, or the assignment of a
46 lease;

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced** brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

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1 "Transferring ownership or operations" means: 2 (1) any transaction or proceeding through which an industrial 3 establishment undergoes a change in ownership; 4 (2) the sale or transfer of more than 50 [%] percent of the assets 5 of an industrial establishment within any five-year period, as 6 measured on a constant, annual date-specific basis; (3) the execution of a lease for a period of 99 years or longer for 7 8 an industrial establishment; or 9 (4) the dissolution of an entity that is an owner or operator or an indirect owner of an industrial establishment, except for any 10 dissolution of an indirect owner of an industrial establishment 11 whose assets would have been unavailable for the remediation of 12 the industrial establishment if the dissolution had not occurred; 13 14 "Change in ownership" means: (1) the sale or transfer of the business of an industrial 15 16 establishment or any of its real property; 17 (2) the sale or transfer of stock in a corporation resulting in a 18 merger or consolidation involving the direct owner or operator or 19 indirect owner of the industrial establishment; 20 (3) the sale or transfer of stock in a corporation, or the transfer 21 of a partnership interest, resulting in a change in the person holding 22 the controlling interest in the direct owner or operator or indirect 23 owner of an industrial establishment; 24 (4) the sale or transfer of title to an industrial establishment or 25 the real property of an industrial establishment by exercising an 26 option to purchase; or 27 (5) the sale or transfer of a partnership interest in a partnership 28 that owns or operates an industrial establishment, that would 29 reduce, by 10 [%] percent or more, the assets available for 30 remediation of the industrial establishment; 31 "Change in ownership" shall not include: 32 (1) a corporate reorganization not substantially affecting the 33 ownership of the industrial establishment; 34 (2) a transaction or series of transactions involving the transfer 35 of stock, assets or both, among corporations under common 36 ownership, if the transaction or transactions will not result in the 37 diminution of the net worth of the corporation that directly owns or operates the industrial establishment by more than 10 [%] percent, 38 39 or if an equal or greater amount in assets is available for the remediation of the industrial establishment before and after the 40 41 transaction or transactions; 42 (3) a transaction or series of transactions involving the transfer 43 of stock, assets or both, resulting in the merger or de facto merger 44 or consolidation of the indirect owner with another entity, or in a 45 change in the person holding the controlling interest of the indirect 46 owner of an industrial establishment, when the indirect owner's 47 assets would have been unavailable for cleanup if the transaction or 48 transactions had not occurred:

(4) a transfer where the transferor is the sibling, spouse, child,
 parent, grandparent, child of a sibling, or sibling of a parent of the
 transferee;

4 (5) a transfer to confirm or correct any deficiencies in the 5 recorded title of an industrial establishment;

6 (6) a transfer to release a contingent or reversionary interest
7 except for any transfer of a lessor's reversionary interest in leased
8 real property;

9 (7) a transfer of an industrial establishment by devise or 10 intestate succession;

(8) the granting or termination of an easement or a license toany portion of an industrial establishment;

(9) the sale or transfer of real property pursuant to a
condemnation proceeding initiated pursuant to the "Eminent
Domain Act of 1971," P.L. 1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.);

16 (10) execution, delivery and filing or recording of any
17 mortgage, security interest, collateral assignment or other lien on
18 real or personal property; or

(11) any transfer of personal property pursuant to a valid
security agreement, collateral assignment or other lien, including,
but not limited to, seizure or replevin of such personal property
which transfer is for the purpose of implementing the secured
party's rights in the personal property which is the collateral;

24 "Department" means the Department of Environmental25 Protection;

26 "Hazardous substances" means those elements and compounds, 27 including petroleum products, which are defined as such by the department, after public hearing, and which shall be consistent to 28 29 the maximum extent possible with, and which shall include, the list 30 of hazardous substances adopted by the Environmental Protection 31 Agency pursuant to Section 311 of the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972" (33 U.S.C. s.1321) and the list 32 33 of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the Environmental 34 Protection Agency pursuant to Section 307 of that act (33 U.S.C. 35 s.1317); except that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 36 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of this act;

37 "Hazardous waste" shall have the same meaning as provided in
38 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38);

39 "Industrial establishment" means any place of business engaged 40 in operations which involve the generation, manufacture, refining, 41 transportation, treatment, storage, handling, or disposal of 42 hazardous substances or hazardous wastes on-site, above or below 43 ground, having a Standard Industrial Classification number within 44 22-39 inclusive, 46-49 inclusive, 51 or 76 as designated in the 45 Standard Industrial Classifications Manual prepared by the Office 46 of Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President of the United States. Those facilities or parts of facilities subject to 47 48 operational closure and post-closure maintenance requirements

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1 pursuant to the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, c.39 2 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.), the "Major Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting 3 Act," sections 1 through 43 of P.L.1981, c.279 (C.13:1E-49 et seq.) 4 or the "Solid Waste Disposal Act" (42 U.S.C. s.6901 et seq.), or any 5 establishment engaged in the production or distribution of 6 agricultural commodities, shall not be considered industrial 7 establishments for the purposes of this act. The department may, 8 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 9 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), exempt certain sub-groups or classes of 10 operations within those sub-groups within the Standard Industrial 11 Classification major group numbers listed in this subsection upon a 12 finding that the operation of the industrial establishment does not 13 pose a risk to public health and safety;

14 "Negative declaration" means a written declaration, submitted by 15 the owner or operator of an industrial establishment or other person 16 assuming responsibility for the remediation under paragraph (3) of 17 subsection b. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 to the department, 18 certifying that there has been no discharge of hazardous substances 19 or hazardous wastes on the site, or that any such discharge on the 20 site or discharge that has migrated or is migrating from the site has 21 been remediated in accordance with procedures approved by the 22 department and in accordance with any applicable remediation 23 regulations;

"Discharge" means an intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of a hazardous substance
or hazardous waste into the waters or onto the lands of the State;

28 "No further action letter" means a written determination by the 29 department that, based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 30 the industrial establishment and the property, or of an area of 31 concern or areas of concern, as applicable, and any other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there are no 32 33 discharged hazardous substances or hazardous wastes present at the 34 site of the industrial establishment, at the area of concern or areas of 35 concern, or at any other site to which discharged hazardous 36 substances or hazardous wastes originating at the industrial 37 establishment have migrated, and that any discharged hazardous 38 substances or hazardous wastes present at the industrial 39 establishment or that have migrated from the site have been 40 remediated in accordance with applicable remediation regulations;

41 "Indirect owner" means any person who holds a controlling
42 interest in a direct owner or operator, holds a controlling interest in
43 another indirect owner, or holds an interest in a partnership which is
44 an indirect owner or a direct owner or operator, of an industrial
45 establishment;

46 "Direct owner or operator" means any person that directly owns
47 or operates an industrial establishment. A holder of a mortgage or
48 other security interest in the industrial establishment shall not be

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deemed to be a direct owner or operator of the industrial
 establishment unless or until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993,
 c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial
 establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court
 order or other process;

6 "Area of concern" means any location where hazardous 7 substances or hazardous wastes are or were known or suspected to 8 have been discharged, generated, manufactured, refined, 9 transported, stored, handled, treated, or disposed, or where 10 hazardous substances or hazardous wastes have or may have 11 migrated;

12 "Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual 13 who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing 14 Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the 15 department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12); 16 "Owner" means any person who owns the real property of an 17 industrial establishment or who owns the industrial establishment. 18 A holder of a mortgage or other security interest in the industrial 19 establishment shall not be deemed to be an owner of the industrial 20 establishment unless or until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993, 21 c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial 22 establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court 23 order or other process;

24 "Operator" means any person, including users, tenants, or 25 occupants, having and exercising direct actual control of the 26 operations of an industrial establishment. A holder of a mortgage 27 or other security interest in the industrial establishment shall not be deemed to be an operator of the industrial establishment unless or 28 29 until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993, c.112 (C.58:10-30 23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial establishment by 31 deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court order or other 32 process;

33 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 34 identifying areas of concern and determining whether hazardous 35 substances or hazardous wastes are or were present at an industrial 36 establishment or have migrated or are migrating from the industrial 37 establishment, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation 38 of, existing site specific operational and environmental information, 39 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 40 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 41 of any hazardous substance or hazardous waste is required. The 42 evaluation of historic information shall be conducted from 1932 to 43 the present, except that the department may require the search for 44 and evaluation of additional information relating to ownership and 45 use of the site prior to 1932 if such information is available through 46 diligent inquiry of public records;

47 "Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to
48 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected,

or threatened discharge of hazardous substances or hazardous
 wastes, including [, as necessary,] the preliminary assessment, site
 investigation, remedial investigation, and remedial action , or any
 portion thereof;

5 "Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric 6 standards that establish a level or concentration and narrative 7 standards, to which hazardous substances or hazardous wastes must 8 be treated, removed, or otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or 9 surface water, as provided by the department pursuant to section 35 10 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or 11 environmental standards;

12 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at an industrial 13 establishment or offsite of an industrial establishment if hazardous 14 substances or hazardous wastes have migrated or are migrating 15 therefrom, as may be required by the department to protect public health, safety, and the environment. These actions may include the 16 17 removal, treatment, containment, transportation, securing, or other 18 engineering measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 19 designed to ensure that any discharged hazardous substances or 20 hazardous wastes at the site or that have migrated or are migrating 21 from the site, are remediated in compliance with the applicable 22 health risk or environmental standards;

23 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 24 nature and extent of a discharge of hazardous substances or 25 hazardous wastes at an industrial establishment or a discharge of 26 hazardous substances or hazardous wastes that have migrated or are 27 migrating from the site and the problems presented by a discharge, 28 and may include data collection, site characterization, sampling, 29 monitoring, and the gathering of any other sufficient and relevant 30 information necessary to determine the necessity for remedial 31 action and to support the evaluation of remedial actions if 32 necessary;

"Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 33 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 34 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 35 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 36 37 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 38 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 39 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 40 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 41 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have 42 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 43 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and authorizations have been obtained; 44

45 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data
46 adequate to determine whether or not discharged hazardous
47 substances or hazardous wastes exist at the industrial establishment
48 or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in excess of

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1 the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation shall be 2 developed based upon the information collected pursuant to the 3 preliminary assessment. 4 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.33) 5 6 2. Section 1 of P.L.1995, c.139 (C.2A:53A-26) is amended to 7 read as follows: 1. As used in this act, "licensed person" means any person who 8 9 is licensed as: 10 a. an accountant pursuant to P.L.1997, c.259 (C.45:2B-42 et seq.); 11 12 b. an architect pursuant to R.S.45:3-1 et seq.; c. an attorney admitted to practice law in New Jersey; 13 d. a dentist pursuant to R.S.45:6-1 et seq.; 14 15 e. an engineer pursuant to P.L.1938, c.342 (C.45:8-27 et seq.); a physician in the practice of medicine or surgery pursuant 16 f. 17 to R.S.45:9-1 et seq.; g. a podiatrist pursuant to R.S.45:5-1 et seq.; 18 h. a chiropractor pursuant to P.L.1989, c.153 (C.45:9-19 20 41.17 et seq.); 21 i. a registered professional nurse pursuant to P.L.1947, c.262 22 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); a health care facility as defined in section 2 of P.L.1971, 23 j. 24 c.136 (C.26:2H-2); 25 k. a physical therapist pursuant to P.L.1983, c.296 (C.45:9-26 37.11 et seq.); 27 1. a land surveyor pursuant to P.L.1938, c.342 (C.45:8-28 27 et seq.); 29 m. a registered pharmacist pursuant to P.L.2003, c.280 30 (C.45:14-40 et seq.); n. a veterinarian pursuant to R.S.45:16-1 et seq.; 31 o. an insurance producer pursuant to 32 P.L.2001, c.210 (C.17:22A-26 et seq.); [and] 33 p. a certified midwife, certified professional midwife, or 34 certified nurse midwife pursuant to R.S.45:10-1 et seq.; and 35 q. a licensed site remediation professional pursuant to section 7 36 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7). 37 38 (cf: P.L.2010, c.88, s.1) 39 40 3. Section 3 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b) is amended to 41 read as follows: 42 3. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings: 43 "Act of God" means an act exclusively occasioned by an 44 45 unanticipated, grave natural disaster without the interference of any 46 human agency; 47 "Administrator" means the chief executive of the New Jersey 48 Spill Compensation Fund;

"Barrel" means 42 United States gallons or 159.09 liters or an
appropriate equivalent measure set by the director for hazardous
substances which are other than fluid or which are not commonly
measured by the barrel;

5 "Board" means a board of arbitration convened by the 6 administrator to settle disputed disbursements from the fund;

7 "Cleanup and removal costs" means all direct costs associated 8 with a discharge, and those indirect costs that may be imposed by 9 the department pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2002, c.37 associated 10 with a discharge, incurred by the State or its political subdivisions 11 or their agents or any person with written approval from the 12 department in the: (1) removal or attempted removal of hazardous 13 substances, or (2) taking of reasonable measures to prevent or 14 mitigate damage to the public health, safety, or welfare, including, 15 but not limited to, public and private property, shorelines, beaches, 16 surface waters, water columns and bottom sediments, soils and 17 other affected property, including wildlife and other natural 18 resources, and shall include costs incurred by the State for the 19 indemnification and legal defense of contractors pursuant to 20 sections 1 through 11 of P.L.1991, c.373 (C.58:10-23.11f8 et seq.); 21 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Environmental

22 Protection;

"Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged
hazardous substance, hazardous waste as defined pursuant to
section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined
pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3);

27 "Department" means the Department of Environmental28 Protection;

29 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Taxation in the30 Department of the Treasury;

31 "Discharge" means any intentional or unintentional action or 32 omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, 33 pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of hazardous substances 34 into the waters or onto the lands of the State, or into waters outside 35 the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the lands, 36 waters or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State;

37 "Emergency response action" means those activities conducted
38 by a local unit to clean up, remove, prevent, contain, or mitigate a
39 discharge that poses an immediate threat to the environment or to
40 the public health, safety, or welfare;

41 "Fair market value" means the invoice price of the hazardous 42 substances transferred, including transportation charges; but where 43 no price is so fixed, "fair market value" shall mean the market price 44 as of the close of the nearest day to the transfer, paid for similar 45 hazardous substances, as shall be determined by the taxpayer 46 pursuant to rules of the director;

"Final remediation document" means a no further action letter
issued by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B1 et al.), or a response action outcome issued by a licensed site
remediation professional pursuant to section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-14);

"Fund" means the New Jersey Spill Compensation Fund;

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7 "Hazardous substances" means the "environmental hazardous 8 substances" on the environmental hazardous substance list adopted 9 by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.315 10 (C.34:5A-4); such elements and compounds, including petroleum 11 products, which are defined as such by the department, after public 12 hearing, and which shall be consistent to the maximum extent 13 possible with, and which shall include, the list of hazardous 14 substances adopted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency 15 pursuant to section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 16 Amendments of 1972, Pub.L.92-500, as amended by the Clean 17 Water Act of 1977, Pub.L.95-217 (33 U.S.C.s.1251 et seq.); the list of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the [EPA] United 18 19 States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 307 of 20 that act; and the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal 21 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 101 of the 22 "Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and 23 Liability Act of 1980," Pub.L.96-510 (42 U.S.C.s.9601 et seq.); 24 provided, however, that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 25 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of P.L.1976, 26 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.);

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the
department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12);
"Local unit" means any county or municipality, or any agency or

other instrumentality thereof, or a duly incorporated volunteer fire,
ambulance, first aid, emergency, or rescue company or squad;

34 "Major facility" includes, but is not limited to, any refinery, storage or transfer terminal, pipeline, deep-water port, drilling 35 platform or any appurtenance related to any of the preceding that is 36 37 used or is capable of being used to refine, produce, store, handle, 38 transfer, process or transport hazardous substances. "Major 39 facility" shall include a vessel only when that vessel is engaged in a 40 transfer of hazardous substances between it and another vessel, and 41 in any event shall not include a vessel used solely for activities 42 directly related to recovering, containing, cleaning up or removing 43 discharges of petroleum in the surface waters of the State, including 44 training, research, and other activities directly related to spill 45 response.

A facility shall not be considered a major facility for the purpose
of P.L.1976, c.141 unless it has total combined aboveground or
buried storage capacity of:

1 (1) 20,000 gallons or more for hazardous substances which are 2 other than petroleum or petroleum products, or

3 (2) 200,000 gallons or more for hazardous substances of all4 kinds.

5 In determining whether a facility is a major facility for the 6 purposes of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), any 7 underground storage tank at the facility used solely to store heating 8 oil for on-site consumption shall not be considered when 9 determining the combined storage capacity of the facility.

For the purposes of this definition, "storage capacity" shall mean only that total combined capacity which is dedicated to, used for or intended to be used for storage of hazardous substances of all kinds. Where appropriate to the nature of the facility, storage capacity may be determined by the intended or actual use of open land or unenclosed space as well as by the capacities of tanks or other enclosed storage spaces;

"Natural resources" means all land, fish, shellfish, wildlife, biota,
air, waters and other such resources owned, managed, held in trust
or otherwise controlled by the State;

20 "Owner" or "operator" means, with respect to a vessel, any 21 person owning, operating or chartering by demise such vessel; with 22 respect to any major facility, any person owning such facility, or 23 operating it by lease, contract or other form of agreement; with 24 respect to abandoned or derelict major facilities, the person who 25 owned or operated such facility immediately prior to such 26 abandonment, or the owner at the time of discharge;

27 "Person" means public or private corporations, companies,
28 associations, societies, firms, partnerships, joint stock companies,
29 individuals, the United States, the State of New Jersey and any of
30 its political subdivisions or agents;

31 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 32 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 33 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or 34 operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 35 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 36 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 37 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 38 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 39 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 40 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 41 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site; 42 "Petroleum" or "petroleum products" means oil or petroleum of 43 any kind and in any form, including, but not limited to, oil, 44 petroleum, gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, oil sludge, oil refuse, oil 45 mixed with other wastes, crude oils, and substances or additives to 46 be utilized in the refining or blending of crude petroleum or 47 petroleum stock in this State; however, any compound designated 48 by specific chemical name on the list of hazardous substances

adopted by the department pursuant to this section shall not be
 considered petroleum or a petroleum product for the purposes of
 P.L.1976, c.141, unless such compound is to be utilized in the
 refining or blending of crude petroleum or petroleum stock in this
 State;

6 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 7 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants 8 are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 9 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 10 existing site specific operational and environmental information, 11 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 12 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 13 14 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 15 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 16 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 17 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent 18 inquiry of the public records;

19 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if 20 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 21 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 22 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 23 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 24 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 25 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 26 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 27 standards;

"Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 28 29 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 30 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 31 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 32 33 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 34 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 35 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary;

"Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 36 37 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 38 or threatened discharge, including [, as necessary,] the preliminary 39 assessment, site investigation, remedial investigation, and remedial 40 or any portion thereof, provided, action, however, that 41 "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the payment of 42 compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural resources;

43 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 44 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 45 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 46 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 47 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 48 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there

are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and authorizations have been obtained;

"Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data
adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist
at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in
excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation
shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to
the preliminary assessment;

13 "Taxpayer" means the owner or operator of a major facility14 subject to the tax provisions of P.L.1976, c.141;

"Tax period" means every calendar month on the basis of whichthe taxpayer is required to report under P.L.1976, c.141;

"Transfer" means onloading or offloading between major
facilities and vessels, or vessels and major facilities, and from
vessel to vessel or major facility to major facility, except for fueling
or refueling operations and except that with regard to the movement
of hazardous substances other than petroleum, it shall also include
any onloading of or offloading from a major facility;

"Vessel" means every description of watercraft or other
contrivance that is practically capable of being used as a means of
commercial transportation of hazardous substances upon the water,
whether or not self-propelled;

"Waters" means the ocean and its estuaries to the seaward limit
of the State's jurisdiction, all springs, streams and bodies of surface
or groundwater, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries
of this State.

31 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.35)

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33 4. Section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g) is amended to
34 read as follows:

8. a. The fund shall be strictly liable, without regard to fault,
for all cleanup and removal costs and for all direct and indirect
damages no matter by whom sustained, including but not limited to:

(1) The cost of restoring, repairing, or replacing any real or
personal property damaged or destroyed by a discharge, any income
lost from the time such property is damaged to the time such
property is restored, repaired or replaced, and any reduction in
value of such property caused by such discharge by comparison
with its value prior thereto;

44 (2) The cost of restoration and replacement, where possible, of45 any natural resource damaged or destroyed by a discharge;

46 (3) Loss of income or impairment of earning capacity due to
47 damage to real or personal property, including natural resources
48 destroyed or damaged by a discharge; provided that such loss or

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impairment exceeds 10 [%] percent of the amount which claimant
derives, based upon income or business records, exclusive of other
sources of income, from activities related to the particular real or
personal property or natural resources damaged or destroyed by
such discharge during the week, month or year for which the claim
is filed;

7 (4) Loss of tax revenue by the State or local governments for a
8 period of one year due to damage to real or personal property
9 proximately resulting from a discharge;

(5) Interest on loans obtained or other obligations incurred by a
claimant for the purpose of ameliorating the adverse effects of a
discharge pending the payment of a claim in full as provided by this
act.

14 b. The damages which may be recovered by the fund, without 15 regard to fault, subject to the defenses enumerated in subsection d. 16 of this section against the owner or operator of a major facility or 17 vessel, shall not exceed \$50,000,000.00 for each major facility or 18 \$1,200 per gross ton for each vessel, except that such maximum 19 limitation shall not apply and the owner or operator shall be liable, 20 jointly and severally, for the full amount of such damages if it can 21 be shown that such discharge was the result of (1) gross negligence 22 or willful misconduct, within the knowledge and privity of the 23 owner, operator or person in charge, or (2) a gross or willful 24 violation of applicable safety, construction or operating standards or 25 regulations. Damages which may be recovered from, or by, any 26 other person shall be limited to those authorized by common or 27 statutory law.

28 c. (1) Except as provided in section 2 of P.L.2005, c.43 (C.58:10-23.11g12), any person who has discharged a hazardous 29 substance, or is in any way responsible for any hazardous 30 31 substance, shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without 32 regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs no matter by 33 whom incurred. Such person shall also be strictly liable, jointly and 34 severally, without regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs 35 incurred by the department or a local unit pursuant to subsection b. 36 of section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11f).

37 (2) In addition to the persons liable pursuant to this subsection, 38 in the case of a discharge of a hazardous substance from a vessel 39 into the waters of the State, the owner or operator of a refinery, 40 storage, transfer, or pipeline facility to which the vessel was en 41 route to deliver the hazardous substance who, by contract, 42 agreement, or otherwise, was scheduled to assume ownership of the 43 discharged hazardous substance, and any other person who was so 44 scheduled to assume ownership of the discharged hazardous 45 substance, shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without 46 regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs if the owner or 47 operator of the vessel did not have the evidence of financial

1 responsibility required pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.58 2 (C.58:10-23.11g2).

3 Where a person is liable for cleanup and removal costs as 4 provided in this paragraph, any expenditures made by the 5 administrator for that cleanup and removal shall constitute a debt of 6 that person to the fund. The debt shall constitute a lien on all 7 property owned by that person when a notice of lien identifying the 8 nature of the discharge and the amount of the cleanup, removal and 9 related costs expended from the fund is duly filed with the clerk of 10 the Superior Court. The clerk shall promptly enter upon the civil 11 judgment or order docket the name and address of the liable person 12 and the amount of the lien as set forth in the notice of lien. Upon 13 entry by the clerk, the lien, to the amount committed by the 14 administrator for cleanup and removal, shall attach to the revenues 15 and all real and personal property of the liable person, whether or 16 not that person is insolvent.

17 For the purpose of determining priority of this lien over all other 18 claims or liens which are or have been filed against the property of 19 an owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline 20 facility, the lien on the facility to which the discharged hazardous 21 substance was en route shall have priority over all other claims or 22 liens which are or have been filed against the property. The notice 23 of lien filed pursuant to this paragraph which affects any property 24 of a person liable pursuant to this paragraph other than the property 25 of an owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline 26 facility to which the discharged hazardous substance was en route, 27 shall have priority from the day of the filing of the notice of the lien 28 over all claims and liens filed against the property, but shall not 29 affect any valid lien, right, or interest in the property filed in 30 accordance with established procedure prior to the filing of a notice 31 of lien pursuant to this paragraph.

32 To the extent that a person liable pursuant to this paragraph is 33 not otherwise liable pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, or 34 under any other provision of law or under common law, that person 35 may bring an action for indemnification for costs paid pursuant to 36 this paragraph against any other person who is strictly liable 37 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection.

38 Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to extend or negate 39 the right of any person to bring an action for contribution that may 40 exist under P.L.1976, c.141, or any other act or under common law.

41 (3) In addition to the persons liable pursuant to this subsection, 42 any person who owns real property acquired on or after September 14, 1993 on which there has been a discharge prior to the person's 43 44 acquisition of that property and who knew or should have known 45 that a hazardous substance had been discharged at the real property, 46 shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without regard to fault, 47 for all cleanup and removal costs no matter by whom incurred. 48 Such person shall also be strictly liable, jointly and severally,

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without regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs incurred
by the department or a local unit pursuant to subsection b. of
section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11f). Nothing in this
paragraph shall be construed to alter liability of any person who
acquired real property prior to September 14, 1993.

6 d. (1) In addition to those defenses provided in this 7 subsection, an act or omission caused solely by war, sabotage, or 8 God, or a combination thereof, shall be the only defenses which 9 may be raised by any owner or operator of a major facility or vessel 10 responsible for a discharge in any action arising under the 11 provisions of this act.

12 (2) A person, including an owner or operator of a major facility, 13 who owns real property acquired on or after September 14, 1993 on 14 which there has been a discharge, shall not be liable for cleanup and 15 removal costs or for any other damages to the State or to any other 16 person for the discharged hazardous substance pursuant to 17 subsection c. of this section or pursuant to civil common law, if that 18 person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that 19 subparagraphs (a) through (d) apply, or if applicable, subparagraphs 20 (a) through (e) apply:

(a) the person acquired the real property after the discharge ofthat hazardous substance at the real property;

23 (b) (i) at the time the person acquired the real property, the 24 person did not know and had no reason to know that any hazardous 25 substance had been discharged at the real property, or (ii) the person 26 acquired the real property by devise or succession, except that any 27 other funds or property received by that person from the deceased 28 real property owner who discharged a hazardous substance or was 29 in any way responsible for a hazardous substance, shall be made 30 available to satisfy the requirements of P.L.1976, c.141, or (iii) the 31 person complies with the provisions of subparagraph (e) of 32 paragraph (2) of this subsection;

(c) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not
in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a
corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way
responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for
cleanup and removal costs pursuant to this section;

38 (d) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department39 upon actual discovery of that discharge.

40 To establish that a person had no reason to know that any 41 hazardous substance had been discharged for the purposes of this 42 paragraph (2), the person must have undertaken, at the time of 43 acquisition, all appropriate inquiry into the previous ownership and uses of the property. For the purposes of this paragraph (2), all 44 45 appropriate inquiry shall mean the performance of a preliminary 46 assessment, and site investigation, if the preliminary assessment 47 indicates that a site investigation is necessary, as defined in section 48 23 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1), and performed in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the department defining these terms.

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Nothing in this paragraph (2) shall be construed to alter liability of any person who acquired real property prior to September 14, 1993; and

6 (e) For the purposes of this subparagraph the person must have 7 (i) acquired the property subsequent to a hazardous substance being 8 discharged on the site and which discharge was discovered at the 9 time of acquisition as a result of the appropriate inquiry, as defined 10 in this paragraph (2), (ii) performed, following the effective date of 11 P.L.1997, c.278, a remediation of the site or discharge consistent 12 with the provisions of section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12), or, relied upon a valid final remediation document for a remediation 13 14 performed prior to acquisition, or, obtained a remedial action 15 workplan certified by a licensed site remediation professional 16 retained for the site after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 17 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) and continued to comply with the conditions of 18 that workplan, or obtained approval of a remedial action workplan 19 by the department after the effective date of P.L.1997, c.278 and 20 continued to comply with the conditions of that workplan, and (iii) 21 established and maintained all engineering and institutional controls 22 as may be required pursuant to sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1993, 23 c.139. A person who complies with the provisions of this 24 subparagraph by actually performing a remediation of the site or 25 discharge as set forth in (ii) above shall be issued, upon application, 26 a no further action letter by the department or a response action 27 outcome by a licensed site remediation professional, as applicable. 28 A person who complies with the provisions of this subparagraph 29 either by receipt of a final remediation document following the 30 effective date of P.L.1997, c.278, or by relying on a previously 31 issued final remediation document shall not be liable for any further 32 remediation including any changes in a remediation standard or for 33 the subsequent discovery of a hazardous substance, at the site, or 34 emanating from the site, if the remediation was for the entire site, 35 and the hazardous substance was discharged prior to the person 36 acquiring the property. Notwithstanding any other provisions of 37 this subparagraph, a person who complies with the provisions of 38 this subparagraph only by virtue of the existence of a previously 39 issued final remediation document shall receive no liability 40 protections for any discharge which occurred during the time period 41 between the issuance of the final remediation document and the 42 property acquisition. Compliance with the provisions of this 43 subparagraph (e) shall not relieve any person of any liability for a 44 discharge that is off the site of the property covered by the final 45 remediation document, for a discharge that occurs at that property 46 after the person acquires the property, for any actions that person 47 negligently takes that aggravates or contributes to a discharge of a 48 hazardous substance, for failure to comply in the future with laws

1 and regulations, or if that person fails to maintain the institutional 2 or engineering controls on the property or to otherwise comply with 3 the provisions of the final remediation document.

4 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of this 5 subsection to the contrary, if a person who owns real property 6 obtains actual knowledge of a discharge of a hazardous substance at 7 the real property during the period of that person's ownership and 8 subsequently transfers ownership of the property to another person 9 without disclosing that knowledge, the transferor shall be strictly 10 liable for the cleanup and removal costs of the discharge and no 11 defense under this subsection shall be available to that person.

12 (4) Any federal, State, or local governmental entity which 13 acquires ownership of real property through bankruptcy, tax 14 delinquency, abandonment, escheat, eminent domain, condemnation 15 or any circumstance in which the governmental entity involuntarily 16 acquires title by virtue of its function as sovereign, or where the 17 governmental entity acquires the property by any means for the 18 purpose of promoting the redevelopment of that property, shall not 19 be liable, pursuant to subsection c. of this section or pursuant to 20 common law, to the State or to any other person for any discharge 21 which occurred or began prior to that ownership. This paragraph 22 shall not provide any liability protection to any federal, State or 23 local governmental entity which has caused or contributed to the 24 discharge of a hazardous substance. This paragraph shall not 25 provide any liability protection to any federal, State, or local 26 government entity that acquires ownership of real property by 27 condemnation or eminent domain where the real property is being 28 remediated in a timely manner at the time of the condemnation or 29 eminent domain action.

30 (5) A person, including an owner or operator of a major facility, 31 who owns real property acquired prior to September 14, 1993 on 32 which there has been a discharge, shall not be liable for cleanup and 33 removal costs or for any other damages to the State or to any other 34 person for the discharged hazardous substance pursuant to 35 subsection c. of this section or pursuant to civil common law, if that person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that 36 37 subparagraphs (a) through (d) apply:

38 (a) the person acquired the real property after the discharge of 39 that hazardous substance at the real property;

40 (b) (i) at the time the person acquired the real property, the 41 person did not know and had no reason to know that any hazardous 42 substance had been discharged at the real property, or (ii) the person acquired the real property by devise or succession, except that any 43 44 other funds or property received by that person from the deceased 45 real property owner who discharged a hazardous substance or was 46 in any way responsible for a hazardous substance, shall be made 47 available to satisfy the requirements of P.L.1976, c.141;

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1 (c) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not 2 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a 3 corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way 4 responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for 5 cleanup and removal costs pursuant to this section;

6 (d) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department7 upon actual discovery of that discharge.

8 To establish that a person had no reason to know that any 9 hazardous substance had been discharged for the purposes of this 10 paragraph (5), the person must have undertaken, at the time of 11 acquisition, all appropriate inquiry on the previous ownership and 12 uses of the property based upon generally accepted good and 13 customary standards.

Nothing in this paragraph (5) shall be construed to alter liability
of any person who acquired real property on or after September 14,
16 1993.

17 e. Neither the fund nor the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund 18 established pursuant to P.L.1981, c.306 (C.13:1E-100 et seq.) shall 19 be liable for any damages incurred by any person who is relieved 20 from liability pursuant to subsection d. or f. of this section for a 21 remediation that involves the use of engineering controls but the 22 fund and the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund shall be liable for 23 any remediation that involves only the use of institutional controls 24 if after a valid final remediation document has been issued the 25 department orders additional remediation except that the fund and 26 the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund shall not be liable for any 27 additional remediation that is required to remove an institutional 28 control.

29 f. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a 30 person, who owns real property acquired on or after the effective 31 date of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-1.1 et al.), shall not be liable for 32 any cleanup and removal costs or damages, under this section or 33 pursuant to any other statutory or civil common law, to any person, 34 other than the State and the federal government, harmed by any 35 hazardous substance discharged on that property prior to 36 acquisition, and any migration off that property related to that 37 discharge, provided all the conditions of this subsection are met:

(1) the person acquired the real property after the discharge ofthat hazardous substance at the real property;

40 (2) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not
41 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a
42 corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way
43 responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for a
44 discharge pursuant to this section;

45 (3) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department46 upon actual discovery of that discharge;

47 (4) (a) within 30 days after acquisition of the property, the 48 person commenced a remediation of the discharge, including any

1 migration, pursuant to a department oversight document executed 2 prior to acquisition, or (b) for property acquired after the date of 3 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), the person 4 provides written notice of the acquisition to the department prior to 5 or on the date of acquisition and the person remediates the property pursuant to the provisions of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 6 7 (C.58:10B-1.3), and (c) the department is satisfied that remediation 8 was completed in a timely and appropriate fashion; and

9 (5) Within ten days after acquisition of the property, or within 10 30 days after the expiration of the period or periods allowed for the 11 right of redemption pursuant to tax foreclosure law, the person 12 agrees in writing to provide access to the State for remediation and 13 related activities, as determined by the State.

14 The provisions of this subsection shall not relieve any person of 15 any liability:

16 (1) for a discharge that occurs at that property after the person17 acquired the property;

(2) for any actions that person negligently takes that aggravatesor contributes to the harm inflicted upon any person;

(3) if that person fails to maintain the institutional or
engineering controls on the property or to otherwise comply with
the provisions of a final remediation document or a remedial action
workplan and a person is harmed thereby;

(4) for any liability to clean up and remove, pursuant to the
department's regulations and directions, any hazardous substances
that may have been discharged on the property or that may have
migrated therefrom; and

(5) for that person's failure to comply in the future with lawsand regulations.

30 g. Nothing in the amendatory provisions to this section adopted 31 pursuant to P.L.1997, c.278 shall be construed to remove any 32 defense to liability that a person may have had pursuant to 33 subsection e. of this section that existed prior to the effective date 34 of P.L.1997, c.278.

h. Nothing in this section shall limit the requirements of any
person to comply with P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.).

- 37 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.38)
- 38

39 5. Section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u) is amended
40 to read as follows:

22. a. (1) Whenever, on the basis of available information, the
department determines that a person is in violation of a provision of
P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), including any rule,
regulation, plan, information request, access request, order or
directive promulgated or issued pursuant thereto, or that a person
knowingly has given false testimony, documents or information to
the department, the department may:

1 (a) bring a civil action in accordance with subsection b. of this 2 section; 3 (b) levy a civil administrative penalty in accordance with 4 subsection c. of this section; or 5 (c) bring an action for a civil penalty in accordance with subsection d. of this section. 6 7 Use of any remedy specified in this section shall not preclude use 8 of any other remedy. The department may simultaneously pursue 9 administrative and judicial remedies provided in this section. 10 b. The department may commence a civil action in Superior 11 Court for, singly or in combination: 12 (1) a temporary or permanent injunction; (2) the costs of any investigation, cleanup or removal, and for 13 14 the reasonable costs of preparing and successfully litigating an 15 action under this subsection; 16 (3) the cost of restoring, repairing, or replacing real or personal 17 property damaged or destroyed by a discharge, any income lost 18 from the time the property is damaged to the time it is restored, 19 repaired or replaced, and any reduction in value of the property 20 caused by the discharge by comparison with its value prior thereto; 21 (4) the cost of restoration and replacement, where practicable, of 22 any natural resource damaged or destroyed by a discharge; and 23 (5) any other costs incurred by the department pursuant to 24 P.L.1976, c.141. 25 Compensatory damages for damages awarded to a person other 26 than the State shall be paid to the person injured by the discharge. 27 c. (1) The department may assess a civil administrative penalty of not more than \$50,000 for each violation, and each day 28 29 of violation shall constitute an additional, separate and distinct 30 violation. A civil administrative penalty shall not be levied until a 31 violator has been notified by certified mail or personal service of: 32 (a) the statutory or regulatory basis of the violation; 33 (b) the specific citation of the act or omission constituting the 34 violation; 35 (c) the amount of the civil administrative penalty to be imposed; (d) the right of the violator to a hearing on any matter contained 36 37 in the notice and the procedures for requesting a hearing. 38 (2) (a) A violator shall have 20 calendar days following receipt 39 of notice within which to request a hearing on any matter contained 40 in the notice, and shall comply with all procedures for requesting a 41 hearing. Failure to submit a timely request or to comply with all 42 departmental procedures shall constitute grounds for denial of a 43 hearing request. After a hearing and upon a finding that a violation 44 has occurred, the department shall issue a final order assessing the 45 amount of the civil administrative penalty specified in the notice. If 46 a violator does not request a hearing or fails to satisfy the statutory 47 and administrative requirements for requesting a hearing, the notice 48 of assessment of a civil administrative penalty shall become a final

order on the 21st calendar day following receipt of the notice by the
 violator. If the department denies a hearing request, the notice of
 denial shall become a final order upon receipt of the notice by the
 violator.

5 (b) A civil administrative penalty may be settled by the 6 department on such terms and conditions as the department may 7 determine.

8 (c) Payment of a civil administrative penalty shall not be 9 deemed to affect the availability of any other enforcement remedy 10 in connection with the violation for which the penalty was levied.

11 (3) If a civil administrative penalty imposed pursuant to this 12 section is not paid within 30 days of the date that the penalty is due 13 and owing, and the penalty is not contested by the person against 14 whom the penalty has been assessed, or the person fails to make a 15 payment pursuant to a payment schedule entered into with the 16 department, an interest charge shall accrue on the amount of the 17 penalty from the 30th day that amount was due and owing. In the 18 case of an appeal of a civil administrative penalty, if the amount of 19 the penalty is upheld, in whole or in part, the rate of interest shall be 20 calculated on that amount as of the 30th day from the date the 21 amount was due and owing under the administrative order. The rate 22 of interest shall be that established by the New Jersey Supreme 23 Court for interest rates on judgments, as set forth in the Rules 24 Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

(4) The department may assess and recover, by civil
administrative order, the costs of any investigation, cleanup or
removal, and the reasonable costs of preparing and successfully
enforcing a civil administrative penalty pursuant to this subsection.
The assessment may be recovered at the same time as a civil
administrative penalty, and shall be in addition to the penalty
assessment.

32 d. Any person who violates a provision of P.L.1976, c.141 33 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), or a court order issued pursuant thereto, or 34 who fails to pay a civil administrative penalty in full or to agree to a 35 schedule of payments therefor, shall be subject to a civil penalty not 36 to exceed \$50,000.00 per day for each violation, and each day's 37 continuance of the violation shall constitute a separate violation. 38 Any penalty incurred under this subsection may be recovered with costs in a summary proceeding pursuant to ["the penalty 39 40 law" (N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.)] the "Penalty enforcement 41 Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.) in 42 the Superior Court or a municipal court. The Superior Court and 43 the municipal courts shall have jurisdiction to impose a civil penalty 44 for a violation of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) pursuant 45 to this subsection and in accordance with the procedures set forth in 46 the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

1 e. All conveyances used or intended for use in the willful 2 discharge of any hazardous substance are subject to forfeiture to the 3 State pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1981, c.387 (C.13:1K-4 1 et seq.). 5 (cf: P.L.1990, c.75, s.1) 6 7 6. Section 23 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1) is amended to 8 read as follows: 9 23. As used in sections 23 through 43 and section 45 of 10 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et seq.), as may be amended and 11 supplemented: 12 "Area of concern" means any location where contaminants are or 13 were known or suspected to have been discharged, generated, manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated, or 14 15 disposed, or where contaminants have or may have migrated; 16 "Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development 17 Authority established pursuant to P.L.1974, c.80 (C.34:1B-1 et 18 seq.); 19 "Brownfield development area" means an area that has been so 20 designated by the department, in writing, pursuant to the provisions 21 of section 7 of P.L.2005, c.223 (C.58:10B-25.1); 22 "Brownfield site" means any former or current commercial or 23 industrial site that is currently vacant or underutilized and on which 24 there has been, or there is suspected to have been, a discharge of a 25 contaminant; 26 "Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged 27 hazardous substance as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1976, 28 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b), hazardous waste as defined pursuant to 29 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined 30 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3); 31 "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection; 32 33 "Discharge" means an intentional or unintentional action or 34 omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of a contaminant onto the 35 land or into the waters of the State; 36 37 "Engineering controls" means any mechanism to contain or 38 stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial 39 action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps, 40 covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences 41 and physical access controls; 42 "Environmental opportunity zone" has the meaning given that 43 term pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1995, c.413 (C.54:4-3.152); 44 "Final remediation document" means a no further action letter 45 issued by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 46 et al.), or a response action outcome issued by a licensed site remediation professional pursuant to section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 47 48 (C.58:10C-14);

1 "Financial assistance" means loans or loan guarantees;

2 "Institutional controls" means a mechanism used to limit human 3 activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the 4 effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants 5 remain at a contaminated site in levels or concentrations above the applicable remediation standard that would allow unrestricted use 6 7 Institutional controls may include, without of that property. 8 limitation, structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well 9 restriction areas, and deed notices;

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the
department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12);
"Limited restricted use remedial action" means any remedial
action that requires the continued use of institutional controls but

16 does not require the use of an engineering control;

17 "No further action letter" means a written determination by the 18 department that based upon an evaluation of the historical use of a 19 particular site, or of an area of concern or areas of concern at that 20 site, as applicable, and any other investigation or action the 21 department deems necessary, there are no discharged contaminants 22 present at the site, at the area of concern or areas of concern, at any 23 other site to which a discharge originating at the site has migrated, 24 or that any discharged contaminants present at the site or that have 25 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 26 applicable remediation regulations;

27 "Person" means an individual, corporation, company,28 partnership, firm, or other private business entity;

29 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 30 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 31 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 32 33 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 34 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 35 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 36 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 37 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 38 39 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site; 40 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 41 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants 42 are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 43 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 44 existing site specific operational and environmental information, 45 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 46 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 47 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 48 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that

the department may require the search for and evaluation of
 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site
 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent
 inquiry of the public records;

5 "Presumptive remedy" means a remedial action established by
6 the department pursuant to paragraph (10) of subsection g. of
7 section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12);

8 "Recreation and conservation purposes" means the use of lands 9 for beaches, biological or ecological study, boating, camping, 10 fishing, forests, greenways, hunting, natural areas, parks, 11 playgrounds, protecting historic properties, water reserves, 12 watershed protection, wildlife preserves, active sports, or a similar 13 use for either public outdoor recreation or conservation of natural 14 resources, or both;

15 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if 16 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 17 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 18 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 19 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 20 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 21 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 22 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 23 standards;

24 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action 25 to be undertaken at a site, or at any area to which a discharge 26 originating at a site is migrating or has migrated; a description of 27 the remedial action to be used to remediate a site; a time schedule 28 and cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and 29 any other information the department deems necessary;

30 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 31 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 32 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 33 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 34 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 35 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 36 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 37 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary;

38 "Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 39 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or threatened discharge of contaminants, including [, as necessary,] 40 41 preliminary assessment, investigation, the site remedial investigation, and remedial action, or any portion thereof, provided, 42 43 however, that "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the 44 payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural 45 resources;

46 "Remediation fund" means the Hazardous Discharge Site
47 Remediation Fund established pursuant to section 26 of P.L.1993,
48 c.139 (C.58:10B-4);

"Remediation funding source" means the methods of financing
 the remediation of a discharge required to be established by a
 person performing the remediation pursuant to section 25 of
 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3);

5 "Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric 6 standards that establish a level or concentration, and narrative 7 standards to which contaminants must be treated, removed, or 8 otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or surface water, as 9 provided by the department pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, 10 c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or 11 environmental standards;

"Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 12 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 13 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 14 15 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 16 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 17 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 18 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 19 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 20 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have 21 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 22 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 23 authorizations have been obtained;

"Restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action that
requires the continued use of engineering and institutional controls
in order to meet the established health risk or environmental
standards;

"Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data
adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist
at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in
excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation
shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to
the preliminary assessment;

"Unrestricted use remedial action" means any remedial action
that does not require the continued use of engineering or
institutional controls in order to meet the established health risk or
environmental standards;

38 "Voluntarily perform a remediation" means performing a
39 remediation without having been ordered or directed to do so by the
40 department or by a court and without being compelled to perform a
41 remediation pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.330
42 (C.13:1K-6 et al.).

43 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.40)

44

45 7. Section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3) is amended to 46 read as follows:

47 30. a. An owner or operator of an industrial establishment 48 subject to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), the

1 discharger of a hazardous substance or a person in any way 2 responsible for a hazardous substance pursuant to the provisions of 3 subsection c. of section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), or 4 the owner or operator of an underground storage tank regulated 5 pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1986, c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), that has discharged a hazardous substance, shall remediate the 6 7 discharge of a hazardous substance. 8 b. A person who initiates a remediation [of a contaminated 9 site] at least 180 days after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 10 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall: (1) [hire] retain a licensed site remediation professional to 11 12 perform the remediation; 13 (2) notify the department of the name and license information of the licensed site remediation professional who has been [hired] 14 retained to perform the remediation; 15 16 (3) conduct the remediation without the prior approval of the 17 department, unless directed otherwise by the department; 18 (4) establish a remediation funding source if a remediation 19 funding source is required pursuant to the provisions of section 25 20 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3); (5) pay all applicable fees and oversight costs as required by the 21 22 department; 23 (6) provide access to the contaminated site to the department; 24 (7) provide access to all applicable documents concerning the 25 remediation to the department; 26 (8) meet the mandatory remediation timeframes and expedited 27 site specific timeframes established by the department pursuant to 28 section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28); and 29 (9) obtain all necessary permits. 30 c. (1) Any person who initiates a remediation prior to the date 31 of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), or prior to the 32 issuance of temporary licenses to site remediation professionals pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12), shall 33 34 comply with the provisions of paragraphs (4) through (9) of 35 subsection b. of this section. (2) The department may require a person required to perform a 36 37 remediation pursuant to subsection a. of this section, or a person 38 who has initiated a remediation prior to the date of enactment of 39 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), to comply with the provisions of 40 subsection b. of this section if, after the date of enactment of 41 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), the department (a) issues a final 42 order or a penalty becomes due and payable, concerning the 43 performance of the remediation, or (b) issues a demand for 44 stipulated penalties pursuant to the provisions of an oversight 45 document in which the person waived a right to a hearing on the 46 penalties. (3) No later than three years after the date of enactment of 47 48 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), a person responsible for

conducting the remediation, no matter when the remediation is
 initiated, shall comply with the provisions of subsection b. of this
 section.

d. (1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any
person who remediates a discharge from an unregulated heating oil
tank. For any person who remediates a discharge from an
unregulated heating oil tank, the provisions of section 15 of
P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-15) shall apply.

9 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person 10 who: (a) does not own a contaminated site, (b) conducts a 11 preliminary assessment or site investigation of the contaminated site 12 for the purpose of conducting all appropriate inquiry into the 13 previous ownership and uses of the property as provided in section 14 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), and (c) has not discharged a hazardous substance at the site or is not in any way responsible for 15 16 a hazardous substance discharged at the site pursuant to section 8 of 17 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g).

e. Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this
section shall be liable to the enforcement provisions established
pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u).

21 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.30)

22

23 8. Section 25 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3) is amended to 24 read as follows:

25 25. a. Except as otherwise provided in section 27 of P.L.2009, 26 c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the owner or operator of an industrial 27 establishment or any other person required to perform remediation 28 activities pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), or a 29 discharger, a person in any way responsible for a hazardous 30 substance, or a person otherwise liable for cleanup and removal 31 costs pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) who has 32 been issued a directive or an order by a State agency, who has 33 entered into an administrative consent order with a State agency, or 34 who has been ordered by a court to clean up and remove a 35 hazardous substance or hazardous waste discharge pursuant to 36 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), shall establish and 37 maintain a remediation funding source in the amount necessary to 38 pay the estimated cost of the required remediation. A person who 39 voluntarily undertakes a remediation pursuant to a memorandum 40 of agreement with the department, or without the department's 41 oversight, or who] performs a remediation in an environmental opportunity zone is not required to establish or maintain a 42 43 remediation funding source. A person who uses an innovative 44 technology or who, in a timely fashion, implements an unrestricted 45 use remedial action or a limited restricted use remedial action for all 46 or part of a remedial action is not required to establish a 47 remediation funding source for the cost of the remediation 48 involving the innovative technology or permanent remedy. A

1 government entity, a person who undertakes a remediation at their 2 primary or secondary residence, the owner or operator of a child 3 care center licensed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) 4 who performs a remediation at the licensed child care center, or the 5 person responsible for conducting a remediation at a public school 6 or private school as defined in N.J.S.18A:1-1, or a charter school 7 established pursuant to P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.), shall 8 not be required to establish or maintain a remediation funding 9 source. A person required to establish a remediation funding source 10 pursuant to this section shall provide to the department satisfactory 11 documentation that the requirement has been met.

12 The remediation funding source shall be established in an 13 amount equal to or greater than the cost estimate of the 14 implementation of the remediation (1) as approved by the 15 department or as determined by the licensed site remediation 16 professional, as applicable, in accordance with rules and regulations 17 adopted by the department pursuant to section 29 of P.L.2009, c.60 18 (C.58:10C-29), (2) as provided in an administrative consent order or 19 remediation agreement or remediation certification as required 20 pursuant to subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, (3) as 21 stated in a departmental order or directive, or (4) as agreed to by a 22 court, and shall be in effect for a term not less than the actual time 23 necessary to perform the remediation at the site. Whenever the 24 remediation cost estimate increases, the person required to establish 25 the remediation funding source shall cause the amount of the 26 remediation funding source to be increased to an amount at least 27 equal to the new estimate. Whenever the remediation cost estimate 28 decreases, the person required to obtain the remediation funding 29 source may file a written request to the department to decrease the 30 amount in the remediation funding source or may submit written 31 documentation to the department certified by the licensed site 32 remediation professional of the details of the decrease in the cost 33 estimate, as applicable. The remediation funding source may be 34 decreased to the amount of the new estimate upon written approval 35 by the department delivered to the person who established the 36 remediation funding source or upon submission of the certification 37 by the licensed site remediation professional, as applicable.

38 b. **[**The person who established the remediation funding source 39 may use the remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of 40 the remediation.] The department may not require any other 41 financial assurance by the person responsible for conducting the 42 remediation other than that required in this section. In the case of a 43 remediation performed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330, the remediation 44 funding source shall be established no more than 14 days after the 45 approval by the department or the certification by the licensed site 46 remediation professional of a remedial action workplan, upon 47 approval of a remediation agreement pursuant to subsection e. of 48 section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or upon submission of a

1 remediation certification pursuant to subsection e. of P.L.1983, 2 c.330, unless the department approves an extension. In the case of 3 a remediation performed pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141, the 4 remediation funding source shall be established as provided in an 5 administrative consent order signed by the parties, as provided by a 6 court, or as directed or ordered by the department. In the case of a 7 remediation performed under the department's oversight pursuant to 8 section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the remediation 9 funding source shall be established at the time the person becomes 10 subject to the department's oversight. The establishment of a 11 remediation funding source for that part of the remediation funding 12 source to be established by a grant or financial assistance from the 13 remediation fund may be established for the purposes of this 14 subsection by the application for a grant or financial assistance from 15 the remediation fund and satisfactory evidence submitted to the 16 department that the grant or financial assistance will be awarded. 17 However, if the financial assistance or grant is denied or the 18 department finds that the person responsible for establishing the 19 remediation funding source did not take reasonable action to obtain 20 the grant or financial assistance, the department shall require that 21 the full amount of the remediation funding source be established 22 within 14 days of the denial or finding. Except as provided in 23 section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the remediation 24 funding source shall be evidenced by the establishment and 25 maintenance of (1) a remediation trust fund, administered by an 26 entity that has the authority to act as a trustee and whose trust 27 operations are regulated and examined by a federal or State agency, 28 or governed by court rule, (2) an environmental insurance policy, 29 issued by an entity licensed by the Department of Banking and 30 Insurance to transact business in the State of New Jersey, to fund 31 the remediation, (3) a line of credit from a financial institution 32 regulated pursuant to State or federal law and satisfactory to the 33 department authorizing the person responsible for performing the 34 remediation to borrow money, (4) a self-guarantee, [or] (5) a letter of credit from a financial institution regulated pursuant to State or 35 federal law that guarantees the performance of the remediation by 36 37 the person to the satisfaction of the department, or (6) a surety bond 38 from an entity that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal 39 bonds in United States Treasury Department Circular 570, or by any 40 combination thereof. Where it can be demonstrated that a person 41 cannot establish and maintain a remediation funding source for the 42 full cost of the remediation by a method specified in this subsection, 43 that person may establish the remediation funding source for all or a 44 portion of the remediation, by securing financial assistance from the 45 Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund as provided in section 46 29 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-7).

47 A remediation trust fund shall be established pursuant to the c. 48 provisions of this subsection. An originally signed duplicate of the

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1 trust agreement shall be delivered to the department (1) by certified 2 mail, overnight delivery, or personal service within 14 days of 3 receipt of notice from the department that the remedial action 4 workplan or remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of 5 section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 6 days of submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 7 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 8 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 9 submission of a remediation certification to the department as 10 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, or (4) as 11 specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, or order of 12 the department, as applicable. The remediation trust fund agreement 13 shall conform to a model trust fund agreement as established by the 14 department and shall be accompanied by a certification of 15 acknowledgment that conforms to a model established by the 16 department. The trustee shall be an entity which has the authority 17 to act as a trustee and whose trust operations are regulated and 18 examined by a federal or New Jersey agency.

19 The trust fund agreement shall provide that the remediation trust 20 fund may not be revoked or terminated by the person required to 21 establish the remediation funding source or by the trustee without 22 the written consent of the department. The person who establishes 23 the remediation funding source in the form of a trust fund may use 24 the remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the 25 remediation. The trustee shall [release] disburse to the person 26 required to establish the remediation funding source, or to the 27 department or transferee of the property, as appropriate, only those 28 moneys as the department or the licensed site remediation 29 professional authorizes, in writing, to be [released] disbursed. The 30 trustee shall release to the person who established the remediation 31 funding source, or to the department or transferee of the property, 32 as appropriate, only those moneys as the department authorizes, in 33 writing, to be released. For any remediation subject to the oversight 34 of the department pursuant to section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 35 (C.58:10C-27), the person entitled to receive money from the 36 remediation trust fund shall submit documentation to the 37 department detailing the costs incurred or to be incurred as part of 38 the remediation. Upon a determination by the department that the 39 costs are consistent with the remediation of the site, the department 40 shall, in writing, authorize a disbursement of moneys from the 41 remediation trust fund in the amount of the documented costs.

The department shall return the original remediation trust fund agreement to the trustee for termination after the **[**person required to establish the remediation funding source substitutes **]** <u>department</u> <u>receives</u> an alternative remediation funding source as specified in this section or the department notifies the person <u>required to</u> <u>establish and maintain the remediation funding source</u> that that

person is no longer required to maintain a remediation funding
 source for remediation of the contaminated site.

3 d. An environmental insurance policy shall be established 4 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. An originally signed 5 duplicate of the insurance policy shall be delivered to the 6 department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal 7 service within [30] 14 days of receipt of notice from the 8 department that the remedial action workplan or remediation 9 agreement, as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 10 c.330, is approved, (2) within 14 days of submission to the department of a remedial action workplan certified by a licensed 11 12 site remediation professional as provided in subsection e. of section 13 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon submission of a 14 remediation certification to the department as provided in 15 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as 16 specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, or order of 17 the department, as applicable. [The insurance company shall 18 release to the person required to establish the remediation funding 19 source, or to the department or transferee of the property, as 20 appropriate, only those moneys as the department or the licensed 21 site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be released. 22 The person entitled to receive money from the environmental 23 insurance policy shall submit documentation to the department 24 detailing the costs incurred or to be incurred as part of the 25 remediation.] The environmental insurance policy shall be issued 26 by an entity that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 27 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State.

An environmental insurance policy cannot be revoked or terminated without the prior written approval of the department, except upon failure by the insured to pay the premium. The issuer of the environmental insurance policy may revoke or terminate the policy for failure to pay the premium only after notifying the person who established the remediation funding source and the department, by certified mail, of the decision to revoke or terminate the policy.

35 The insurance company that provides the environmental 36 insurance policy shall reduce the policy only as the department directs in writing. The insurance company that provides the 37 38 environmental insurance policy shall release to the department or to 39 a person authorized to perform the remediation pursuant to 40 subsection g. of this section only moneys authorized by the 41 department, in writing, to be released. The department shall 42 authorize, in writing, the termination of the environmental 43 insurance policy after the department receives an alternative 44 remediation funding source as specified in this section or the 45 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 46 the funding source that the person is no longer required to maintain 47 a remediation funding source for the remediation of the 48 contaminated site.

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1 e. A line of credit shall be established pursuant to the 2 provisions of this subsection. A line of credit shall allow the person 3 establishing it to borrow money up to a limit established in a written 4 agreement in order to pay for the cost of the remediation for which 5 the line of credit was established. An originally signed duplicate of 6 the line of credit agreement shall be delivered to the department (1)7 by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal service within 14 8 days of receipt of notice from the department that the remedial 9 action workplan or remediation agreement as provided in subsection 10 e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 is approved, (2) within 14 days of submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 11 12 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 13 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 14 submission of a remediation certification [pursuant to] to the department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 15 16 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent 17 order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. The 18 line of credit agreement shall conform to a model agreement as 19 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a 20 certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 21 established by the department. The line of credit shall be issued by 22 an institution that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 23 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State, or by a 24 federally regulated bank. 25 The line of credit shall not be allowed to expire, unless the 26 institution provides the appropriate notification to the department 27 and the borrower, as defined in a model agreement established by 28 the department. The person who establishes the remediation 29 funding source in the form of a line of credit may use the 30 remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the 31 remediation. The institution providing the line of credit shall 32 disburse to the person required to establish the remediation funding 33 source, or to the department or transferee of the property, as 34 appropriate, only those moneys as the department or the licensed 35 site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be disbursed. 36 The **[**person or **]** institution providing the line of credit shall release 37 to the person [required to establish] who established the 38 remediation funding source, or to the department or transferee of 39 the property as appropriate, only those moneys as the department

40 [or the licensed site remediation professional] authorizes, in 41 writing, to be released. [The person entitled to draw upon the line 42 of credit shall submit documentation to the department detailing the 43 costs incurred or to be incurred as part of the remediation. Upon a 44 determination that the costs are consistent with the remediation of 45 the site, the department shall, in writing, authorize a disbursement

46 from the line of credit in the amount of the documented costs.]

1 The department shall return the original line of credit agreement 2 to the [person or] institution providing the line of credit for 3 termination after the person required to establish the remediation 4 funding source substitutes] department receives an alternative 5 remediation funding source as specified in this section, or after the 6 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 7 the remediation funding source that that person is no longer 8 required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation 9 of the contaminated site.

10 f. A person may self-guarantee a remediation funding source 11 upon the submittal of documentation to the department demonstrating that the cost of the remediation [as estimated in the 12 13 remedial action workplan, in the remediation agreement as provided 14 in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, in a remediation 15 certification submitted pursuant to subsection e. of P.L.1983, c.330, 16 in an administrative consent order, or as provided in a departmental 17 or court order, would not exceed one-third of the tangible net 18 worth of the person required to establish the remediation funding 19 source, and that the person has a cash flow sufficient to assure the 20 availability of sufficient moneys for the remediation during the time 21 necessary for the remediation. Documentation shall be delivered to 22 the department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal 23 service within 14 days of receipt of notice from the department that 24 the remedial action workplan or remediation agreement as provided 25 in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 is approved, (2) 26 within 14 days of submission to the department of a remedial action 27 workplan certified by a licensed site remediation professional as 28 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-29 9), (3) upon submission of a remediation certification pursuant to 30 the department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 31 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an 32 administrative consent order, civil order, or order of the department, 33 as applicable. Satisfactory documentation of a person's capacity to 34 self-guarantee a remediation funding source shall consist of audited 35 financial statements, in which the auditor expresses an unqualified 36 opinion, that includes a statement of income and expenses or similar 37 statement of that person and the balance sheet or similar statement 38 of assets and liabilities as used by that person for the fiscal year of 39 the person making the application that ended closest in time to the 40 date of the self-guarantee application. In the case of a special 41 purpose entity established specifically for the purpose of acquiring 42 and redeveloping a contaminated site, and for which a statement of 43 income and expenses is not available, the documentation shall 44 include a statement of assets and liabilities certified by a certified 45 public accountant. The self-guarantee application shall be certified 46 as true to the best of the applicant's information, knowledge, and 47 belief, by the chief financial, or similar officer or employee, or

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1 general partner, or principal of the person making the self-guarantee 2 application. A person shall be deemed by the department to possess 3 the required cash flow pursuant to this section if that person's gross 4 receipts exceed its gross payments in that fiscal year in an amount 5 at least equal to the estimated costs of completing the remedial 6 action workplan schedule to be performed in the 12-month period 7 following the date on which the application for self-guarantee is 8 made and the individual or entity possesses a net cash flow 9 provided by operating activities in an amount at least equal to the 10 estimated costs of completing the remediation in the 12-month 11 period following the date the application is made. In the event that a 12 self-guarantee is required for a period of more than one year, 13 applications for a self-guarantee shall be renewed annually pursuant 14 to this subsection for each successive year. The department may 15 establish requirements and reporting obligations to ensure that the 16 person proposing to self-guarantee a remediation funding source 17 meets the criteria for self-guaranteeing prior to the initiation of 18 remedial action and until completion of the remediation.

19 g. (1) If the person required to establish the remediation 20 funding source fails to perform the remediation as required, or fails 21 to meet the conditions established pursuant to paragraph (3) of 22 subsection a. of section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27) or 23 section 1 of P.L.2013, c.283 (C.58:10C-27.1), or the mandatory 24 remediation timeframes or expedited site specific timeframes 25 established pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28) 26 for the performance of the remedial action, the department shall 27 make a written determination of this fact. A copy of the 28 determination by the department shall be delivered to the person 29 required to establish the remediation funding source and, in the case 30 of a remediation conducted pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-31 6 et al.), to any transferee of the property. Following this written 32 determination, the department may perform the remediation in place 33 of the person required to establish the remediation funding source. 34 In order to finance the cost of the remediation the department may 35 make disbursements from the remediation funding source, or, if 36 sufficient moneys are not available from those funds, from the 37 remediation guarantee fund created pursuant to section 45 of 38 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-20).

39 (2) The transferee of property subject to a remediation 40 conducted pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), may, at 41 any time after the department's determination of nonperformance by 42 the owner or operator required to establish the remediation funding 43 source, petition the department, in writing, with a copy being sent to 44 the owner and operator, for authority to perform the remediation at 45 the industrial establishment. The department, upon a determination 46 that the transferee is competent to do so, may grant that petition 47 which shall authorize the transferee to perform the remediation as 48 specified in an approved remedial action workplan, or to perform

1 the activities as required in a remediation agreement, or as provided 2 in a remediation certification, and to avail itself of the moneys in the remediation trust fund, letter of credit, [or] line of credit , or 3 4 surety bond, or to make claims upon the environmental insurance 5 policy for these purposes. The petition of the transferee shall not be 6 granted by the department if the owner or operator continues or 7 begins to perform its obligations within 14 days of the petition 8 being filed with the department.

9 (3) After the department has begun to perform the remediation 10 in the place of the person required to establish the remediation 11 funding source or has granted the petition of the transferee to 12 perform the remediation, the person required to establish the remediation funding source shall not be permitted by the 13 14 department to continue its performance obligations except upon the 15 agreement of the department or the transferee, as applicable, or 16 except upon a determination by the department that the transferee is 17 not adequately performing the remediation.

18 h. A letter of credit shall be established pursuant to the 19 provisions of this subsection. A letter of credit shall allow a person 20 to guarantee the availability of funds up to a limit established in a 21 written agreement in order to guarantee the payment of the cost of 22 the remediation for which the letter of credit was established. An 23 originally signed duplicate of the letter of credit agreement shall be 24 delivered to the department (1) by certified mail, overnight 25 delivery, or personal service within 14 days of receipt of notice 26 from the department that the remedial action workplan or 27 remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 28 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 days of 29 submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 30 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 31 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 32 submission of a remediation certification [pursuant to] to the 33 department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 34 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent 35 order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. The 36 letter of credit agreement shall conform to a model agreement as 37 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 38 39 established by the department. The letter of credit shall be issued 40 by an entity that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 41 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State, or by a 42 federally regulated bank. 43

43 <u>The letter of credit shall not be allowed to expire unless the</u> 44 <u>financial institution provides the appropriate notification to the</u> 45 <u>department and the application, as defined by a model agreement</u> 46 <u>established by the department.</u> The financial institution that 47 provides the letter of credit shall release to the department or to a 48 person authorized to perform the remediation pursuant to subsection

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1 g. of this section, only moneys authorized by the department, [or 2 the authorized licensed site remediation professional, **]** in writing, to 3 be released. The department shall return the original letter of credit 4 to the financial institution providing the letter of credit for 5 termination after the **[**person required to establish the remediation 6 funding source substitutes] department receives an alternative 7 remediation funding source as authorized in this section, or after the 8 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 9 the remediation funding source that that person is no longer 10 required to maintain a remediation funding source for the 11 remediation of the contaminated site. 12 i. A surety bond shall be established pursuant to the provisions of 13 this subsection. A surety bond shall allow a person to guarantee the 14 availability of funds up to a limit established in a written agreement 15 in order to guarantee the payment of the cost of the remediation for 16 which the surety bond was established. An originally signed 17 duplicate of the surety bond agreement shall be delivered to the 18 department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal 19 service within 14 days of receipt of notice from the department that 20 the remedial action workplan or remediation agreement as provided 21 in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is 22 approved, (2) within 14 days of submission to the department of a 23 licensed site remediation professional certified remedial action 24 workplan as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 25 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon submission of a remediation 26 certification to the department as provided in subsection e. of 27 section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an 28 administrative consent order, civil order, or order of the department, 29 as applicable. The surety bond agreement shall conform to a model 30 agreement established by the department and shall be accompanied 31 by a certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 32 established by the department. The surety company issuing the 33 bond must be a company that is listed as an acceptable surety on 34 federal bonds in United States Treasury Department Circular 570. 35 The surety bond shall not be cancelled unless the surety company 36 provides the appropriate notice of cancellation to the department 37 and the principal, as defined in a model agreement established by 38 the department. The surety company that provides the surety bond 39 shall release to the department, or to a person authorized to perform 40 the remediation pursuant to subsection g. of this section, only 41 monies authorized by the department, in writing, to be released. 42 The department shall return the original surety bond to the surety

43 company for termination after the department receives an
 44 alternative remediation funding source as specified in this section or
 45 the department notifies the person that that person is no longer

46 required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation

47 <u>of the contaminated site.</u>

48 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.43)

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9. (New section) The department shall encourage the use of green and sustainable practices during the remediation of a contaminated site. The use of green and sustainable practices shall not alter the requirement that the remediation be protective of the public health and safety and of the environment.

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7 10. Section 39 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-15) is amended to 8 read as follows:

39. a. Any person who, before the effective date of P.L.1993,
c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.), has discharged a hazardous substance in
violation of P.L.1976, c.141, and:

(1) has not been issued a directive to remove or arrange for the
removal of the discharge pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141
(C.58:10-23.11f);

(2) has not been assessed a civil penalty, a civil administrative
penalty, or is not the subject of an action pursuant to the provisions
of section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u);

(3) has not entered into an administrative consent order to cleanup and remove the discharge; and

20 (4) has not been ordered by a court to clean up and remove the 21 discharge, shall not be subject to a monetary penalty for the failure 22 to report the discharge or for any civil violation of P.L.1976, c.141 23 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) or P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.) that 24 resulted in the discharge if the person notifies the department of the 25 discharge and enters into an administrative consent order [or a memorandum of agreement] with the department to remediate the 26 27 discharge in accordance with the provisions of P.L.1976, c.141 28 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), or any rules or regulations adopted 29 pursuant thereto, within one year of the effective date of P.L.1993, 30 c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.). Any person who notifies the department 31 of the discharge pursuant to this section shall be liable for all 32 cleanup and removal costs as provided in section 8 of P.L.1976, 33 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g).

34 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection a. of this 35 subsection, any person who enters into [a memorandum of agreement or] an administrative consent order pursuant to this 36 37 section and fails to remediate the discharge in accordance with the [memorandum of agreement or] administrative consent order, shall 38 39 be subject to all penalties for violations that occurred before the effective date of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.) as well as any 40 penalties for subsequent violations. 41

c. The provisions of this section shall not apply to violations of
a permit issued pursuant to P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.).

d. Any documents or information provided to the department
pursuant to this section may not be used in a criminal investigation
or criminal prosecution against the person providing the
information or documents for those violations that occurred before

the effective date of [this act] <u>P.L.1993, c.139</u> as long as the person
remediates the discharge in conformance with the administrative
consent order [or memorandum of agreement] entered into
pursuant to subsection a. of this section.
(cf: P.L.1993, c.139, s.39)
11. Section 1 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.1) is amended to

8 read as follows:

9 1. a. Prior to the initiation of the remedial [action] 10 investigation phase of the remediation of a contaminated site, any person who is responsible for conducting a remediation of the 11 12 contaminated site, including the Department of Environmental 13 Protection when it conducts a remediation of a contaminated site 14 using public monies, shall provide written notification describing 15 the activities that are to take place at the contaminated site to the 16 clerk of the municipality and to the county health department and 17 the local health agency wherein the site is located. The written 18 notice shall include notice of the location of the contaminated site, 19 including address and the lot and block number of the contaminated 20 site. The written notice shall also inform the municipality, county 21 health department, and local health agency that they may receive a 22 copy of the remedial action workplan and updates or status reports], any other workplan, report, or validated data required by 23 24 the department, and any updates thereto, and a copy of the site 25 health and safety plan, from the responsible party, upon request. 26 For any remediation of a contaminated site that will take longer 27 than two years to complete, the person responsible for conducting 28 the remediation shall provide the notification [shall be provided] 29 required by this section every two years until remediation is 30 complete.

b. Notice required pursuant to this section shall not be required
when the remediation of a contaminated site is caused by a leaking
residential underground storage tank used to store heating oil for
on-site consumption in a one to four family residential building or
an emergency response action.

- 36 (cf: P.L.2007, c.276, s.1)
- 37

38 12. Section 2 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.2) is amended to
 39 read as follows:

40 Upon request of a municipality, any person who is 2. 41 responsible for conducting a remediation of a contaminated site 42 shall submit a copy of a remedial action workplan , any other 43 workplan, report, or validated data required by the department, and 44 any updates or status reports pursuant to the "Industrial Site 45 Recovery Act," P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), the "Brownfield and Contaminated Site Remediation Act," P.L.1997, c.278 46 47 (C.58:10B-1.1 et al.), or the "Spill Compensation and Control Act,"

1 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), and a copy of the site 2 health and safety plan, to the clerk of the municipality wherein the 3 contaminated site is located at the same time as [the workplan is] 4 those documents are submitted to the **[**Department of 5 Environmental Protection] department. Upon request of a county 6 health department or a local health agency, the person who is 7 responsible for conducting a remediation of a contaminated site 8 shall also submit a copy of the remedial action workplan [and], 9 any other workplan, report, or validated data required by the 10 department, any updates or status reports, and a copy of the site 11 health and safety plan, to the county health department or local 12 health agency, respectively.

- 13 (cf: P.L.2007, c.276, s.2)
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15 13. Section 3 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.3) is amended to 16 read as follows:

3. a. Any person who is responsible for conducting a
remediation of a contaminated site shall be responsible for notifying
the public of the remediation of the contaminated site pursuant to
rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental
Protection pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

22 b. Within six months after the date of enactment of this act, the 23 Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt, pursuant to 24 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-25 1 et seq.), rules and regulations setting forth the notice requirements 26 pursuant to subsection a. of this section. The rules and regulations 27 to be adopted by the department pursuant to this section shall 28 require any person who is responsible for conducting a remediation 29 of a contaminated site to provide written notification to any local 30 property owners and tenants who reside within 200 feet of the 31 contaminated site. The notification shall summarize site conditions 32 and provide information about actions being taken to remediate the 33 site and may require written notification [or] and the posting of a 34 sign visible to the public which shall be located on the boundaries 35 of the contaminated site.

36 c. A person responsible for conducting a remediation shall 37 respond to any inquiries from the public that the person receives, or 38 that the department receives and forwards to the person responsible 39 for conducting the remediation, by providing either: (1) specific 40 information or documents that are responsive to the public inquiry; 41 or (2) a written status report for the remediation, which shall be 42 made in a form and manner as prescribed by the department 43 pursuant to rules and regulations. A person responsible for 44 conducting a remediation may designate a licensed site remediation 45 professional to respond to public inquiries pursuant to this 46 subsection.

47 (cf: P.L.2006, c.65, s.3)

1 14. Section 1 of P.L.2005, c.360 (C.58:10B-27.2) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 1. a. The provisions of any other law, or rule or regulation 4 adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding, the State 5 may enter into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to sections 35 6 and 36 of P.L.1997, c. 278 (C.58:10B-27 and 58:10B-28) for a 7 redevelopment project that was commenced prior to the effective date of sections 34 through 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-26 8 9 through 58:10B-31) in which the State may agree to reimburse a 10 developer for 75 [%] percent of remediation costs incurred 11 subsequent to entering into the redevelopment agreement, provided that the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the Commerce 12 13 and Economic Growth Commission] <u>Executive Director of the New</u> 14 Jersey Economic Development Authority, in consultation with the 15 State Treasurer, finds that: 16 (1) the remediation that has not yet been performed on the 17 subject real property is necessary to ensure that the public health 18 and safety and the environment are protected; and 19 (2) (a) the cost or extent of remediation was unanticipated at the 20 time the redevelopment project was commenced; (b) changes to the 21 rules and regulations governing site remediation were adopted after 22 the redevelopment project was commenced; (c) principles of 23 fairness and consistency indicate that the reimbursement of 24 remediation costs provided by P.L.1997, c.278 should be made 25 available to the developer who agreed to remediate and redevelop a 26 brownfield prior to the enactment of P.L.1997, c.278; (d) an 27 estimate of the cost of the remediation to be performed subsequent 28 to entry into the redevelopment agreement as approved by the 29 Department of Environmental Protection exceeds \$10 million; (e) 30 the subject real property is situated within a Planning Area 1 as

31 designated in the State Development and Redevelopment Plan; and 32 (f) a phase of the redevelopment project has not been commenced. 33 b. A developer that enters into a redevelopment agreement 34 pursuant to this section shall be eligible for reimbursement of

35 remediation costs pursuant to sections 36 and 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 36 (C.58:10B-28 and 58:10B-29), provided that:

37 (1) in estimating the amount of State taxes that are anticipated to 38 be derived from a redevelopment project the director shall only 39 consider tax revenues generated subsequent to the date of the 40 redevelopment agreement from a phase of the redevelopment 41 project that has not generated tax revenues prior to January 1, 2006; 42 and

43 (2) a developer has entered into **[**a memorandum of agreement 44 or other] an oversight document with the Commissioner of 45 Environmental Protection for the remediation of a contaminated site 46 located on the site of the redevelopment project and the developer is

in compliance with the [memorandum of agreement or] oversight
 document.

c. Nothing in this section shall require that a no further action
letter be obtained by a developer for remediation of groundwater
beneath the subject real property prior to reimbursement of the
remediation costs, provided that the developer has completed any
capital construction or infrastructure required for the remediation of
groundwater on the site.

9 (cf: P.L.2005, c.360, s.1)

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11 15. Section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-28) is amended to 12 read as follows:

13 36. a. The provisions of any other law, or rule or regulation 14 adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding, any 15 developer that enters into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to 16 section 35 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-27), may be eligible for 17 reimbursement of up to 75 [%] percent of the costs of the 18 remediation of the subject real property pursuant to the provisions 19 of this section upon the commencement of a business operation, or 20 the completion of the construction of one or more new residences, 21 within a redevelopment project.

22 b. To be eligible for reimbursement of the costs of remediation, 23 a developer shall submit an application, in writing, to the director 24 for review and certification of the reimbursement. The director 25 shall review the request for the reimbursement upon receipt of an 26 application therefor, and shall approve or deny the application for 27 certification on a timely basis. The director shall also make a 28 finding of the occupancy rate of the property subject to the 29 redevelopment agreement in the frequency set forth in the 30 redevelopment agreement as provided in section 35 of P.L.1997, 31 c.278 (C.58:10B-27).

32 The director shall certify a developer to be eligible for the 33 reimbursement if the director finds that:

34 (1) residential construction is complete, or a place of business is
35 located, in the area subject to the redevelopment agreement that has
36 generated new tax revenues;

37 (2) the developer had (i) entered into **[**a memorandum of 38 or other] an oversight document, agreement, with the 39 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, after the developer 40 entered into the redevelopment agreement, for the remediation of 41 contamination located on the site of the redevelopment project 42 pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) and the 43 developer is in compliance with the [memorandum of agreement] 44 oversight document, or (ii) complied with the requirements set forth 45 in subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3); and

(3) the costs of the remediation were actually and reasonably
 incurred. In making this finding the director may consult with the
 Department of Environmental Protection.

4 c. When filing an application for certification for a 5 reimbursement pursuant to this section, the developer shall submit to the director a certification of the total remediation costs incurred 6 7 by the developer for the remediation of the subject property located at the site of the redevelopment project as provided in the 8 9 redevelopment agreement, information concerning the occupancy 10 rate of the buildings or other work areas located on the property 11 subject to the redevelopment agreement, and such other information 12 as the director deems necessary in order to make the certifications 13 and findings pursuant to this section.

14 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.53)

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16 16. Section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) is amended to 17 read as follows:

18 37. a. To qualify for the certification of reimbursement of the 19 remediation costs authorized pursuant to section 36 of 20 P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-28), a developer shall: (1) enter into [a 21 memorandum of agreement, or other] an oversight document with 22 the Commissioner of Environmental Protection; or (2) comply with 23 the requirements set forth in subsection b. of section 30 of 24 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), for the remediation of the site of the 25 redevelopment project.

b. Under the [memorandum of agreement, or other] oversight document, the developer shall agree to perform and complete any remediation activity as may be required by the Department of Environmental Protection to ensure the remediation is conducted pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et al.).

33 c. After the developer has entered into a memorandum of 34 agreement, or other] an oversight document with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or after the developer has notified the 35 36 Department of Environmental Protection of the name and license 37 information of the licensed site remediation professional who has 38 been [hired] retained to perform the remediation as required 39 pursuant to subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-40 1.3), the commissioner shall submit a copy thereof to the developer, 41 the clerk of the municipality in which the subject property is 42 located, the Division of Business Assistance, Marketing and 43 International Trade in the New Jersey Economic Development 44 Authority, and the director.

45 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.54)

1 17. Section 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-31) is amended to 2 read as follows:

3 39. a. The State Treasurer shall reimburse the developer the 4 amount of the remediation costs agreed upon in the redevelopment 5 agreement, and as provided in sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-27 and C.58:10B-28) upon issuance of the certification 6 7 by the director pursuant to section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-8 28). The developer shall be entitled to periodic payments from the 9 fund in an amount, in the frequency, and over the time period as 10 provided in the redevelopment agreement. Notwithstanding any 11 other provision of sections 34 through 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 12 (C.58:10B-26 through C.58:10B-31), the State Treasurer may not 13 reimburse the developer any amount of the remediation costs from the fund until the State Treasurer is satisfied that the anticipated tax 14 15 revenues from the redevelopment project have been realized by the 16 State in an amount sufficient to pay for the cost of the 17 reimbursements.

18 b. A developer shall submit to the director updated remediation 19 costs actually incurred by the developer for the remediation of the 20 contaminated property located at the site of the redevelopment 21 project as provided in the redevelopment agreement. The 22 reimbursement authorized pursuant to this section shall continue 23 until such time as the aggregate dollar amount of the agreed upon 24 reimbursement. To remain entitled to the reimbursement authorized 25 pursuant to this section, the developer shall perform and complete 26 all remediation activities as may be required pursuant to the [memorandum of agreement or other] oversight [agreement] 27 document entered into with the Commissioner of Environmental 28 29 Protection pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) 30 or as may be required by the licensed site remediation professional 31 in order to issue a response action outcome for the site. The 32 Department of Environmental Protection may review the 33 remediation costs incurred by the developer to determine if they are 34 reasonable.

Reimbursable remediation costs shall include costs that are incurred in preparing the area of land whereon the contaminated site is located for remediation and may include costs of dynamic compaction of soil necessary for the remediation.

- 39 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.55)
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41 18. Section 2 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-2) is amended to read
42 as follows:

43 2. As used in sections 1 through 29 of P.L.2009, c.60
44 (C.58:10C-1 et seq.):

"Area of concern" means any location where contaminants are or
were known or suspected to have been discharged, generated,
manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated, or
disposed, or where contaminants have or may have migrated.

"Board" means the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
 Board established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2009, c.60
 (C.58:10C-3).

"Certified subsurface evaluator" means a person certified to
perform services at the site of an unregulated heating oil tank
pursuant to P.L.1991, c.123 (C.58:10A-24.1 et seq.) as a subsurface
evaluator.

8 "Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged 9 hazardous substance as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1976, 10 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b), hazardous waste as defined pursuant to 11 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined 12 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3).

13 "Department" means the Department of Environmental14 Protection.

15 "Discharge" means any intentional or unintentional action or 16 omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, 17 pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of hazardous substances 18 into the waters or onto the lands of the State, or into waters outside 19 the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the lands, 20 waters or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State.

"Engineering controls" means any mechanism to contain or
stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial
action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps,
covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences
and physical access controls.

26 "Environmental crime" means any criminal violation of one of 27 the following State laws: R.S.12:5-1 et seq.; P.L.1975, c.232 (C.13:1D-29 et al.); the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, 28 29 c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.); section 17 of P.L.1975, c.326 (C.13:1E-30 26); the "Comprehensive Regulated Medical Waste Management 31 Act," sections 1 [though] through 25 of P.L.1989, c.34 (C.13:1E-32 48.1 et seq.); P.L.1989, c.151 (C.13:1E-99.21a et al.); the "New 33 Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act," 34 P.L.1987, c.102 (C.13:1E-99.11 et al.); the "Pesticide Control Act of 1971," P.L.1971, c.176 (C.13:1F-1 et seq.); the "Industrial Site 35 Recovery Act," P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.); the "Toxic 36 37 Catastrophe Prevention Act," P.L.1985, c.403 (C.13:1K-19 et seq.); 38 "The Wetlands Act of 1970," P.L.1970, c.272 (C.13:9A-1 et seq.); the "Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act," P.L.1987, c.156 39 40 (C.13:9B-1 et al.); the "Coastal Area Facility Review Act," 41 P.L.1973, c.185 (C.13:19-1 et seq.); the "Air Pollution Control Act 42 (1954)," P.L.1954, c.212 (C.26:2C-1 et seq.); the "Water Supply 43 Management Act," P.L.1981, c.262 (C.58:1A-1 et al.); P.L.1947, 44 c.377 (C.58:4A-5 et seq.); the "Spill Compensation and Control 45 Act," P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.); the "Water Pollution 46 Control Act," P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.); P.L.1986, c.102 47 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.); the "Safe Drinking Water Act,"

1 P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-1 et al.); the "Flood Hazard Area 2 Control Act," P.L.1962, c.19 (C.58:16A-50 et seq.).

3 "Feasibility study" means a study to develop and evaluate 4 options for remedial action using data gathered during the remedial 5 investigation to develop the objectives of the remedial action, and 6 to develop possible remedial action alternatives, to evaluate those 7 alternatives and create a list of feasible alternatives, and to analyze 8 the engineering, scientific, institutional, human health. 9 environmental, and cost of each selected alternative.

10 "Hazardous substance" means the "environmental hazardous 11 substances" on the environmental hazardous substance list adopted 12 by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.315 13 (C.34:5A-4); such elements and compounds, including petroleum 14 products, which are defined as such by the department, after public 15 hearing, and which shall be consistent to the maximum extent 16 possible with, and which shall include, the list of hazardous 17 substances adopted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency 18 pursuant to section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 19 Amendments of 1972, Pub. L.92-500, as amended by the Clean 20 Water Act of 1977, Pub. L.95-217 (33 U.S.C. s.1251 et seq.); the 21 list of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the federal 22 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 307 of that 23 act; and the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal 24 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 101 of the 25 "Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and 26 Liability Act of 1980," Pub. L.96-510 (42 U.S.C. s.9601 et seq.); 27 provided, however, that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 28 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of P.L.1976, 29 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.).

30 "Immediate environmental concern" means [a condition at a 31 contaminated site where there is]: (1) confirmed contamination in a 32 well used for potable purposes at concentrations [at or] above the 33 ground water remediation standards; (2) confirmed contamination 34 that has migrated into [an occupied] <u>a structure currently used or</u> 35 <u>able to be used for human occupancy</u> or <u>a</u> confined space producing 36 a toxic or harmful atmosphere resulting in an unacceptable human 37 health exposure, or producing an oxygen-deficient atmosphere, or 38 resulting in demonstrated physical damage to essential underground 39 services; (3) confirmed contamination at the site of a nature that 40 either dermal contact, ingestion, or inhalation of the contamination 41 could result in an acute human health exposure; or (4) any other 42 [condition] <u>confirmed contamination</u> that poses an immediate 43 threat to the environment or to the public health and safety.

44 "Institutional controls" means a mechanism used to limit human 45 activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the 46 effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants 47 remain at a contaminated site in levels or concentrations above the

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applicable remediation standard that would allow unrestricted use
 of that property. Institutional controls may include, without
 limitation, structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well
 restriction areas, and deed notices.

5 "Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
6 who is licensed by the board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60
7 (C.58:10C-7) or the department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009,
8 c.60 (C.58:10C-12).

9 "Limited restricted use remedial action" means any remedial
10 action that requires the continued use of institutional controls but
11 does not require the use of an engineering control.

"Person" means an individual, public or private corporation,
company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock
company, the State, and any of its political subdivisions or agents.

15 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 16 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 17 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or 18 operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 19 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 20 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 21 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 22 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 23 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 24 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 25 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site.

26 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 27 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 28 29 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 30 existing site specific operational and environmental information, 31 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 32 33 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 34 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 35 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 36 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 37 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent 38 inquiry of the public records.

39 "Receptor evaluation" means an evaluation of the potential
40 impact of contamination on humans and environmentally sensitive
41 natural resources.

42 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if 43 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 44 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 45 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 46 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 47 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 48 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 1 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 2 standards.

3 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action 4 to be undertaken at a site, or at any area to which a discharge 5 originating at a site is migrating or has migrated; a description of 6 the remedial action to be used to remediate a site; a time schedule 7 and cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and 8 any other information the department deems necessary.

9 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 10 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 11 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 12 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 13 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 14 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 15 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 16 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary.

"Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 17 18 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 19 or threatened discharge of contaminants, including [, as necessary,] 20 the preliminary assessment, site investigation, remedial 21 investigation, and remedial action, or any portion thereof, provided, 22 however, that "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the 23 payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural 24 resources.

25 "Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric 26 standards that establish a level or concentration, and narrative 27 standards to which contaminants must be treated, removed, or 28 otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or surface water, as 29 provided by the department pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, 30 c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or 31 environmental standards.

32 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 33 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 34 35 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 36 37 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 38 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 39 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 40 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have 41 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 42 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 43 authorizations have been obtained.

44 "Restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action that 45 requires the continued use of engineering and institutional controls 46 in order to meet the established health risk or environmental 47 standards.

1 "Retained" means hired, individually or through a firm or other 2 person, by or on behalf of a person responsible for conducting 3 remediation, to perform, manage, or supervise remediation or to 4 periodically review and evaluate a remediation performed by other 5 persons. 6 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data 7 adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist 8 at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in 9 excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation 10 shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to 11 the preliminary assessment. 12 "Small business" means a business entity that does not acquire property for development or redevelopment, and that, during the 13 14 prior three tax years, employed not more than 50 full-time 15 employees or the equivalent thereof, and qualifies as a small 16 business concern within the meaning of the federal "Small Business 17 Act," 15 U.S.C. s.631 et seq. 18 "Temporary license" means a license issued by the department 19 pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12) to conduct 20 business as a licensed site remediation professional in the State. 21 "Unregulated heating oil tank" means any one or combination of 22 tanks, including appurtenant pipes, lines, fixtures, and other related 23 equipment, used to contain an accumulation of heating oil for on-24 site consumption in a residential building, or those tanks with a 25 capacity of 2,000 gallons or less used to store heating oil for on-site 26 consumption in a nonresidential building, the volume of which, 27 including the volume of the appurtenant pipes, lines, fixtures and 28 other related equipment, is 10 [%] percent or more below the 29 ground. 30 "Waters" means the ocean and its estuaries to the seaward limit 31 of the State's jurisdiction, all springs, streams and bodies of surface 32 or groundwater, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries 33 of the State. 34 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.2) 35 36 19. Section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) is amended to read 37 as follows: 38 7. a. The board shall establish a licensing program and 39 licensing requirements for site remediation professionals, and shall 40 oversee their licensing and performance. 41 b. The board shall establish standards for education, training 42 and experience that shall be required of any person who applies for 43 license or a license renewal. The board shall conduct 44 examinations to certify that an applicant possesses sufficient 45 knowledge of the State laws, rules and regulations, standards and 46 requirements applicable to site remediation and that the applicant is 47 qualified to obtain a license or a license renewal. The board shall 48 also adopt standards for the professional conduct of licensed site

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1 remediation professionals pursuant to the provisions of section 16 2 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-16). The board shall require an 3 applicant to submit references to ensure that the applicant meets the 4 standards and requirements established for training, experience and 5 professional conduct by licensed site remediation professionals. No 6 person may take the licensing examination until the board 7 determines that the applicant meets the standards for education, 8 training and experience.

9 c. An application for a license shall be made in a manner and 10 on such forms as may be prescribed by the board. The filing of an 11 application shall be accompanied by an application fee that shall 12 cover the costs of processing the application and developing and 13 conducting the examinations. The board may also charge an annual 14 license fee that shall cover the costs of the licensing program.

d. An applicant for a site remediation professional license shalldemonstrate to the board that the applicant:

17 (1) holds a bachelor's degree or higher in natural, chemical or 18 physical science, or an engineering degree in a discipline related to 19 site remediation, from an accredited institution of higher education, 20 or has been issued a temporary license to remediate discharges from 21 underground storage tanks only pursuant to subsection d. of section 22 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-13) and meets the other 13 23 requirements established in this subsection and in subsection f. of 24 this section;

(2) has eight years of full-time professional experience, as
described in subsection e. of this section, in the field of site
remediation, of which five years shall have occurred in New Jersey
and at least three years shall have occurred in New Jersey
[immediately] within the five years prior to submission of the
application;

(3) has a minimum of 5,000 hours of relevant professional
experience within the State over the five years immediately prior to
submission of the application that is of a professional grade and
character that indicates the applicant is competent to issue a
response action outcome;

36 (4) has attended and completed the minimum environmental
37 health and safety education and training provided pursuant to 29
38 C.F.R. Section 1910.120 no more than one year prior to submission
39 of an application for a license pursuant to this section;

40 (5) has attended and completed a course approved by the
41 department on the State's rules and regulations concerning the
42 technical requirements for site remediation no more than three years
43 prior to submission of the application;

(6) has not been convicted of, or plead guilty to, an
environmental crime, any similar or related criminal offense under
federal or state law, or any crime involving fraud, <u>breach of trust</u>,
theft by deception, forgery <u>, or any offense that would qualify the</u>
person for registration pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1994, c.133

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1 (C.2C:7-2), or any other crime or offense involving moral turpitude, 2 or any similar or related offense under federal or state law . For the 3 purposes of this section, a conviction or plea of guilty shall include 4 a non vult, nolo contendere, no contest, or finding of guilt by a 5 judge or jury; and 6 (7) has not had a professional license or certification revoked by 7 any state licensing board or any other professional licensing agency 8 within the previous 10 years , and has not surrendered a 9 professional license or certification in response to a disciplinary 10 investigation within the previous 10 years. 11 e. For the purposes of this section, "full-time professional 12 experience" includes experience in which the applicant is required 13 to apply scientific or engineering principles to contaminated site 14 remediation where the resulting conclusions form the basis for 15 reports, studies or other documents connected with the remediation 16 of a contaminated site. The board may consider the applicant's 17 work activities, field of practice, duration of employment, and work 18 products prepared in determining the credit to be allowed for 19 professional experience. The board may allow applicants with 20 relevant advanced degrees up to two years of credit for professional 21 experience, of which one year of credit may be awarded for 22 applicants who have earned a master's degree in a relevant field of 23 study and up to two years of credit may be awarded for applicants 24 who have earned a doctorate degree in a relevant field of study. 25 f. The board shall authorize an applicant who has been issued a 26 temporary license pursuant to subsection d. of section 13 of 27 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-13), who meets all other requirements 28 established pursuant to this section but does not hold a bachelor's 29 degree from an accredited institution of higher education to take the 30 licensing examination to qualify for a license pursuant to this 31 An applicant who does not satisfactorily complete the section. 32 examination authorized pursuant to this subsection shall not be 33 authorized to reapply for a license. g. No person may obtain a license unless that person meets the

g. No person may obtain a license unless that person meets the
standards established for education, training and experience
required in subsection b. of this section, satisfactorily passes the
examination, and satisfies any other requirements established by the
board to ensure that licensed site remediation professionals meet the
requirements established pursuant to this section.

40 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.7)

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42 20. Section 11 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-11) is amended to 43 read as follows:

11. <u>a.</u> No person shall be, act as, advertise as, or hold himself
out to be, or represent himself as being, a licensed site remediation
professional unless that person has been issued a valid license
pursuant to P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.).

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1 b. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of 2 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a person who is not a licensed site 3 remediation professional shall not perform remediation unless the 4 remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and 5 evaluated by a licensed site remediation professional. 6 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.11) 7 8 21. Section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-14) is amended to 9 read as follows: 10 14. a. For any site for which a licensed site remediation professional is required to be [hired] retained pursuant to the 11 provisions of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), the 12 13 person responsible for conducting the remediation shall certify all 14 documents submitted to the department concerning the remediation 15 of the contaminated site. The licensed site remediation professional shall certify that the work was performed, the licensed site 16 17 remediation professional managed, supervised, or performed the 18 work that is the basis of the submission, and that the work and the 19 submitted documents are consistent with all applicable remediation 20 requirements adopted by the department. 21 b. A licensed site remediation professional shall certify 22 electronic submissions made to the department concerning the 23 remediation of a contaminated site. The licensed site remediation 24 professional shall attest that no other person is authorized or able to 25 use any password, encryption method, or electronic signature 26 provided to the licensed site remediation professional by the board 27 or the department. 28 c. The licensed site remediation professional shall employ the 29 following remediation requirements in providing professional 30 services for the remediation of contaminated sites: 31 (1) The licensed site remediation professional shall make each 32 decision concerning a contaminated site in order to meet the 33 following standards: 34 (a) health risk and environmental standards established pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); 35 36 (b) remediation standards adopted by the department pursuant to 37 section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); 38 (c) maximum contaminant levels for building interiors adopted 39 by the Department of Health and Senior Services pursuant to 40 section 1 of P.L.2007, c.1 (C.52:27D-130.4) as applicable; and 41 (d) any other applicable standards adopted pursuant to law. 42 (2) The licensed site remediation professional shall apply the 43 following regulations: 44 (a) rules and regulations adopted by the Site Remediation 45 Professional Licensing Board pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2009, 46 c.60 (C.58:10C-6); 47 (b) technical standards for site remediation adopted by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et al.); 48

[(b)] (c) mandatory remediation timeframes and expedited site
 specific timeframes adopted by the department pursuant to section
 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28); [and]

4 **[**(c)**]** (d) presumptive remedies adopted by the department 5 pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); and

6 (e) any other applicable rules and regulations concerning the
7 remediation.

8 (3) The licensed site remediation professional shall apply any 9 available and appropriate technical guidelines concerning site 10 remediation as issued by the department. The department shall 11 provide interested parties the opportunity to participate in the 12 development and review of technical guidelines issued for the 13 remediation of contaminated sites.

14 (4) When there is no specific requirement provided by the 15 technical standards for site remediation adopted by the department, 16 and guidelines issued by the department are not appropriate or 17 necessary, in the professional judgment of the licensed site 18 remediation professional, to meet the remediation requirements 19 listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the licensed site 20 remediation professional may use the following additional 21 guidelines to make decisions regarding a remediation, and shall set 22 forth justification, including, if applicable, the scientific, technical, 23 or other justification, for such use, in the relevant submittal to the 24 department:

(a) relevant guidance from the federal Environmental ProtectionAgency or other states; and

(b) other relevant, applicable, and appropriate methods and
practices that ensure the protection of the public health and safety,
and of the environment.

30 d. Upon completion of the remediation, the licensed site 31 remediation professional shall issue a response action outcome to 32 the person responsible for conducting the remediation when, in the 33 opinion of the licensed site remediation professional, the site has 34 been remediated so that it is in compliance with all applicable 35 statutes, rules and regulations protective of public health and safety and the environment. The licensed site remediation professional 36 37 shall file the response action outcome with the department when it 38 is issued to the person responsible for conducting the remediation. 39 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.14)

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41 22. Section 16 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-16) is amended to 42 read as follows:

43 16. a. A licensed site remediation professional's highest priority
44 in the performance of professional services shall be the protection
45 of public health and safety and the environment.

b. A licensed site remediation professional shall exercise
reasonable care and diligence, and shall apply the knowledge and
skill ordinarily exercised by licensed site remediation professionals

1 in good standing practicing in the State at the time the services are 2 performed.

3 c. A licensed site remediation professional shall not provide 4 professional services outside the areas of professional competency, 5 unless the licensed site remediation professional has relied upon the 6 technical assistance of another professional whom the licensed site 7 remediation professional has reasonably determined to be qualified 8 by education, training, and experience. A licensed site remediation 9 professional shall not perform services that constitute the practice 10 of professional engineering unless the licensed site remediation 11 professional is a professional engineer licensed in the State.

12 d. A licensed site remediation professional retained by a person 13 responsible for conducting the remediation shall notify the department within 15 calendar days after being retained. 14 In 15 addition, a licensed site remediation professional shall notify the 16 department within 15 calendar days after being released from 17 responsibility for a remediation if the release occurs prior to 18 issuance of the response action outcome for the site by the licensed 19 site remediation professional.

20 e. A licensed site remediation professional and the person 21 responsible for conducting the remediation shall correct any 22 deficiency the department identifies in a document submitted 23 concerning a remediation. The deficiency shall be corrected in 24 accordance with timeframes established by the department.

25 A licensed site remediation professional may complete any f. 26 phase of remediation based on remediation work performed under 27 the supervision of another licensed site remediation professional, 28 provided that the licensed site remediation professional: (1) reviews 29 all available documentation on which he relies; (2) conducts a site 30 visit to observe current conditions and to verify the status of as 31 much of the work as is reasonably observable; and (3) concludes, in 32 the exercise of independent professional judgment, that there is 33 sufficient information upon which to complete any additional phase 34 of remediation and prepare workplans and reports related thereto.

35 A licensed site remediation professional who has taken over g. the responsibility for the remediation of a contaminated site from 36 37 another licensed site remediation professional shall correct all 38 deficiencies in a document submitted by the previous licensed site 39 remediation professional identified by the department in accordance 40 with timeframes established by the department.

41 h. A licensed site remediation professional shall not certify any 42 document submitted to the department unless the licensed site 43 remediation professional : (1) believes that the information in the 44 submission is true, accurate, and complete; and (2) has managed, 45 supervised or performed the work that is the basis of the 46 submission, or has periodically reviewed and evaluated the work 47 performed by other persons that forms the basis for the information 48 in the submission, or has completed the work of another licensed

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1 site remediation professional and has concluded such work is 2 reliable pursuant to subsection f. of this section. A licensed site 3 remediation professional shall not knowingly make any false 4 statement, representation, or certification in any document or 5 information required to be submitted to the board or the department. 6 A licensed site remediation professional shall exercise i. 7 independent professional judgment, comply with the requirements 8 and procedures set forth in the provisions of P.L.2009, c.60 9 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), make a good faith and reasonable effort to 10 identify and obtain the relevant and material facts, data, reports and 11 other information evidencing conditions at a contaminated site for 12 which he is [responsible] retained that is in possession of the 13 owner of the property, or that is otherwise available, and identify 14 and obtain whatever additional data and other information as the 15 licensed site remediation professional deems necessary. The 16 licensed site remediation professional shall disclose and explain in 17 any document submitted to the department any facts, data, 18 information, qualifications, or limitations known by the licensed 19 site remediation professional that are not supportive of the 20 conclusions reached in the document.

21 If a licensed site remediation professional [identifies] į. 22 obtains specific knowledge of a condition [at a contaminated site] 23 that in his independent professional judgment is an immediate 24 environmental concern, then the licensed site remediation 25 professional shall: (1) immediately verbally advise, and confirm in 26 writing to, the person responsible for conducting the remediation of 27 that person's duty to notify the department of the condition, 28 provided the person is known to the licensed site remediation 29 professional; and (2) immediately notify the department of the 30 condition by calling the department's telephone hotline.

31 k. If a licensed site remediation professional retained to 32 perform remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains 33 specific knowledge that a discharge has occurred [on a 34 contaminated site for which he is responsible] at any location on 35 the site, the licensed site remediation professional shall: (1) notify 36 the person responsible for conducting the remediation of the 37 existence of the discharge; and (2) notify the department of the 38 discharge by calling the department's telephone hotline. The person 39 responsible for conducting the remediation shall also be responsible 40 for notifying the department of the existence of the discharge. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a discharge that may 41 42 be a result of the existence of historic fill material.

If a licensed site remediation professional learns of an action
or decision by a client that results in a deviation from the remedial
action workplan or other report concerning the remediation
developed by the licensed site remediation professional, the

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1 licensed site remediation professional shall promptly notify the 2 client and the department, in writing, of the deviation.

3 m. A licensed site remediation professional shall not reveal 4 information obtained in a professional capacity, except as may be 5 authorized or required by law, without the prior consent of the 6 client, if the client has notified the licensed site remediation 7 professional, in writing, that the information is confidential. The 8 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to information that is in 9 the public domain.

10 n. A licensed site remediation professional who learns of 11 material facts, data or other information subsequent to the 12 completion of a report concerning a phase of remediation, which would result in a report with material differences from the report 13 14 submitted, shall promptly notify the client and the department in 15 writing of those facts, data, information, and circumstances.

16 o. A licensed site remediation professional who succeeds 17 another licensed site remediation professional before the issuance of 18 a response action outcome, and who learns of material facts, data or 19 other information concerning a phase of the remediation for which a 20 report was submitted to the department and the material facts, data 21 or other information were not disclosed in the report, shall promptly notify the client and the department in writing of those facts, data, 22 23 information, and circumstances.

24 p. A licensed site remediation professional shall not allow the 25 use of his name by a person, and shall not associate with a person in 26 a business venture, if the licensed site remediation professional 27 knows or should know that the person engages in fraudulent or 28 dishonest business or professional practices regarding the 29 professional responsibilities of a licensed site remediation 30 professional.

31 q. A licensed site remediation professional shall cooperate in 32 an investigation by the board or the department by promptly 33 furnishing, in response to formal requests, orders or subpoenas, any 34 information the board or the department, or persons duly authorized 35 by the board or the department, deems necessary to perform its duties. In an investigation by the board of a license application or a 36 37 license suspension or revocation, a licensed site remediation 38 professional shall not:

39 (1) knowingly make a false statement of material fact;

40 (2) fail to disclose a fact necessary to correct a material 41 misunderstanding known by the licensed site remediation 42 professional to have arisen in the matter;

43 (3) knowingly and materially falsify, tamper with, alter, conceal, 44 or destroy any document, data record, remedial system, or 45 monitoring device that is relevant to the investigation, without 46 obtaining the prior approval of the department; or

(4) knowingly allow or tolerate any employee, agent, or
 contractor of the licensed site remediation professional to engage in
 any of the foregoing activities.

r. A licensed site remediation professional shall be jointly
responsible for a violation of any provision of this section
committed by another licensed site remediation professional whose
work he supervises or reviews if:

8 (1) the licensed site remediation professional orders, directs, or 9 agrees to the provision of professional services conducted or 10 prepared by another licensed site remediation professional under his 11 supervision;

(2) the licensed site remediation professional knows that theprofessional services constitute a violation of this section; and

(3) the licensed site remediation professional fails to takereasonable steps to avoid or mitigate the violation.

s. A licensed site remediation professional shall comply with
all conditions imposed by the board as a result of a license
suspension or other disciplinary proceeding conducted by the board.

19 t. A licensed site remediation professional shall inform a client 20 or prospective client of any relevant and material assumptions, 21 limitations, or qualifications underlying their communication. 22 Evidence that a licensed site remediation professional has provided 23 the client or prospective client with timely written documentation of 24 these assumptions, limitations, or qualifications shall be deemed by 25 the board or the department to have satisfied the requirements of 26 this subsection.

u. A licensed site remediation professional shall not state or
imply, as an inducement or a threat to a client or prospective client,
an ability to improperly influence a government agency or official.

v. In any description of qualifications, experience, or ability to
provide services, a licensed site remediation professional shall not
knowingly:

(1) make a material misrepresentation of fact;

34 (2) omit a fact when the omission results in a materially35 misleading description; or

(3) make a statement that, in the opinion of the board, is likely
to create an unjustified expectation about results the licensed site
remediation professional may achieve, or state or imply that the
licensed site remediation professional may achieve results by means
that violate the provisions of applicable environmental statutes,
rules or regulations, including the provisions of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-1 et al.).

w. A licensed site remediation professional shall provide any
notification to the board or the department required pursuant to this
section, even if the licensed site remediation professional is
discharged by the client prior to doing so.

47 x. A licensed site remediation professional shall not accept
 48 compensation, financial or otherwise, for professional services

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pertaining to a contaminated site from two or more persons whose
 interests are adverse or conflicting unless the circumstances are
 fully disclosed and agreed to by all clients engaging the licensed
 site remediation professional.

5 y. A licensed site remediation professional shall not be a 6 salaried employee of the person responsible for conducting the 7 remediation, or any related entities, for which the licensed site 8 remediation professional is providing remediation services.

z. A licensed site remediation professional shall not allow any
ownership interest, compensation, or promise of continued
employment, of the licensed site remediation professional or any
immediate family member, to affect the professional services
provided by the licensed site remediation professional.

14 aa. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of 15 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a licensed site remediation professional shall not facilitate, aid, assist, or cooperate with any 16 17 person in retaining or arranging for the retention of any person who 18 is not a licensed site remediation professional to perform 19 remediation, unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or 20 periodically reviewed and evaluated by a licensed site remediation 21 professional retained for that purpose, and the department has been 22 notified of the retention.

<u>bb. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of</u>
 <u>P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a licensed site remediation</u>
 <u>professional shall not manage, supervise, perform, engage, or</u>
 <u>participate in remediation unless:</u>

27 (1) the licensed site remediation professional has been retained
28 by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the
29 department has been notified of the retention; or

30 (2) the remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed
 31 by another licensed site remediation professional retained by the
 32 person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the
 33 department has been notified of the retention of the other licensed
 34 site remediation professional.

35 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.16)

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37 23. (New section) If a licensed site remediation professional obtains specific knowledge of a condition in an unoccupied 38 39 structure, that, in his independent professional judgment, constitutes 40 an immediate environmental concern, and the person responsible 41 for conducting the remediation provides to the department a written 42 certification from the property owner that the building (i) is not 43 occupied, (ii) will not be occupied, and (iii) will be demolished, 44 then no further remediation relative to the immediate environmental 45 concern in the unoccupied structure shall be required, provided the 46 conditions of the certification are maintained. Nothing in this 47 section shall be construed to limit the responsibility of a license site 48 remediation professional to comply with the notification

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requirements of subsection j. of section 16 of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-16), or the responsibility of a person to report a
discharge pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.). The
department shall prescribe the form and manner of the written
certification pursuant to this section.

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7 24. Section 19 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-19) is amended to 8 read as follows:

9 19. a. The department shall establish a permit program to 10 regulate the operation, maintenance and inspection of engineering 11 or institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a 12 remedial action of a contaminated site. The department may require 13 periodic monitoring, inspections, and maintenance by the person 14 responsible for the engineering or institutional controls and the 15 submission of certifications regarding those activities. The 16 department may issue a permit, permit by rule, or general permit 17 pursuant to this section.

18 b. The department may require any person who is responsible 19 for the monitoring, operation, and maintenance of an engineering or 20 institutional control implemented before the date of enactment of 21 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), and any person required to 22 submit a certification on a biennial basis pursuant to section 6 of 23 P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-13.1), that engineering or institutional 24 controls and related systems are properly maintained and that 25 periodic monitoring for compliance is conducted, to obtain a permit 26 pursuant to this section.

27 c. (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, 28 the department may require that a person issued a permit pursuant 29 to this section maintain insurance, financial assurance or another 30 financial instrument to guarantee that funding is available to 31 operate, maintain, and inspect the engineering controls installed as 32 part of a remedial action of a contaminated site for the period that 33 such controls are required. The person required to maintain the 34 funding source pursuant to this section may petition the department 35 on an annual basis to decrease the amount of funding required to be 36 maintained.

37 (2) A government entity, a person who is not otherwise liable for cleanup and removal costs pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 38 39 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) who purchases contaminated property 40 before the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) 41 and undertakes a remediation of the property, a person who 42 undertakes a remediation at their primary or secondary residence, 43 the owner or operator of a child care center licensed pursuant to 44 P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) who performs a remediation at 45 the licensed child care center, the person responsible for conducting 46 a remediation at a public school or private school as defined in 47 N.J.S.18A:1-1, or a charter school established pursuant to P.L.1995, 48 c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.), or the owner or operator of a small

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1 business responsible for performing a remediation at their business 2 property, shall not be required to establish or maintain a funding 3 source pursuant to this section, for the operation, maintenance, and 4 inspection of the engineering controls installed as part of a remedial 5 action of a contaminated site. 6 d. A person who is issued a permit pursuant to this section 7 shall retain a licensed site remediation professional to manage, 8 supervise, or perform the requirements of the permit for the 9 duration of the permit. 10 e. The department may charge, in accordance with a schedule adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, 11 12 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), reasonable application fees to cover the 13 costs of processing the application, and reasonable annual fees to 14 cover the costs of the administration and enforcement of the 15 permits. 16 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.19) 17 18 25. Section 20 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-20) is amended to 19 read as follows: 20 20. A licensed site remediation professional shall , for each 21 contaminated site, maintain and preserve all data, documents and 22 information concerning the remediation [activities at each 23 contaminated site] that the licensed site remediation professional 24 has [worked on] prepared or relied upon, including but not limited 25 to, technical records and contractual documents, raw sampling and 26 monitoring data, whether or not the data and information, including 27 technical records and contractual documents, were developed by the 28 licensed site remediation professional or the licensee's divisions, 29 employees, agents, accountants, contractors, or attorneys, that relate 30 in any way to the contamination at the site. [Three] An electronic 31 [copies] <u>copy</u> of the records shall be submitted to the department at 32 the time the response action outcome is filed with the department. 33 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.20) 34 35 26. Section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27) is amended to 36 read as follows: 37 27. a. Except as provided in section 1 of P.L.2013, c.283 38 (C. 58:10C-27.1), and this section, the department shall undertake 39 direct oversight of a remediation of a contaminated site under the 40 following conditions: 41 (1) the person responsible for conducting the remediation has a 42 history of noncompliance with the laws concerning remediation, or 43 any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, that includes the 44 issuance of at least two enforcement actions after the date of 45 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) during any fiveyear period concerning a remediation; 46

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1 (2) the person responsible for conducting the remediation at a 2 contaminated site has failed to meet a mandatory remediation 3 timeframe or an expedited site specific timeframe adopted by the 4 department pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28), 5 including any extension thereof granted by the department, or a 6 schedule established pursuant to an administrative order or court 7 order; or

8 (3) unless a longer period has been ordered by a court, the 9 person responsible for conducting the remediation has, prior to the 10 date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), failed to 11 complete the remedial investigation of the entire contaminated site 12 10 years after the discovery of a discharge at the site and has failed to complete the remedial investigation of the entire contaminated 13 14 site within five years after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 15 (C.58:10C-1 et al.).

If a person responsible for conducting a remediation fails to meet
 the conditions established in paragraph (3) of this subsection, or a
 requirement established pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of
 P.L.2013, c.283 (C.58:10C-27.1), the department shall not
 undertake direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person
 demonstrates, and the department finds, that:

(1) the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe
 because he was unable to enter the contaminated site because he
 does not own the property, and the person took all appropriate and
 timely action pursuant to section 40 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B 16) prior to the applicable timeframe; or

(2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the
person has made timely submissions to the department, and the
person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the
performance of additional review by the department pursuant to
subsection c. of section 21 of P.L. 2009, c. 60 (C.58:10C-21).

32 As used in this subsection, "enforcement action" means an 33 administrative order, a notice of civil administrative penalty, or a 34 court order.

b. The department may undertake direct oversight of aremediation of a contaminated site under the following conditions:

37 (1) the contamination at the site includes chromate chemical38 production waste;

39 (2) the department determines that more than one
40 environmentally sensitive natural resource has been injured by
41 contamination from the site;

42 (3) the site has contributed to sediments contaminated by
43 polychlorinated biphenyl, mercury, arsenic, or dioxin in a surface
44 water body; or

(4) the site is ranked by the department in the category requiring
the highest priority pursuant to the ranking system developed
pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1982, c.202 (C.58:10-23.16).

1 c. For any site subject to direct oversight by the department 2 pursuant to this section: 3 (1) the department shall review each document submitted by a 4 licensed site remediation professional and shall approve or deny the 5 submission; 6 (2) a feasibility study shall be performed and submitted to the 7 department for approval; 8 (3) the department shall select the remedial action for the site; 9 (4) the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall 10 establish a remediation [trust fund] funding source other than a 11 self-guarantee pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12 3) in the amount of the estimated cost of the remediation; 13 (5) all disbursements of funds from the remediation [trust fund] 14 funding source shall require prior approval by the department; 15 (6) all submissions prepared by the licensed site remediation professional concerning the remediation required by the department 16 17 shall be provided simultaneously to the department and the person 18 responsible for conducting the remediation; and 19 (7) the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall 20 implement a public participation plan approved by the department 21 to solicit public comment from the members of the surrounding 22 community concerning the remediation of the site. 23 d. The department shall issue guidelines establishing specific 24 criteria for the conditions under which a site may be subject to 25 direct oversight pursuant to subsection b. of this section. 26 e. (1) Any oversight procedure, remedy, or other obligation in 27 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall not affect a remediation conducted pursuant to and in compliance with a settlement of 28 29 litigation to which the department is a party if the settlement (a) 30 occurred prior to the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 31 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), or (b) is a settlement of litigation pending on 32 the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). 33 (2) For any litigation pending or settled on the date of enactment 34 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), concerning a remediation 35 performed pursuant to the "Resource Conservation and Recovery 36 Act," 42 U.S.C. s.6921 et seq., nothing in P.L.2009, c.60 37 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall affect an oversight procedure, remedy, or 38 other obligation imposed by a federal administrative order or 39 federal court order. 40 f. When a contaminated site is subject to direct oversight 41 pursuant to this section, the requirements of direct oversight shall 42 run with the site, regardless of who owns the property, and 43 regardless of whether there is a transfer of ownership of the 44 property. 45 g. (1) The department may modify the direct oversight 46 requirements of subsection c. of this section for a contaminated site 47 if:

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1 (a) the person responsible for conducting the remediation 2 demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the performance of 3 the remediation due to the imposition of direct oversight pursuant to 4 this section; or 5 (b) there is a public emergency resulting from a natural disaster, 6 as declared by the Governor or the President of the United States, or 7 an official authorized to act on their behalf, that resulted in a delay 8 in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-specific timeframe or 9 other condition that triggered direct oversight. 10 (2) The department may modify the direct oversight requirements of subsection c. of this section for a contaminated site 11 12 if the department makes a written determination that the modification is in the public interest and protective of the public 13 14 health and safety and the environment. At least 60 days prior to 15 making a modification pursuant to this paragraph, the department 16 shall publish its written determination and the proposed 17 modification to the requirements of direct oversight, including the 18 reasons for its determination, on the department's Internet website. 19 The department shall solicit and accept public comments on the 20 proposed modification for a period of at least 30 days after the date 21 of publication. The department shall consider the public comments 22 received during the comment period prior to making a modification 23 pursuant to this paragraph. 24 (3) The department may, prior to a change in ownership of a 25 contaminated site, enter into an administrative consent order with 26 the prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing for the 27 modification of any or all of the direct oversight requirements of 28 subsection c. of this section for the contaminated site. 29 (4) The department may reinstate any or all of the direct 30 oversight requirements that it modifies pursuant to paragraphs (1), 31 (2), and (3) of this subsection if, after the modification, the 32 department finds that the person responsible for conducting the 33 remediation has failed to comply with any applicable timeframe, 34 administrative consent order modifying the requirements of direct 35 oversight, or any law, rule, or regulation concerning the remediation 36 of contaminated sites. 37 (cf: P.L.2013, c.283, s.2) 38 39 27. This act shall take effect immediately. 40 41 42 **STATEMENT** 43 44 This bill would make various changes to the laws governing the 45 remediation of contaminated sites and licensed site remediation 46 professionals (LSRPs). 47 The bill would require a plaintiff, in any action for damages for 48 personal injuries, wrongful death, or property damage resulting

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1 from an alleged act of malpractice or negligence by an LSRP, to 2 provide each defendant with an affidavit of merit. An affidavit of 3 merit is a sworn statement from an appropriate licensed person 4 stating that there exists a reasonable probability that the care, skill, 5 or knowledge exercised or exhibited in the practice or work that is 6 the subject of the complaint fell outside acceptable professional or 7 occupational standards. If a plaintiff fails to file an affidavit of 8 merit, his case would be dismissed for failure to state a cause of 9 action. The State currently requires an affidavit of merit for suits 10 against various other licensed professionals including doctors, 11 accountants, attorneys, and engineers.

The bill would authorize the Superior Court and the municipal courts to impose a civil penalty for a violation of the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," P.L.1976, c. 141 (C. 58:10-23.11 et seq.), to be assessed in accordance with the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

17 The bill makes several changes to laws governing the 18 establishment of remediation funding sources, and when and how 19 those remediation funding sources may be used, dispersed, and 20 released. The bill provides that a person may establish, as a 21 remediation funding source, a surety bond from an entity that is 22 listed as an acceptable surety on federal bonds in United States 23 Treasury Department Circular 570. The bill also establishes 24 requirements for utilizing a surety bond as a remediation funding 25 source.

The bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to encourage the use of green and sustainable practices during the remediation of a contaminated site. However, the use of green and sustainable practices would not alter the requirement that the remediation be protective of the public health and safety and of the environment.

32 Current law requires a person responsible for conducting a 33 remediation to provide written notice of the remediation to the 34 municipality and county in which the contaminated site is located 35 prior to initiating the remedial action. The bill would require that 36 such written notice be provided earlier in the site remediation 37 process - prior to the initiation of the remedial investigation. The 38 bill would also expand the types of documents a person responsible 39 for conducting a remediation is required to provide to a 40 municipality or county, upon request.

The bill would require a person responsible for conducting a remediation to respond to any inquiries from the public that the person receives or that the DEP receives and forwards to that person. Under the bill, the person's response must include either: (1) specific information or documents that are responsive to the public inquiry; or (2) a written status report for the remediation in a form and manner as determined by the DEP. A person responsible for conducting a remediation would be permitted to designate an
 LSRP to respond to public inquiries under the bill.

3 Current law provides that an "immediate environmental concern" 4 includes "confirmed contamination that has migrated into an 5 occupied structure..." The bill would expand the definition to 6 include "confirmed contamination that has migrated into a structure 7 currently used or able to be used for human occupancy..." Under 8 existing law, the DEP has established expedited timeframes to 9 address immediate environmental concerns. However, under the 10 bill, no further remediation relative to an immediate environmental 11 concern that affects an unoccupied structure would be required if a 12 person responsible for conducting the remediation provides to the 13 DEP a written certification from the property owner that the 14 building: (1) is not occupied; (2) will not be occupied; and (3) will 15 be demolished.

16 Under existing law, if an LSRP identifies a condition that, in his 17 independent professional judgment, is an immediate environmental 18 concern, then the LSRP must, among other things, immediately 19 verbally advise the person responsible for conducting the 20 remediation of that person's duty to notify the DEP. The bill would 21 require an LSRP to notify the person responsible for conducting the 22 remediation, in writing, of the person's duty to notify the DEP of 23 the condition.

The bill provides that, if an LSRP who is retained to perform remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains specific knowledge that a discharge has occurred at any location on the site, the LSRP must notify the person responsible for conducting the remediation and the DEP.

29 The bill makes certain changes to the licensing requirements for 30 LSRPs. Under current law, an applicant for an LSRP license must 31 demonstrate, among other things, that the applicant has the requisite 32 number of years of full-time professional experience in the field of 33 site remediation, of which five years must have occurred in New 34 Jersey, and at least three years must have occurred in the State 35 immediately prior to submission of the application. The bill would 36 change this requirement to provide that an applicant must have 37 worked at least three years in the State within the five years 38 immediately prior to submission of the application, to account for 39 applicants who may have been absent from work for personal 40 reasons.

Current law specifies the crimes and other offenses that 41 42 disqualify a person from becoming an LSRP. This bill would 43 expand that list to include any criminal offense involving breach of 44 trust, and any offense that would qualify the person for registration 45 on the State's sex offender registry, or any other crime or offense 46 involving moral turpitude. Under the bill, an applicant for an LSRP 47 license would need to demonstrate that he has not had a professional certification revoked, and has not surrendered a 48

professional license or certification in response to a disciplinary
 investigation, within the previous 10 years.

3 The bill provides that a person who is not an LSRP may not 4 perform remediation unless the remediation is managed, supervised, 5 or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP. The bill 6 specifies that an LSRP, when providing professional services for 7 the remediation of a contaminated site, must apply the rules and 8 regulations adopted by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing 9 Board (board), and any other applicable rules and regulations 10 concerning the remediation.

11 The bill specifies that an LSRP may not certify any document 12 submitted to the DEP unless the LSRP believes that the information 13 in the submission is true, accurate, and complete. The bill would 14 also explicitly prohibit an LSRP from knowingly making any false 15 statement, representation, or certification in any document or 16 information required to be submitted to the DEP or the board.

17 The bill provides that an LSRP is prohibited from facilitating, 18 aiding, assisting, or cooperating with any person in retaining or 19 arranging for the retention of any person who is not an LSRP to 20 perform remediation, unless the remediation is managed, 21 supervised, or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP 22 retained for that purpose, and the DEP has been notified of the 23 Additionally, under the bill, an LSRP would be retention. 24 prohibited from managing, supervising, performing, engaging, or 25 participating in a remediation unless: (1) the LSRP has been 26 retained by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, 27 and the DEP has been notified of the retention; or (2) the 28 remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed by another 29 LSRP retained by the person responsible for conducting the 30 remediation, and the DEP has been notified of the retention of the 31 other LSRP.

The bill requires a person who is issued a remedial action permit for the operation, maintenance, and inspection of engineering or institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a remedial action to retain an LSRP to manage, supervise, or perform the requirements of the permit for the duration of the permit.

37 Under the bill, if a person responsible for conducting a 38 remediation fails to meet certain conditions, the DEP would not 39 undertake direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person 40 demonstrates, and the DEP finds, that: (1) the person was unable to 41 meet the applicable timeframe because he was unable to enter the 42 contaminated site because he does not own the property, and the 43 person took all appropriate and timely action to gain access to the 44 site; or (2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the 45 person has made timely submissions to the DEP, and the person was 46 unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the performance of 47 additional review by the DEP.

1 The bill provides that, when a contaminated site is subject to 2 direct oversight, the requirements of direct oversight run with the 3 site, regardless of who owns the property, and regardless of whether 4 there is a transfer of ownership of the property.

5 The bill authorizes the DEP to modify the requirements of direct oversight if: (1) the person responsible for conducting the 6 7 remediation demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the 8 performance of the remediation due to the imposition of direct 9 oversight; or (2) there is a public emergency resulting from a 10 natural disaster, as declared by the State or federal government, that 11 resulted in a delay in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-12 specific timeframe or other condition that triggered direct oversight. The DEP would also be authorized to modify the requirements of 13 14 direct oversight for a contaminated site if the DEP makes a written 15 determination that the modification is in the public interest and 16 protective of the public health and safety and the environment. The 17 DEP would be required to publish its written determination, 18 including the reasons for its determination, on the DEP's Internet 19 website, and solicit and consider public comments on the proposed 20 modification.

21 The bill also authorizes the DEP, prior to a change in ownership 22 of a contaminated site, to enter into an administrative consent order 23 with the prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing 24 for the modification of the requirements of direct oversight. The 25 DEP would be authorized to reinstate the direct oversight 26 requirements that it modifies under the bill if, after the modification, the DEP finds that the person responsible for 27 conducting the remediation failed to comply with any applicable 28 29 timeframe, administrative consent order, or any law, rule, or 30 regulation concerning site remediation.

The bill makes certain changes to the definition of the term "remediation," used in various existing site remediation laws. The bill also adds a definition for the term "retained" in the "Site Remediation Reform Act," P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et seq.), and makes consistent the use of that term throughout that law.

36 The bill deletes various references in the site remediation laws to37 the term "memorandum of agreement."

ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT AND SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5293

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 10, 2019

The Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5293.

This bill, as amended by the committee, would make various changes to the laws governing the remediation of contaminated sites and licensed site remediation professionals (LSRPs).

The bill would require a plaintiff, in any action for damages for personal injuries, wrongful death, or property damage resulting from an alleged act of malpractice or negligence by an LSRP, to provide each defendant with an affidavit of merit. (An affidavit of merit is a sworn statement from an appropriate licensed person stating that there exists a reasonable probability that the care, skill, or knowledge exercised or exhibited in the practice or work that is the subject of the complaint fell outside acceptable professional or occupational standards.) If a plaintiff fails to file an affidavit of merit, the case would be dismissed for failure to state a cause of action.

The bill would authorize the Superior Court and the municipal courts to impose a civil penalty for a violation of the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," to be assessed in accordance with the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

The bill makes several changes to laws governing the establishment of remediation funding sources, and when and how those remediation funding sources may be used, dispersed, and released. The bill provides that a person may establish, as a remediation funding source, a surety bond from an entity that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal bonds in United States Treasury Department Circular 570. The bill also establishes requirements for utilizing a surety bond as a remediation funding source.

The bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to encourage the use of green and sustainable practices during the remediation of a contaminated site. The use of green and sustainable practices would not alter the requirement that the remediation be protective of the public health and safety and of the environment.

Current law requires a person responsible for conducting a remediation to provide written notice of the remediation to the municipality and county in which the contaminated site is located prior to initiating the remedial action. The bill would require that such written notice be provided earlier in the site remediation process – prior to the initiation of the remedial investigation. The bill would also expand the types of documents a person responsible for conducting a remediation is required to provide to a municipality or county, upon request.

The bill would require a person responsible for conducting a remediation to respond to any inquiries from the public regarding the status of the remediation that the person receives or that the DEP receives and forwards to that person. Under the bill, the person's response must include either: (1) information or documents that are responsive to the public inquiry; or (2) a written summary status report for the remediation in a form and manner as determined by the DEP. A person responsible for conducting a remediation would be permitted to designate an LSRP to respond to public inquiries under the bill.

Current law provides that an "immediate environmental concern" includes "confirmed contamination that has migrated into an occupied structure..." The bill would remove the word "occupied," so that the definition reads, in relevant part, "confirmed contamination that has migrated into a structure..." Under existing law, the DEP has established expedited timeframes to address immediate environmental concerns. However, under the bill, no further remediation relative to an immediate environmental concern that affects an unoccupied structure would be required if a person responsible for conducting the remediation provides to the DEP a written certification from the property owner that the building: (1) is not occupied; (2) will not be occupied; and (3) will be demolished.

Under existing law, if an LSRP identifies a condition that, in the LSRP's independent professional judgment, is an immediate environmental concern, then the LSRP must, among other things, immediately verbally advise the person responsible for conducting the remediation of that person's duty to notify the DEP. The bill would require an LSRP to also notify the person responsible for conducting the remediation, in writing, of the person's duty to notify the DEP of the condition.

The bill provides that, if an LSRP who is retained to perform remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains specific knowledge that a discharge has occurred at any location on the site, the LSRP must notify the person responsible for conducting the remediation and the DEP.

The bill makes certain changes to the licensing requirements for LSRPs. Under current law, an applicant for an LSRP license must demonstrate, among other things, that the applicant has the requisite number of years of full-time professional experience in the field of site

remediation, of which five years must have occurred in the State, and at least three years must have occurred in the State immediately prior to submission of the application. The bill would change this requirement to provide that an applicant must have worked at least three years in the State within the five years immediately prior to submission of the application, to account for applicants who may have been absent from work for personal reasons.

Current law specifies the crimes and other offenses that disqualify a person from becoming an LSRP. This bill would expand that list to include any crime involving breach of trust, and any crime or offense that would qualify the person for registration on the State's sex offender registry, or any other crime involving moral turpitude. Under the bill, an applicant for an LSRP license would need to demonstrate that the person has not had a professional certification revoked, and has not surrendered a professional license or professional certification in response to a disciplinary investigation, within the previous 10 years.

The bill provides that a person who is not an LSRP may not perform remediation unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP. The bill specifies that an LSRP, when providing professional services for the remediation of a contaminated site, must apply the rules and regulations adopted by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board (board), and any other applicable rules and regulations concerning the remediation.

The bill specifies that an LSRP may not certify any document submitted to the DEP unless the LSRP believes that the information in the submission is true, accurate, and complete. The bill would also explicitly prohibit an LSRP from knowingly making any false statement, representation, or certification in any document or information required to be submitted to the DEP or the board.

The bill provides that an LSRP is prohibited from facilitating, aiding, assisting, or cooperating with any person in retaining or arranging for the retention of any person who is not an LSRP to perform remediation, unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP retained for that purpose, and the DEP has been notified of the retention. Additionally, under the bill, an LSRP would be prohibited from managing, supervising, performing, engaging, or participating in a remediation unless: (1) the LSRP has been retained by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the DEP has been notified of the retention; or (2) the remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed by another LSRP retained by the person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the DEP has been notified of the retention of the other LSRP.

The bill requires a person who is issued a remedial action permit for the operation, maintenance, and inspection of engineering or institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a remedial action to retain an LSRP to manage, supervise, or perform the requirements of the permit for the duration of the permit.

Under the bill, if a person responsible for conducting a remediation fails to meet certain conditions, the DEP would not undertake direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person demonstrates, and the DEP finds, that: (1) the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe because the person was unable to enter the contaminated site because the person does not own the property, and the person took all appropriate and timely action to gain access to the site; or (2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the person has made timely submissions to the DEP, and the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the performance of additional review by the DEP.

The bill provides that, when a contaminated site is subject to direct oversight, the requirements of direct oversight run with the site, regardless of who owns the property, and regardless of whether there is a transfer of ownership of the property.

The bill authorizes the DEP to modify the requirements of direct oversight if: (1) the person responsible for conducting the remediation demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the performance of the remediation due to the imposition of direct oversight; or (2) there is a public emergency, as declared by the State or federal government, that resulted in a delay in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-specific timeframe or other condition that triggered direct oversight. The DEP would also be authorized to modify the requirements of direct oversight for a contaminated site if the DEP makes a written determination that the modification is in the public interest and protective of the public health and safety and the environment. The DEP would be required to publish its written determination, including the reasons for its determination, on the DEP's Internet website, and solicit and consider public comments on the proposed modification.

The bill also authorizes the DEP, prior to a change in ownership of a contaminated site, to enter into an administrative consent order with the prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing for the modification of the requirements of direct oversight, with certain exceptions. The DEP would be authorized to reinstate the direct oversight requirements that it modifies under the bill if, after the modification, the DEP finds that the person responsible for conducting the remediation failed to comply with any applicable timeframe, administrative consent order, or any law, rule, or regulation concerning site remediation.

The bill makes certain changes to the definition of the term "remediation," used in various existing site remediation laws. The bill also adds a definition for the term "retained" in the "Site Remediation Reform Act," and makes consistent the use of that term throughout that law.

Lastly, the bill deletes various references in the site remediation laws to the term "memorandum of agreement."

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments to the bill:

(1) revise the definition of the term "remediation" in section 3 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-8) to make it consistent with other laws, by specifying that "remediation" does not include the payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural resources;

(2) specify that a person responsible for conducting a remediation is required to provide to a municipality, upon request, any other workplan, report, or validated data required by the DEP pursuant to law, rule, or regulation;

(3) clarify that a person responsible for conducting a remediation is required to respond to any written or email inquiries from the public regarding the status of the remediation that the person receives, or that the DEP receives and forwards to the person;

(4) specify that the status report that a person responsible for conducting remediation may provide in response to a public inquiry is a written summary status report;

(5) amend the definition of the term "immediate environmental concern" in section 2 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-2) to provide that it includes "confirmed contamination that has migrated into a structure or a confined space...";

(6) remove language providing that a person can be disqualified from becoming an LSRP for "offenses" involving moral turpitude, and instead provide that a person can be disqualified only for "crimes" involving moral turpitude;

(7) specify that a person may be disqualified from becoming an LSRP if a professional certification is revoked within the previous 10 years, as opposed to any certification;

(8) provide that, when the DEP, pursuant to the bill, modifies the requirement of direct oversight due to a public emergency, that public emergency does not need to be the result of a natural disaster;

(9) provide that the DEP may not enter into a pre-purchaser administrative consent order to modify the requirements of direct oversight with any person who: (a) has discharged a hazardous substance at the contaminated site, is in any way responsible for a hazardous substance at the site, or is otherwise liable for cleanup and removal costs at the site, (b) has owned or operated the contaminated site, or (c) is a predecessor, successor, subsidiary, partner, shareholder, assign, trustee in bankruptcy, responsible corporate official, or receiver appointed pursuant to a proceeding in law or equity, to any person described in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above; and

(10) make technical corrections to the bill.

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 5293

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed by Senator SMITH)

ADOPTED: JUNE 20, 2019

This floor amendment would provide that a person is not required to retain a licensed site remediation professional (LSRP) to conduct sampling or investigation to confirm or evaluate a remediation performed or supervised by a retained LSRP, provided that the sampling or investigation: (1) is not required pursuant to any law, rule, regulation, or order; (2) is not conducted in order to obtain a response action outcome; and (3) is not conducted in order to investigate, clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or threatened discharge of a contaminant.

This floor amendment would make this bill identical to Senate Bill No. 3682 (1R).

SENATE, No. 3682 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 13, 2019

Sponsored by: Senator BOB SMITH District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset) Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset) Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of contaminated sites.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/18/2019)

2

AN ACT concerning the remediation of contaminated sites, and

2 amending and supplementing various parts of the statutory law. 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-8) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 3. As used in this act: 10 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action to be undertaken at an industrial establishment, or at any area to

to be undertaken at an industrial establishment, or at any area to which a discharge originating at the industrial establishment is migrating or has migrated; a description of the remedial action to be used to remediate the industrial establishment; a time schedule and cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and any other relevant information the department deems necessary;

17 "Closing operations" means:

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18 (1) the cessation of operations resulting in at least a 90 percent 19 reduction in the total value of the product output from the entire 20 industrial establishment, as measured on a constant, annual datespecific basis, within any five-year period, or, for industrial 21 22 establishments for which the product output is undefined, a 90 23 percent reduction in the number of employees or a 90 percent 24 reduction in the area of operations of an industrial establishment 25 within any five-year period; provided, however, the department may 26 approve a waiver of the provisions of this paragraph for any owner 27 or operator who, upon application and review, evidences a good faith effort to maintain and expand product output, the number of 28 29 employees, or area of operations of the affected industrial 30 establishment;

31 (2) any temporary cessation of operations of an industrial
32 establishment for a period of not less than two years;

33 (3) any judicial proceeding or final agency action through which
34 an industrial establishment becomes nonoperational for health or
35 safety reasons;

(4) the initiation of bankruptcy proceedings pursuant to Chapter
7 of the federal Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. s.701 et seq. or the
filing of a plan of reorganization that provides for a liquidation
pursuant to Chapter 11 of the federal Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C.
s.1101 et seq.;

41 (5) any change in operations of an industrial establishment that
42 changes the industrial establishment's Standard Industrial
43 Classification number to one that is not subject to this act; or

44 (6) the termination of a lease unless there is no disruption in
45 operations of the industrial establishment, or the assignment of a
46 lease;

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 "Transferring ownership or operations" means: 2 (1) any transaction or proceeding through which an industrial 3 establishment undergoes a change in ownership; 4 (2) the sale or transfer of more than 50 [%] percent of the assets 5 of an industrial establishment within any five-year period, as 6 measured on a constant, annual date-specific basis; (3) the execution of a lease for a period of 99 years or longer for 7 8 an industrial establishment; or 9 (4) the dissolution of an entity that is an owner or operator or an indirect owner of an industrial establishment, except for any 10 dissolution of an indirect owner of an industrial establishment 11 whose assets would have been unavailable for the remediation of 12 the industrial establishment if the dissolution had not occurred; 13 14 "Change in ownership" means: (1) the sale or transfer of the business of an industrial 15 16 establishment or any of its real property; 17 (2) the sale or transfer of stock in a corporation resulting in a 18 merger or consolidation involving the direct owner or operator or 19 indirect owner of the industrial establishment; 20 (3) the sale or transfer of stock in a corporation, or the transfer 21 of a partnership interest, resulting in a change in the person holding 22 the controlling interest in the direct owner or operator or indirect 23 owner of an industrial establishment; 24 (4) the sale or transfer of title to an industrial establishment or 25 the real property of an industrial establishment by exercising an 26 option to purchase; or (5) the sale or transfer of a partnership interest in a partnership that owns or operates an industrial establishment, that would reduce, by 10 [%] percent or more, the assets available for remediation of the industrial establishment; 31 "Change in ownership" shall not include: 32 (1) a corporate reorganization not substantially affecting the 33 ownership of the industrial establishment; 34 (2) a transaction or series of transactions involving the transfer 35 of stock, assets or both, among corporations under common 36 ownership, if the transaction or transactions will not result in the 37 diminution of the net worth of the corporation that directly owns or operates the industrial establishment by more than 10 [%] percent, 38 39 or if an equal or greater amount in assets is available for the remediation of the industrial establishment before and after the 40 41 transaction or transactions; 42 (3) a transaction or series of transactions involving the transfer 43 of stock, assets or both, resulting in the merger or de facto merger 44 or consolidation of the indirect owner with another entity, or in a 45 change in the person holding the controlling interest of the indirect 46 owner of an industrial establishment, when the indirect owner's 47 assets would have been unavailable for cleanup if the transaction or

27 28 29 30

48 transactions had not occurred: (4) a transfer where the transferor is the sibling, spouse, child,
 parent, grandparent, child of a sibling, or sibling of a parent of the
 transferee;
 (5) a transfer to confirm or correct any deficiencies in the

4 (5) a transfer to confirm or correct any deficiencies in the 5 recorded title of an industrial establishment;

6 (6) a transfer to release a contingent or reversionary interest
7 except for any transfer of a lessor's reversionary interest in leased
8 real property;

9 (7) a transfer of an industrial establishment by devise or 10 intestate succession;

(8) the granting or termination of an easement or a license toany portion of an industrial establishment;

(9) the sale or transfer of real property pursuant to a
condemnation proceeding initiated pursuant to the "Eminent
Domain Act of 1971," P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.);

16 (10) execution, delivery and filing or recording of any mortgage,

security interest, collateral assignment or other lien on real orpersonal property; or

(11) any transfer of personal property pursuant to a valid security
agreement, collateral assignment or other lien, including, but not
limited to, seizure or replevin of such personal property which
transfer is for the purpose of implementing the secured party's
rights in the personal property which is the collateral;

24 "Department" means the Department of Environmental25 Protection;

26 "Hazardous substances" means those elements and compounds, including petroleum products, which are defined as such by the 27 department, after public hearing, and which shall be consistent to 28 29 the maximum extent possible with, and which shall include, the list 30 of hazardous substances adopted by the Environmental Protection 31 Agency pursuant to Section 311 of the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972" (33 U.S.C. s.1321) and the list 32 33 of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the Environmental 34 Protection Agency pursuant to Section 307 of that act (33 U.S.C. s.1317); except that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 35 36 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of this act;

37 "Hazardous waste" shall have the same meaning as provided in
38 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38);

39 "Industrial establishment" means any place of business engaged 40 in operations which involve the generation, manufacture, refining, 41 transportation, treatment, storage, handling, or disposal of 42 hazardous substances or hazardous wastes on-site, above or below 43 ground, having a Standard Industrial Classification number within 44 22-39 inclusive, 46-49 inclusive, 51 or 76 as designated in the 45 Standard Industrial Classifications Manual prepared by the Office 46 of Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President of the United States. Those facilities or parts of facilities subject to 47 48 operational closure and post-closure maintenance requirements pursuant to the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, c.39 49

1 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.), the "Major Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting 2 Act," sections 1 through 43 of P.L.1981, c.279 (C.13:1E-49 et seq.) 3 or the "Solid Waste Disposal Act" (42 U.S.C. s.6901 et seq.), or any 4 establishment engaged in the production or distribution of 5 agricultural commodities, shall not be considered industrial establishments for the purposes of this act. The department may, 6 7 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 8 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), exempt certain sub-groups or classes of 9 operations within those sub-groups within the Standard Industrial 10 Classification major group numbers listed in this subsection upon a 11 finding that the operation of the industrial establishment does not 12 pose a risk to public health and safety;

13 "Negative declaration" means a written declaration, submitted by the owner or operator of an industrial establishment or other person 14 15 assuming responsibility for the remediation under paragraph (3) of 16 subsection b. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 to the department, 17 certifying that there has been no discharge of hazardous substances 18 or hazardous wastes on the site, or that any such discharge on the 19 site or discharge that has migrated or is migrating from the site has 20 been remediated in accordance with procedures approved by the 21 department and in accordance with any applicable remediation 22 regulations;

"Discharge" means an intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of a hazardous substance
or hazardous waste into the waters or onto the lands of the State;

27 "No further action letter" means a written determination by the department that, based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 28 29 the industrial establishment and the property, or of an area of 30 concern or areas of concern, as applicable, and any other 31 investigation or action the department deems necessary, there are no 32 discharged hazardous substances or hazardous wastes present at the 33 site of the industrial establishment, at the area of concern or areas of 34 concern, or at any other site to which discharged hazardous 35 substances or hazardous wastes originating at the industrial 36 establishment have migrated, and that any discharged hazardous 37 substances or hazardous wastes present at the industrial establishment or that have migrated from the site have been 38 39 remediated in accordance with applicable remediation regulations;

"Indirect owner" means any person who holds a controlling
interest in a direct owner or operator, holds a controlling interest in
another indirect owner, or holds an interest in a partnership which is
an indirect owner or a direct owner or operator, of an industrial
establishment;

"Direct owner or operator" means any person that directly owns
or operates an industrial establishment. A holder of a mortgage or
other security interest in the industrial establishment shall not be
deemed to be a direct owner or operator of the industrial
establishment unless or until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993,

c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial
 establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court
 order or other process;

4 "Area of concern" means any location where hazardous
5 substances or hazardous wastes are or were known or suspected to
6 have been discharged, generated, manufactured, refined,
7 transported, stored, handled, treated, or disposed, or where
8 hazardous substances or hazardous wastes have or may have
9 migrated;

10 "Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual 11 who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing 12 Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12); 13 14 "Owner" means any person who owns the real property of an 15 industrial establishment or who owns the industrial establishment. 16 A holder of a mortgage or other security interest in the industrial 17 establishment shall not be deemed to be an owner of the industrial 18 establishment unless or until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993, 19 c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial 20 establishment by deed of foreclosure, by other deed, or by court 21 order or other process;

"Operator" means any person, including users, tenants, or 22 23 occupants, having and exercising direct actual control of the 24 operations of an industrial establishment. A holder of a mortgage 25 or other security interest in the industrial establishment shall not be 26 deemed to be an operator of the industrial establishment unless or 27 until it loses its exemption under P.L.1993, c.112 (C.58:10-23.11g4 et al.) or obtains title to the industrial establishment by deed of 28 29 foreclosure, by other deed, or by court order or other process;

30 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 31 identifying areas of concern and determining whether hazardous 32 substances or hazardous wastes are or were present at an industrial 33 establishment or have migrated or are migrating from the industrial 34 establishment, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation 35 of, existing site specific operational and environmental information, 36 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 37 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 38 of any hazardous substance or hazardous waste is required. The 39 evaluation of historic information shall be conducted from 1932 to 40 the present, except that the department may require the search for 41 and evaluation of additional information relating to ownership and 42 use of the site prior to 1932 if such information is available through 43 diligent inquiry of public records;

44 "Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to
45 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected,
46 or threatened discharge of hazardous substances or hazardous
47 wastes, including [, as necessary,] the preliminary assessment, site
48 investigation, remedial investigation, and remedial action , or any
49 portion thereof;

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"Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric
standards that establish a level or concentration and narrative
standards, to which hazardous substances or hazardous wastes must
be treated, removed, or otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or
surface water, as provided by the department pursuant to section 35
of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or
environmental standards;

8 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at an industrial 9 establishment or offsite of an industrial establishment if hazardous 10 substances or hazardous wastes have migrated or are migrating 11 therefrom, as may be required by the department to protect public 12 health, safety, and the environment. These actions may include the removal, treatment, containment, transportation, securing, or other 13 14 engineering measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 15 designed to ensure that any discharged hazardous substances or 16 hazardous wastes at the site or that have migrated or are migrating 17 from the site, are remediated in compliance with the applicable 18 health risk or environmental standards;

19 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 20 nature and extent of a discharge of hazardous substances or hazardous wastes at an industrial establishment or a discharge of 21 22 hazardous substances or hazardous wastes that have migrated or are 23 migrating from the site and the problems presented by a discharge, 24 and may include data collection, site characterization, sampling, 25 monitoring, and the gathering of any other sufficient and relevant 26 information necessary to determine the necessity for remedial 27 action and to support the evaluation of remedial actions if 28 necessary;

29 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 30 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 31 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 32 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 33 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 34 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 35 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 36 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 37 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 38 39 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 40 authorizations have been obtained;

41 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data 42 adequate to determine whether or not discharged hazardous 43 substances or hazardous wastes exist at the industrial establishment 44 or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in excess of 45 the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation shall be 46 developed based upon the information collected pursuant to the 47 preliminary assessment.

48 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.33)

1 2. Section 1 of P.L.1995, c.139 (C.2A:53A-26) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 As used in this act, "licensed person" means any person who 1. 4 is licensed as: 5 a. an accountant pursuant to P.L.1997, c.259 (C.45:2B-42 et 6 seq.); 7 b. an architect pursuant to R.S.45:3-1 et seq.; c. an attorney admitted to practice law in New Jersey; 8 9 d. a dentist pursuant to R.S.45:6-1 et seq.; 10 an engineer pursuant to P.L.1938, c.342 (C.45:8-27 et seq.); e. a physician in the practice of medicine or surgery pursuant 11 f. 12 to R.S.45:9-1 et seq.; 13 g. a podiatrist pursuant to R.S.45:5-1 et seq.; a chiropractor pursuant to P.L.1989, c.153 (C.45:9-41.17 et 14 h. 15 seq.); i. a registered professional nurse pursuant to P.L.1947, c.262 16 17 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); a health care facility as defined in section 2 of P.L.1971, 18 j. 19 c.136 (C.26:2H-2); 20 k. a physical therapist pursuant to P.L.1983, c.296 (C.45:9-21 37.11 et seq.); 22 1. a land surveyor pursuant to P.L.1938, c.342 (C.45:8-27 et 23 seq.); 24 m. a registered pharmacist pursuant to P.L.2003, c.280 25 (C.45:14-40 et seq.); 26 n. a veterinarian pursuant to R.S.45:16-1 et seq.; 27 o. an insurance producer pursuant to P.L.2001, c.210 28 (C.17:22A-26 et seq.); [and] p. a certified midwife, certified professional midwife, or 29 certified nurse midwife pursuant to R.S.45:10-1 et seq.; and 30 31 <u>q.</u> a licensed site remediation professional pursuant to section 7 32 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7). 33 (cf: P.L.2010, c.88, s.1) 34 35 3. Section 3 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b) is amended to read as follows: 36 37 3. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings: 38 "Act of God" means an act exclusively occasioned by an 39 40 unanticipated, grave natural disaster without the interference of any 41 human agency; "Administrator" means the chief executive of the New Jersey 42 43 Spill Compensation Fund; 44 "Barrel" means 42 United States gallons or 159.09 liters or an 45 appropriate equivalent measure set by the director for hazardous 46 substances which are other than fluid or which are not commonly 47 measured by the barrel; "Board" means a board of arbitration convened by the 48 administrator to settle disputed disbursements from the fund; 49

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1 "Cleanup and removal costs" means all direct costs associated 2 with a discharge, and those indirect costs that may be imposed by 3 the department pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2002, c.37 associated 4 with a discharge, incurred by the State or its political subdivisions 5 or their agents or any person with written approval from the 6 department in the: (1) removal or attempted removal of hazardous 7 substances, or (2) taking of reasonable measures to prevent or 8 mitigate damage to the public health, safety, or welfare, including, 9 but not limited to, public and private property, shorelines, beaches, 10 surface waters, water columns and bottom sediments, soils and 11 other affected property, including wildlife and other natural 12 resources, and shall include costs incurred by the State for the indemnification and legal defense of contractors pursuant to 13 14 sections 1 through 11 of P.L.1991, c.373 (C.58:10-23.11f8 et seq.); 15 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Environmental 16 Protection: 17 "Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged 18 hazardous substance, hazardous waste as defined pursuant to 19 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined 20 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3); 21 "Department" means the Department of Environmental 22 Protection; 23 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Taxation in the 24 Department of the Treasury; 25 "Discharge" means any intentional or unintentional action or 26 omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, 27 pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of hazardous substances into the waters or onto the lands of the State, or into waters outside 28 29 the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the lands, 30 waters or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State; 31 "Emergency response action" means those activities conducted 32 by a local unit to clean up, remove, prevent, contain, or mitigate a 33 discharge that poses an immediate threat to the environment or to 34 the public health, safety, or welfare; 35 "Fair market value" means the invoice price of the hazardous substances transferred, including transportation charges; but where 36 37 no price is so fixed, "fair market value" shall mean the market price 38 as of the close of the nearest day to the transfer, paid for similar 39 hazardous substances, as shall be determined by the taxpayer 40 pursuant to rules of the director; "Final remediation document" means a no further action letter 41 42 issued by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 43 et al.), or a response action outcome issued by a licensed site 44 remediation professional pursuant to section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 45 (C.58:10C-14); 46 "Fund" means the New Jersey Spill Compensation Fund; "Hazardous substances" means the "environmental hazardous 47 48 substances" on the environmental hazardous substance list adopted 49 by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.315

1 (C.34:5A-4); such elements and compounds, including petroleum 2 products, which are defined as such by the department, after public 3 hearing, and which shall be consistent to the maximum extent 4 possible with, and which shall include, the list of hazardous 5 substances adopted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency 6 pursuant to section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 7 Amendments of 1972, Pub.L.92-500, as amended by the Clean 8 Water Act of 1977, Pub.L.95-217 (33 U.S.C.s.1251 et seq.); the list 9 of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the [EPA] United 10 States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 307 of 11 that act; and the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 101 of the 12 "Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and 13 14 Liability Act of 1980," Pub.L.96-510 (42 U.S.C.s.9601 et seq.); 15 provided, however, that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 16 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of P.L.1976, 17 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.);

18 "Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual 19 who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing 20 Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the 21 department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12); 22 "Local unit" means any county or municipality, or any agency or 23 other instrumentality thereof, or a duly incorporated volunteer fire, 24 ambulance, first aid, emergency, or rescue company or squad;

25 "Major facility" includes, but is not limited to, any refinery, 26 storage or transfer terminal, pipeline, deep-water port, drilling 27 platform or any appurtenance related to any of the preceding that is 28 used or is capable of being used to refine, produce, store, handle, 29 transfer, process or transport hazardous substances. "Major 30 facility" shall include a vessel only when that vessel is engaged in a 31 transfer of hazardous substances between it and another vessel, and 32 in any event shall not include a vessel used solely for activities 33 directly related to recovering, containing, cleaning up or removing 34 discharges of petroleum in the surface waters of the State, including 35 training, research, and other activities directly related to spill 36 response.

37 A facility shall not be considered a major facility for the purpose 38 of P.L.1976, c.141 unless it has total combined aboveground or 39 buried storage capacity of:

40 (1) 20,000 gallons or more for hazardous substances which are 41 other than petroleum or petroleum products, or

42 (2) 200,000 gallons or more for hazardous substances of all 43 kinds.

44 In determining whether a facility is a major facility for the 45 purposes of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), any 46 underground storage tank at the facility used solely to store heating 47 oil for on-site consumption shall not be considered when 48 determining the combined storage capacity of the facility.

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For the purposes of this definition, "storage capacity" shall mean only that total combined capacity which is dedicated to, used for or intended to be used for storage of hazardous substances of all kinds. Where appropriate to the nature of the facility, storage capacity may be determined by the intended or actual use of open land or unenclosed space as well as by the capacities of tanks or other enclosed storage spaces;

8 "Natural resources" means all land, fish, shellfish, wildlife, biota,
9 air, waters and other such resources owned, managed, held in trust
10 or otherwise controlled by the State;

"Owner" or "operator" means, with respect to a vessel, any person owning, operating or chartering by demise such vessel; with respect to any major facility, any person owning such facility, or operating it by lease, contract or other form of agreement; with respect to abandoned or derelict major facilities, the person who owned or operated such facility immediately prior to such abandonment, or the owner at the time of discharge;

"Person" means public or private corporations, companies,
associations, societies, firms, partnerships, joint stock companies,
individuals, the United States, the State of New Jersey and any of
its political subdivisions or agents;

22 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 23 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 24 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or 25 operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 26 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 27 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 28 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 29 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 30 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 31 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 32 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site; "Petroleum" or "petroleum products" means oil or petroleum of 33 34 any kind and in any form, including, but not limited to, oil, petroleum, gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, oil sludge, oil refuse, oil 35 36 mixed with other wastes, crude oils, and substances or additives to 37 be utilized in the refining or blending of crude petroleum or 38 petroleum stock in this State; however, any compound designated 39 by specific chemical name on the list of hazardous substances 40 adopted by the department pursuant to this section shall not be 41 considered petroleum or a petroleum product for the purposes of 42 P.L.1976, c.141, unless such compound is to be utilized in the 43 refining or blending of crude petroleum or petroleum stock in this 44 State:

"Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of
identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants
are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from
a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of,
existing site specific operational and environmental information,

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1 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 2 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 3 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 4 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 5 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 6 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 7 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent 8 inquiry of the public records;

9 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if 10 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 11 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 12 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 13 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 14 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 15 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 16 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 17 standards;

18 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 19 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 20 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 21 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 22 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 23 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 24 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 25 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary;

"Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 26 27 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 28 or threatened discharge, including [, as necessary,] the preliminary 29 assessment, site investigation, remedial investigation, and remedial 30 or any portion thereof, provided, however, action, that 31 "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the payment of 32 compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural resources;

33 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 34 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 35 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 36 37 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 38 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 39 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 40 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 41 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have 42 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 43 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 44 authorizations have been obtained;

45 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data
46 adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist
47 at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in
48 excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation

1 shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to 2 the preliminary assessment; 3 "Taxpayer" means the owner or operator of a major facility subject to the tax provisions of P.L.1976, c.141; 4 5 "Tax period" means every calendar month on the basis of which the taxpayer is required to report under P.L.1976, c.141; 6 7 "Transfer" means onloading or offloading between major 8 facilities and vessels, or vessels and major facilities, and from 9 vessel to vessel or major facility to major facility, except for fueling 10 or refueling operations and except that with regard to the movement 11 of hazardous substances other than petroleum, it shall also include 12 any onloading of or offloading from a major facility; 13 "Vessel" means every description of watercraft or other 14 contrivance that is practically capable of being used as a means of 15 commercial transportation of hazardous substances upon the water, 16 whether or not self-propelled; 17 "Waters" means the ocean and its estuaries to the seaward limit 18 of the State's jurisdiction, all springs, streams and bodies of surface 19 or groundwater, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries 20 of this State. 21 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.35) 22 23 4. Section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g) is amended to 24 read as follows: 25 8. a. The fund shall be strictly liable, without regard to fault, 26 for all cleanup and removal costs and for all direct and indirect 27 damages no matter by whom sustained, including but not limited to: (1) The cost of restoring, repairing, or replacing any real or 28 29 personal property damaged or destroyed by a discharge, any income 30 lost from the time such property is damaged to the time such 31 property is restored, repaired or replaced, and any reduction in value of such property caused by such discharge by comparison 32 33 with its value prior thereto; 34 (2) The cost of restoration and replacement, where possible, of 35 any natural resource damaged or destroyed by a discharge; 36 (3) Loss of income or impairment of earning capacity due to 37 damage to real or personal property, including natural resources 38 destroyed or damaged by a discharge; provided that such loss or 39 impairment exceeds 10 [%] percent of the amount which claimant 40 derives, based upon income or business records, exclusive of other 41 sources of income, from activities related to the particular real or 42 personal property or natural resources damaged or destroyed by 43 such discharge during the week, month or year for which the claim 44 is filed; 45 (4) Loss of tax revenue by the State or local governments for a 46 period of one year due to damage to real or personal property 47 proximately resulting from a discharge; (5) Interest on loans obtained or other obligations incurred by a 48 49 claimant for the purpose of ameliorating the adverse effects of a

discharge pending the payment of a claim in full as provided by this
 act.

3 b. The damages which may be recovered by the fund, without 4 regard to fault, subject to the defenses enumerated in subsection d. 5 of this section against the owner or operator of a major facility or 6 vessel, shall not exceed \$50,000,000.00 for each major facility or 7 \$1,200 per gross ton for each vessel, except that such maximum 8 limitation shall not apply and the owner or operator shall be liable, 9 jointly and severally, for the full amount of such damages if it can 10 be shown that such discharge was the result of (1) gross negligence 11 or willful misconduct, within the knowledge and privity of the 12 owner, operator or person in charge, or (2) a gross or willful 13 violation of applicable safety, construction or operating standards or 14 regulations. Damages which may be recovered from, or by, any 15 other person shall be limited to those authorized by common or 16 statutory law.

17 c. (1) Except as provided in section 2 of P.L.2005, c.43 18 (C.58:10-23.11g12), any person who has discharged a hazardous 19 substance, or is in any way responsible for any hazardous 20 substance, shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without 21 regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs no matter by 22 whom incurred. Such person shall also be strictly liable, jointly and 23 severally, without regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs 24 incurred by the department or a local unit pursuant to subsection b. 25 of section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11f).

26 (2) In addition to the persons liable pursuant to this subsection, 27 in the case of a discharge of a hazardous substance from a vessel 28 into the waters of the State, the owner or operator of a refinery, 29 storage, transfer, or pipeline facility to which the vessel was en 30 route to deliver the hazardous substance who, by contract, 31 agreement, or otherwise, was scheduled to assume ownership of the discharged hazardous substance, and any other person who was so 32 33 scheduled to assume ownership of the discharged hazardous 34 substance, shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without 35 regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs if the owner or 36 operator of the vessel did not have the evidence of financial 37 responsibility required pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.58 38 (C.58:10-23.11g2).

39 Where a person is liable for cleanup and removal costs as 40 provided in this paragraph, any expenditures made by the 41 administrator for that cleanup and removal shall constitute a debt of 42 that person to the fund. The debt shall constitute a lien on all 43 property owned by that person when a notice of lien identifying the 44 nature of the discharge and the amount of the cleanup, removal and 45 related costs expended from the fund is duly filed with the clerk of 46 the Superior Court. The clerk shall promptly enter upon the civil 47 judgment or order docket the name and address of the liable person 48 and the amount of the lien as set forth in the notice of lien. Upon 49 entry by the clerk, the lien, to the amount committed by the

administrator for cleanup and removal, shall attach to the revenues
 and all real and personal property of the liable person, whether or
 not that person is insolvent.

4 For the purpose of determining priority of this lien over all other 5 claims or liens which are or have been filed against the property of 6 an owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline 7 facility, the lien on the facility to which the discharged hazardous 8 substance was en route shall have priority over all other claims or 9 liens which are or have been filed against the property. The notice 10 of lien filed pursuant to this paragraph which affects any property 11 of a person liable pursuant to this paragraph other than the property 12 of an owner or operator of a refinery, storage, transfer, or pipeline facility to which the discharged hazardous substance was en route, 13 14 shall have priority from the day of the filing of the notice of the lien over all claims and liens filed against the property, but shall not 15 16 affect any valid lien, right, or interest in the property filed in 17 accordance with established procedure prior to the filing of a notice 18 of lien pursuant to this paragraph.

To the extent that a person liable pursuant to this paragraph is not otherwise liable pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, or under any other provision of law or under common law, that person may bring an action for indemnification for costs paid pursuant to this paragraph against any other person who is strictly liable pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection.

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to extend or negate
the right of any person to bring an action for contribution that may
exist under P.L.1976, c.141, or any other act or under common law.

28 (3) In addition to the persons liable pursuant to this subsection, 29 any person who owns real property acquired on or after September 30 14, 1993 on which there has been a discharge prior to the person's 31 acquisition of that property and who knew or should have known 32 that a hazardous substance had been discharged at the real property, 33 shall be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without regard to fault, 34 for all cleanup and removal costs no matter by whom incurred. 35 Such person shall also be strictly liable, jointly and severally, without regard to fault, for all cleanup and removal costs incurred 36 37 by the department or a local unit pursuant to subsection b. of 38 section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11f). Nothing in this 39 paragraph shall be construed to alter liability of any person who 40 acquired real property prior to September 14, 1993.

41 d. (1) In addition to those defenses provided in this subsection, 42 an act or omission caused solely by war, sabotage, or God, or a combination thereof, shall be the only defenses which may be raised 43 44 by any owner or operator of a major facility or vessel responsible 45 for a discharge in any action arising under the provisions of this act. 46 (2) A person, including an owner or operator of a major facility, 47 who owns real property acquired on or after September 14, 1993 on 48 which there has been a discharge, shall not be liable for cleanup and 49 removal costs or for any other damages to the State or to any other person for the discharged hazardous substance pursuant to
subsection c. of this section or pursuant to civil common law, if that
person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that
subparagraphs (a) through (d) apply, or if applicable, subparagraphs
(a) through (e) apply:

6 (a) the person acquired the real property after the discharge of7 that hazardous substance at the real property;

8 (b) (i) at the time the person acquired the real property, the 9 person did not know and had no reason to know that any hazardous 10 substance had been discharged at the real property, or (ii) the person 11 acquired the real property by devise or succession, except that any 12 other funds or property received by that person from the deceased 13 real property owner who discharged a hazardous substance or was 14 in any way responsible for a hazardous substance, shall be made 15 available to satisfy the requirements of P.L.1976, c.141, or (iii) the 16 person complies with the provisions of subparagraph (e) of 17 paragraph (2) of this subsection;

18 (c) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not 19 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a 20 corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way 21 responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for 22 cleanup and removal costs pursuant to this section;

(d) the person gave notice of the discharge to the departmentupon actual discovery of that discharge.

25 To establish that a person had no reason to know that any 26 hazardous substance had been discharged for the purposes of this 27 paragraph (2), the person must have undertaken, at the time of 28 acquisition, all appropriate inquiry into the previous ownership and uses of the property. For the purposes of this paragraph (2), all 29 30 appropriate inquiry shall mean the performance of a preliminary 31 assessment, and site investigation, if the preliminary assessment 32 indicates that a site investigation is necessary, as defined in section 33 23 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1), and performed in accordance 34 with rules and regulations promulgated by the department defining 35 these terms.

Nothing in this paragraph (2) shall be construed to alter liability
of any person who acquired real property prior to September 14,
1993; and

39 (e) For the purposes of this subparagraph the person must have 40 (i) acquired the property subsequent to a hazardous substance being 41 discharged on the site and which discharge was discovered at the 42 time of acquisition as a result of the appropriate inquiry, as defined 43 in this paragraph (2), (ii) performed, following the effective date of 44 P.L.1997, c.278, a remediation of the site or discharge consistent 45 with the provisions of section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12), 46 or, relied upon a valid final remediation document for a remediation 47 performed prior to acquisition, or, obtained a remedial action 48 workplan certified by a licensed site remediation professional 49 retained for the site after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60

1 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) and continued to comply with the conditions of 2 that workplan, or obtained approval of a remedial action workplan 3 by the department after the effective date of P.L.1997, c.278 and 4 continued to comply with the conditions of that workplan, and (iii) 5 established and maintained all engineering and institutional controls 6 as may be required pursuant to sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1993, 7 A person who complies with the provisions of this c.139. 8 subparagraph by actually performing a remediation of the site or 9 discharge as set forth in (ii) above shall be issued, upon application, 10 a no further action letter by the department or a response action 11 outcome by a licensed site remediation professional, as applicable. 12 A person who complies with the provisions of this subparagraph 13 either by receipt of a final remediation document following the 14 effective date of P.L.1997, c.278, or by relying on a previously 15 issued final remediation document shall not be liable for any further 16 remediation including any changes in a remediation standard or for 17 the subsequent discovery of a hazardous substance, at the site, or 18 emanating from the site, if the remediation was for the entire site, 19 and the hazardous substance was discharged prior to the person 20 acquiring the property. Notwithstanding any other provisions of 21 this subparagraph, a person who complies with the provisions of 22 this subparagraph only by virtue of the existence of a previously 23 issued final remediation document shall receive no liability 24 protections for any discharge which occurred during the time period 25 between the issuance of the final remediation document and the 26 Compliance with the provisions of this property acquisition. 27 subparagraph (e) shall not relieve any person of any liability for a 28 discharge that is off the site of the property covered by the final 29 remediation document, for a discharge that occurs at that property 30 after the person acquires the property, for any actions that person 31 negligently takes that aggravates or contributes to a discharge of a 32 hazardous substance, for failure to comply in the future with laws 33 and regulations, or if that person fails to maintain the institutional 34 or engineering controls on the property or to otherwise comply with 35 the provisions of the final remediation document.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of this 36 37 subsection to the contrary, if a person who owns real property 38 obtains actual knowledge of a discharge of a hazardous substance at 39 the real property during the period of that person's ownership and 40 subsequently transfers ownership of the property to another person 41 without disclosing that knowledge, the transferor shall be strictly 42 liable for the cleanup and removal costs of the discharge and no 43 defense under this subsection shall be available to that person.

44 (4) Any federal, State, or local governmental entity which 45 acquires ownership of real property through bankruptcy, tax 46 delinquency, abandonment, escheat, eminent domain, condemnation 47 or any circumstance in which the governmental entity involuntarily 48 acquires title by virtue of its function as sovereign, or where the 49 governmental entity acquires the property by any means for the 18

1 purpose of promoting the redevelopment of that property, shall not 2 be liable, pursuant to subsection c. of this section or pursuant to 3 common law, to the State or to any other person for any discharge 4 which occurred or began prior to that ownership. This paragraph 5 shall not provide any liability protection to any federal, State or 6 local governmental entity which has caused or contributed to the 7 discharge of a hazardous substance. This paragraph shall not 8 provide any liability protection to any federal, State, or local 9 government entity that acquires ownership of real property by 10 condemnation or eminent domain where the real property is being 11 remediated in a timely manner at the time of the condemnation or 12 eminent domain action.

13 (5) A person, including an owner or operator of a major facility, 14 who owns real property acquired prior to September 14, 1993 on 15 which there has been a discharge, shall not be liable for cleanup and 16 removal costs or for any other damages to the State or to any other 17 person for the discharged hazardous substance pursuant to 18 subsection c. of this section or pursuant to civil common law, if that 19 person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that 20 subparagraphs (a) through (d) apply:

(a) the person acquired the real property after the discharge ofthat hazardous substance at the real property;

23 (b) (i) at the time the person acquired the real property, the 24 person did not know and had no reason to know that any hazardous 25 substance had been discharged at the real property, or (ii) the person 26 acquired the real property by devise or succession, except that any 27 other funds or property received by that person from the deceased 28 real property owner who discharged a hazardous substance or was 29 in any way responsible for a hazardous substance, shall be made 30 available to satisfy the requirements of P.L.1976, c.141;

(c) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not
in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a
corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way
responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for
cleanup and removal costs pursuant to this section;

36 (d) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department37 upon actual discovery of that discharge.

To establish that a person had no reason to know that any hazardous substance had been discharged for the purposes of this paragraph (5), the person must have undertaken, at the time of acquisition, all appropriate inquiry on the previous ownership and uses of the property based upon generally accepted good and customary standards.

44 Nothing in this paragraph (5) shall be construed to alter liability
45 of any person who acquired real property on or after September 14,
46 1993.

e. Neither the fund nor the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund
established pursuant to P.L.1981, c.306 (C.13:1E-100 et seq.) shall
be liable for any damages incurred by any person who is relieved

1 from liability pursuant to subsection d. or f. of this section for a 2 remediation that involves the use of engineering controls but the 3 fund and the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund shall be liable for 4 any remediation that involves only the use of institutional controls 5 if after a valid final remediation document has been issued the 6 department orders additional remediation except that the fund and 7 the Sanitary Landfill Contingency Fund shall not be liable for any 8 additional remediation that is required to remove an institutional 9 control.

10 f. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a 11 person, who owns real property acquired on or after the effective 12 date of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-1.1 et al.), shall not be liable for 13 any cleanup and removal costs or damages, under this section or 14 pursuant to any other statutory or civil common law, to any person, 15 other than the State and the federal government, harmed by any 16 hazardous substance discharged on that property prior to 17 acquisition, and any migration off that property related to that 18 discharge, provided all the conditions of this subsection are met:

19 (1) the person acquired the real property after the discharge of 20 that hazardous substance at the real property;

21 (2) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not 22 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a 23 corporate successor to the discharger or to any person in any way 24 responsible for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for a 25 discharge pursuant to this section;

26 (3) the person gave notice of the discharge to the department 27 upon actual discovery of that discharge;

28 (4) (a) within 30 days after acquisition of the property, the 29 person commenced a remediation of the discharge, including any 30 migration, pursuant to a department oversight document executed 31 prior to acquisition, or (b) for property acquired after the date of 32 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), the person 33 provides written notice of the acquisition to the department prior to 34 or on the date of acquisition and the person remediates the property 35 pursuant to the provisions of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 36 (C.58:10B-1.3), and (c) the department is satisfied that remediation 37 was completed in a timely and appropriate fashion; and

38 (5) Within ten days after acquisition of the property, or within 39 30 days after the expiration of the period or periods allowed for the 40 right of redemption pursuant to tax foreclosure law, the person 41 agrees in writing to provide access to the State for remediation and 42 related activities, as determined by the State.

43 The provisions of this subsection shall not relieve any person of 44 any liability:

45 (1) for a discharge that occurs at that property after the person 46 acquired the property;

47 (2) for any actions that person negligently takes that aggravates 48 or contributes to the harm inflicted upon any person;

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1 (3) if that person fails to maintain the institutional or 2 engineering controls on the property or to otherwise comply with 3 the provisions of a final remediation document or a remedial action 4 workplan and a person is harmed thereby; 5 (4) for any liability to clean up and remove, pursuant to the department's regulations and directions, any hazardous substances 6 7 that may have been discharged on the property or that may have 8 migrated therefrom; and 9 (5) for that person's failure to comply in the future with laws 10 and regulations. 11 g. Nothing in the amendatory provisions to this section adopted 12 pursuant to P.L.1997, c.278 shall be construed to remove any defense to liability that a person may have had pursuant to 13 subsection e. of this section that existed prior to the effective date 14 15 of P.L.1997, c.278. 16 h. Nothing in this section shall limit the requirements of any 17 person to comply with P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.). (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.38) 18 19 20 5. Section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u) is amended 21 to read as follows: 22 22. a. (1) Whenever, on the basis of available information, the 23 department determines that a person is in violation of a provision of 24 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), including any rule, 25 regulation, plan, information request, access request, order or 26 directive promulgated or issued pursuant thereto, or that a person 27 knowingly has given false testimony, documents or information to 28 the department, the department may: 29 (a) bring a civil action in accordance with subsection b. of this 30 section; (b) levy a civil administrative penalty in accordance with 31 32 subsection c. of this section; or 33 (c) bring an action for a civil penalty in accordance with 34 subsection d. of this section. 35 Use of any remedy specified in this section shall not preclude use 36 of any other remedy. The department may simultaneously pursue 37 administrative and judicial remedies provided in this section. 38 b. The department may commence a civil action in Superior 39 Court for, singly or in combination: 40 (1) a temporary or permanent injunction; 41 (2) the costs of any investigation, cleanup or removal, and for 42 the reasonable costs of preparing and successfully litigating an 43 action under this subsection; 44 (3) the cost of restoring, repairing, or replacing real or personal 45 property damaged or destroyed by a discharge, any income lost 46 from the time the property is damaged to the time it is restored, 47 repaired or replaced, and any reduction in value of the property 48 caused by the discharge by comparison with its value prior thereto;

1 (4) the cost of restoration and replacement, where practicable, of 2 any natural resource damaged or destroyed by a discharge; and 3 (5) any other costs incurred by the department pursuant to 4 P.L.1976, c.141. 5 Compensatory damages for damages awarded to a person other 6 than the State shall be paid to the person injured by the discharge. 7 c. The department may assess a civil administrative (1)8 penalty of not more than \$50,000 for each violation, and each day 9 of violation shall constitute an additional, separate and distinct 10 violation. A civil administrative penalty shall not be levied until a 11 violator has been notified by certified mail or personal service of: 12 (a) the statutory or regulatory basis of the violation; 13 (b) the specific citation of the act or omission constituting the 14 violation: 15 (c) the amount of the civil administrative penalty to be imposed; 16 (d) the right of the violator to a hearing on any matter contained 17 in the notice and the procedures for requesting a hearing. (2) (a) A violator shall have 20 calendar days following receipt 18 19 of notice within which to request a hearing on any matter contained 20 in the notice, and shall comply with all procedures for requesting a 21 hearing. Failure to submit a timely request or to comply with all 22 departmental procedures shall constitute grounds for denial of a 23 hearing request. After a hearing and upon a finding that a violation 24 has occurred, the department shall issue a final order assessing the 25 amount of the civil administrative penalty specified in the notice. If 26 a violator does not request a hearing or fails to satisfy the statutory 27 and administrative requirements for requesting a hearing, the notice 28 of assessment of a civil administrative penalty shall become a final 29 order on the 21st calendar day following receipt of the notice by the 30 violator. If the department denies a hearing request, the notice of 31 denial shall become a final order upon receipt of the notice by the 32 violator. 33 (b) A civil administrative penalty may be settled by the 34 department on such terms and conditions as the department may 35 determine. 36 (c) Payment of a civil administrative penalty shall not be 37 deemed to affect the availability of any other enforcement remedy in connection with the violation for which the penalty was levied. 38 39 (3) If a civil administrative penalty imposed pursuant to this 40 section is not paid within 30 days of the date that the penalty is due 41 and owing, and the penalty is not contested by the person against 42 whom the penalty has been assessed, or the person fails to make a 43 payment pursuant to a payment schedule entered into with the 44 department, an interest charge shall accrue on the amount of the 45 penalty from the 30th day that amount was due and owing. In the 46 case of an appeal of a civil administrative penalty, if the amount of the penalty is upheld, in whole or in part, the rate of interest shall be 47 48 calculated on that amount as of the 30th day from the date the 49 amount was due and owing under the administrative order. The rate

of interest shall be that established by the New Jersey Supreme
 Court for interest rates on judgments, as set forth in the Rules
 Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

4 (4) The department may assess and recover, by civil 5 administrative order, the costs of any investigation, cleanup or 6 removal, and the reasonable costs of preparing and successfully 7 enforcing a civil administrative penalty pursuant to this subsection. 8 The assessment may be recovered at the same time as a civil 9 administrative penalty, and shall be in addition to the penalty 10 assessment.

11 d. Any person who violates a provision of P.L.1976, c.141 12 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), or a court order issued pursuant thereto, or 13 who fails to pay a civil administrative penalty in full or to agree to a schedule of payments therefor, shall be subject to a civil penalty not 14 15 to exceed \$50,000.00 per day for each violation, and each day's 16 continuance of the violation shall constitute a separate violation. 17 Any penalty incurred under this subsection may be recovered with costs in a summary proceeding pursuant to ["the penalty 18 19 enforcement law" (N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.)] the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.) in 20 21 the Superior Court or a municipal court. The Superior Court and 22 the municipal courts shall have jurisdiction to impose a civil penalty 23 for a violation of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) pursuant 24 to this subsection and in accordance with the procedures set forth in 25 the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

e. All conveyances used or intended for use in the willful
discharge of any hazardous substance are subject to forfeiture to the
State pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1981, c.387 (C.13:1K-1 et
seq.).

30 (cf: P.L.1990, c.75, s.1)

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32 6. Section 23 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1) is amended to 33 read as follows:

34 23. As used in sections 23 through 43 and section 45 of 35 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et seq.), as may be amended and 36 supplemented:

37 "Area of concern" means any location where contaminants are or
38 were known or suspected to have been discharged, generated,
39 manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated, or
40 disposed, or where contaminants have or may have migrated;

41 "Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development
42 Authority established pursuant to P.L.1974, c.80 (C.34:1B-1 et
43 seq.);

"Brownfield development area" means an area that has been so
designated by the department, in writing, pursuant to the provisions
of section 7 of P.L.2005, c.223 (C.58:10B-25.1);

47 "Brownfield site" means any former or current commercial or48 industrial site that is currently vacant or underutilized and on which

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there has been, or there is suspected to have been, a discharge of a
 contaminant;

"Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged
hazardous substance as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1976,
c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b), hazardous waste as defined pursuant to
section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined

7 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3);

8 "Department" means the Department of Environmental9 Protection;

"Discharge" means an intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of a contaminant onto the
land or into the waters of the State;

"Engineering controls" means any mechanism to contain or
stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial
action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps,
covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences
and physical access controls;

"Environmental opportunity zone" has the meaning given that
term pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1995, c.413 (C.54:4-3.152);

"Final remediation document" means a no further action letter
issued by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1
et al.), or a response action outcome issued by a licensed site
remediation professional pursuant to section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-14);

26 "Financial assistance" means loans or loan guarantees;

"Institutional controls" means a mechanism used to limit human 27 activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the 28 29 effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants 30 remain at a contaminated site in levels or concentrations above the applicable remediation standard that would allow unrestricted use 31 Institutional controls may include, without 32 of that property. limitation, structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well 33 34 restriction areas, and deed notices;

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
who is licensed by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
Board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) or the
department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12);

39 "Limited restricted use remedial action" means any remedial
40 action that requires the continued use of institutional controls but
41 does not require the use of an engineering control;

42 "No further action letter" means a written determination by the 43 department that based upon an evaluation of the historical use of a 44 particular site, or of an area of concern or areas of concern at that 45 site, as applicable, and any other investigation or action the 46 department deems necessary, there are no discharged contaminants 47 present at the site, at the area of concern or areas of concern, at any 48 other site to which a discharge originating at the site has migrated, 49 or that any discharged contaminants present at the site or that have

migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with
 applicable remediation regulations;

3 "Person" means an individual, corporation, company,
4 partnership, firm, or other private business entity;

5 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 6 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 7 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or 8 operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 9 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 10 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 11 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 12 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 13 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 14 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 15 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site; 16 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 17 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants 18 are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 19 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 20 existing site specific operational and environmental information, both current and historic, to determine if further investigation 21 22 concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 23 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 24 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 25 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 26 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 27 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent 28 inquiry of the public records;

29 "Presumptive remedy" means a remedial action established by
30 the department pursuant to paragraph (10) of subsection g. of
31 section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12);

32 "Recreation and conservation purposes" means the use of lands 33 for beaches, biological or ecological study, boating, camping, 34 fishing, forests, greenways, hunting, natural areas, parks, 35 playgrounds, protecting historic properties, water reserves, 36 watershed protection, wildlife preserves, active sports, or a similar 37 use for either public outdoor recreation or conservation of natural 38 resources, or both;

39 "Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if 40 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 41 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 42 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 43 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 44 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 45 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 46 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 47 standards:

48 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action49 to be undertaken at a site, or at any area to which a discharge

originating at a site is migrating or has migrated; a description of
 the remedial action to be used to remediate a site; a time schedule
 and cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and
 any other information the department deems necessary;

5 "Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 6 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 7 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 8 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 9 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 10 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 11 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 12 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary;

"Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 13 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 14 15 or threatened discharge of contaminants, including [, as necessary,] investigation, 16 the preliminary assessment, site remedial 17 investigation, and remedial action, or any portion thereof, provided, 18 however, that "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the 19 payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural 20 resources;

21 "Remediation fund" means the Hazardous Discharge Site
22 Remediation Fund established pursuant to section 26 of P.L.1993,
23 c.139 (C.58:10B-4);

24 "Remediation funding source" means the methods of financing
25 the remediation of a discharge required to be established by a
26 person performing the remediation pursuant to section 25 of
27 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3);

"Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric
standards that establish a level or concentration, and narrative
standards to which contaminants must be treated, removed, or
otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or surface water, as
provided by the department pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993,
c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or
environmental standards;

"Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 35 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 36 37 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 38 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 39 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 40 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 41 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 42 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 43 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have 44 migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 45 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 46 authorizations have been obtained;

47 "Restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action that48 requires the continued use of engineering and institutional controls

in order to meet the established health risk or environmental
 standards;

"Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data
adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist
at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in
excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation
shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to
the preliminary assessment;

9 "Unrestricted use remedial action" means any remedial action 10 that does not require the continued use of engineering or 11 institutional controls in order to meet the established health risk or 12 environmental standards;

"Voluntarily perform a remediation" means performing a
remediation without having been ordered or directed to do so by the
department or by a court and without being compelled to perform a
remediation pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.330
(C.13:1K-6 et al.).

18 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.40)

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20 7. Section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3) is amended to 21 read as follows:

22 30. a. An owner or operator of an industrial establishment 23 subject to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), the 24 discharger of a hazardous substance or a person in any way 25 responsible for a hazardous substance pursuant to the provisions of 26 subsection c. of section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), or 27 the owner or operator of an underground storage tank regulated pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1986, c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), 28 29 that has discharged a hazardous substance, shall remediate the 30 discharge of a hazardous substance.

b. A person who initiates a remediation [of a contaminated
site] at least 180 days after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60
(C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall:

(1) [hire] <u>retain</u> a licensed site remediation professional to
 perform the remediation;

36 (2) notify the department of the name and license information of
37 the licensed site remediation professional who has been [hired]
38 retained to perform the remediation;

39 (3) conduct the remediation without the prior approval of the40 department, unless directed otherwise by the department;

41 (4) establish a remediation funding source if a remediation
42 funding source is required pursuant to the provisions of section 25
43 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3);

44 (5) pay all applicable fees and oversight costs as required by the45 department;

46 (6) provide access to the contaminated site to the department;

47 (7) provide access to all applicable documents concerning the48 remediation to the department;

(8) meet the mandatory remediation timeframes and expedited
 site specific timeframes established by the department pursuant to
 section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28); and

(9) obtain all necessary permits.

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5 c. (1) Any person who initiates a remediation prior to the date 6 of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), or prior to the 7 issuance of temporary licenses to site remediation professionals 8 pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12), shall 9 comply with the provisions of paragraphs (4) through (9) of 10 subsection b. of this section.

11 (2) The department may require a person required to perform a 12 remediation pursuant to subsection a. of this section, or a person 13 who has initiated a remediation prior to the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), to comply with the provisions of 14 15 subsection b. of this section if, after the date of enactment of 16 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), the department (a) issues a final 17 order or a penalty becomes due and payable, concerning the performance of the remediation, or (b) issues a demand for 18 19 stipulated penalties pursuant to the provisions of an oversight 20 document in which the person waived a right to a hearing on the 21 penalties.

(3) No later than three years after the date of enactment of
P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), a person responsible for
conducting the remediation, no matter when the remediation is
initiated, shall comply with the provisions of subsection b. of this
section.

d. (1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any
person who remediates a discharge from an unregulated heating oil
tank. For any person who remediates a discharge from an
unregulated heating oil tank, the provisions of section 15 of
P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-15) shall apply.

32 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person 33 who: (a) does not own a contaminated site, (b) conducts a 34 preliminary assessment or site investigation of the contaminated site 35 for the purpose of conducting all appropriate inquiry into the 36 previous ownership and uses of the property as provided in section 37 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), and (c) has not discharged a 38 hazardous substance at the site or is not in any way responsible for 39 a hazardous substance discharged at the site pursuant to section 8 of 40 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g).

e. Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this
section shall be liable to the enforcement provisions established
pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u).

- 44 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.30)
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46 8. Section 25 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-3) is amended to 47 read as follows:

48 25. a. Except as otherwise provided in section 27 of P.L.2009, 49 c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the owner or operator of an industrial

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1 establishment or any other person required to perform remediation 2 activities pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), or a 3 discharger, a person in any way responsible for a hazardous 4 substance, or a person otherwise liable for cleanup and removal 5 costs pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) who has 6 been issued a directive or an order by a State agency, who has 7 entered into an administrative consent order with a State agency, or 8 who has been ordered by a court to clean up and remove a 9 hazardous substance or hazardous waste discharge pursuant to 10 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), shall establish and 11 maintain a remediation funding source in the amount necessary to 12 pay the estimated cost of the required remediation. A person who 13 voluntarily undertakes a remediation pursuant to a memorandum 14 of agreement with the department, or without the department's 15 oversight, or who] performs a remediation in an environmental 16 opportunity zone is not required to establish or maintain a 17 remediation funding source. A person who uses an innovative 18 technology or who, in a timely fashion, implements an unrestricted 19 use remedial action or a limited restricted use remedial action for all 20 or part of a remedial action is not required to establish a 21 remediation funding source for the cost of the remediation 22 involving the innovative technology or permanent remedy. А 23 government entity, a person who undertakes a remediation at their 24 primary or secondary residence, the owner or operator of a child 25 care center licensed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) 26 who performs a remediation at the licensed child care center, or the 27 person responsible for conducting a remediation at a public school or private school as defined in N.J.S.18A:1-1, or a charter school 28 29 established pursuant to P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.), shall 30 not be required to establish or maintain a remediation funding 31 source. A person required to establish a remediation funding source 32 pursuant to this section shall provide to the department satisfactory 33 documentation that the requirement has been met.

34 The remediation funding source shall be established in an 35 amount equal to or greater than the cost estimate of the implementation of the remediation (1) as approved by the 36 37 department or as determined by the licensed site remediation 38 professional, as applicable, in accordance with rules and regulations 39 adopted by the department pursuant to section 29 of P.L.2009, c.60 40 (C.58:10C-29), (2) as provided in an administrative consent order or 41 remediation agreement or remediation certification as required 42 pursuant to subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, (3) as 43 stated in a departmental order or directive, or (4) as agreed to by a 44 court, and shall be in effect for a term not less than the actual time 45 necessary to perform the remediation at the site. Whenever the 46 remediation cost estimate increases, the person required to establish 47 the remediation funding source shall cause the amount of the 48 remediation funding source to be increased to an amount at least 49 equal to the new estimate. Whenever the remediation cost estimate

1 decreases, the person required to obtain the remediation funding 2 source may file a written request to the department to decrease the 3 amount in the remediation funding source or may submit written 4 documentation to the department certified by the licensed site 5 remediation professional of the details of the decrease in the cost 6 estimate, as applicable. The remediation funding source may be 7 decreased to the amount of the new estimate upon written approval 8 by the department delivered to the person who established the 9 remediation funding source or upon submission of the certification 10 by the licensed site remediation professional, as applicable.

11 b. **[**The person who established the remediation funding source 12 may use the remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of 13 the remediation.] The department may not require any other 14 financial assurance by the person responsible for conducting the 15 remediation other than that required in this section. In the case of a 16 remediation performed pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330, the remediation 17 funding source shall be established no more than 14 days after the 18 approval by the department or the certification by the licensed site 19 remediation professional of a remedial action workplan, upon 20 approval of a remediation agreement pursuant to subsection e. of 21 section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or upon submission of a 22 remediation certification pursuant to subsection e. of P.L.1983, 23 c.330, unless the department approves an extension. In the case of 24 a remediation performed pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141, the 25 remediation funding source shall be established as provided in an 26 administrative consent order signed by the parties, as provided by a 27 court, or as directed or ordered by the department. In the case of a remediation performed under the department's oversight pursuant to 28 29 section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the remediation 30 funding source shall be established at the time the person becomes 31 subject to the department's oversight. The establishment of a 32 remediation funding source for that part of the remediation funding 33 source to be established by a grant or financial assistance from the 34 remediation fund may be established for the purposes of this 35 subsection by the application for a grant or financial assistance from the remediation fund and satisfactory evidence submitted to the 36 37 department that the grant or financial assistance will be awarded. 38 However, if the financial assistance or grant is denied or the 39 department finds that the person responsible for establishing the 40 remediation funding source did not take reasonable action to obtain 41 the grant or financial assistance, the department shall require that 42 the full amount of the remediation funding source be established 43 within 14 days of the denial or finding. Except as provided in 44 section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the remediation 45 funding source shall be evidenced by the establishment and 46 maintenance of (1) a remediation trust fund, administered by an 47 entity that has the authority to act as a trustee and whose trust 48 operations are regulated and examined by a federal or State agency, 49 or governed by court rule, (2) an environmental insurance policy,

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1 issued by an entity licensed by the Department of Banking and 2 Insurance to transact business in the State of New Jersey, to fund 3 the remediation, (3) a line of credit from a financial institution 4 regulated pursuant to State or federal law and satisfactory to the 5 department authorizing the person responsible for performing the 6 remediation to borrow money, (4) a self-guarantee, [or] (5) a letter 7 of credit from a financial institution regulated pursuant to State or 8 federal law that guarantees the performance of the remediation by 9 the person to the satisfaction of the department, or (6) a surety bond 10 from an entity that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal 11 bonds in United States Treasury Department Circular 570, or by any 12 combination thereof. Where it can be demonstrated that a person 13 cannot establish and maintain a remediation funding source for the 14 full cost of the remediation by a method specified in this subsection, 15 that person may establish the remediation funding source for all or a 16 portion of the remediation, by securing financial assistance from the 17 Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund as provided in section 18 29 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-7).

19 c. A remediation trust fund shall be established pursuant to the 20 provisions of this subsection. An originally signed duplicate of the 21 trust agreement shall be delivered to the department (1) by certified mail , overnight delivery, or personal service within 14 days of 22 23 receipt of notice from the department that the remedial action 24 workplan or remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of 25 section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 26 days of submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 27 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 28 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 29 submission of a remediation certification to the department as 30 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, or (4) as 31 specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, or order of 32 the department, as applicable. The remediation trust fund 33 agreement shall conform to a model trust fund agreement as 34 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a 35 certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 36 established by the department. The trustee shall be an entity which 37 has the authority to act as a trustee and whose trust operations are 38 regulated and examined by a federal or New Jersey agency.

39 The trust fund agreement shall provide that the remediation trust 40 fund may not be revoked or terminated by the person required to 41 establish the remediation funding source or by the trustee without 42 the written consent of the department. The person who establishes 43 the remediation funding source in the form of a trust fund may use 44 the remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the 45 remediation. The trustee shall [release] disburse to the person required to establish the remediation funding source, or to the 46 47 department or transferee of the property, as appropriate, only those 48 moneys as the department or the licensed site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be [released] disbursed. The 49

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1 trustee shall release to the person who established the remediation 2 funding source, or to the department or transferee of the property, 3 as appropriate, only those moneys as the department authorizes, in 4 writing, to be released. For any remediation subject to the oversight 5 of the department pursuant to section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27), the person entitled to receive money from the 6 7 remediation trust fund shall submit documentation to the 8 department detailing the costs incurred or to be incurred as part of 9 the remediation. Upon a determination by the department that the 10 costs are consistent with the remediation of the site, the department 11 shall, in writing, authorize a disbursement of moneys from the 12 remediation trust fund in the amount of the documented costs. 13 The department shall return the original remediation trust fund

agreement to the trustee for termination after the [person required to establish the remediation funding source substitutes] department receives an alternative remediation funding source as specified in this section or the department notifies the person required to establish and maintain the remediation funding source that that person is no longer required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation of the contaminated site.

21 d. An environmental insurance policy shall be established 22 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. An originally signed duplicate of the insurance policy shall be delivered to the 23 24 department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal service within [30] 14 days of receipt of notice from the 25 26 department that the remedial action workplan or remediation 27 agreement, as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, is approved, (2) within 14 days of submission to the 28 29 department of a remedial action workplan certified by a licensed 30 site remediation professional as provided in subsection e. of section 31 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon submission of a 32 remediation certification to the department as provided in 33 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as 34 specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. 35 The insurance company shall 36 release to the person required to establish the remediation funding 37 source, or to the department or transferee of the property, as 38 appropriate, only those moneys as the department or the licensed 39 site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be released. 40 The person entitled to receive money from the environmental 41 insurance policy shall submit documentation to the department 42 detailing the costs incurred or to be incurred as part of the 43 remediation.] The environmental insurance policy shall be issued 44 by an entity that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 45 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State. 46 An environmental insurance policy cannot be revoked or

40 An environmental insurance poncy cannot be revoked of
 47 terminated without the prior written approval of the department,
 48 except upon failure by the insured to pay the premium. The issuer
 49 of the environmental insurance policy may revoke or terminate the

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1 policy for failure to pay the premium only after notifying the person 2 who established the remediation funding source and the department, 3 by certified mail, of the decision to revoke or terminate the policy. 4 The insurance company that provides the environmental 5 insurance policy shall reduce the policy only as the department 6 directs in writing. The insurance company that provides the 7 environmental insurance policy shall release to the department or to 8 a person authorized to perform the remediation pursuant to 9 subsection g. of this section only moneys authorized by the 10 department, in writing, to be released. The department shall 11 authorize, in writing, the termination of the environmental 12 insurance policy after the department receives an alternative remediation funding source as specified in this section or the 13 14 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 15 the funding source that the person is no longer required to maintain 16 a remediation funding source for the remediation of the 17 contaminated site. 18 e. A line of credit shall be established pursuant to the 19 provisions of this subsection. A line of credit shall allow the person 20 establishing it to borrow money up to a limit established in a written 21 agreement in order to pay for the cost of the remediation for which 22 the line of credit was established. An originally signed duplicate of 23 the line of credit agreement shall be delivered to the department (1)24 by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal service within 14 25 days of receipt of notice from the department that the remedial 26 action workplan or remediation agreement as provided in subsection 27 e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 is approved, (2) within 14 days of 28 submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 29 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 30 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 31 submission of a remediation certification [pursuant to] to the 32 department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 33 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent 34 order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. The 35 line of credit agreement shall conform to a model agreement as 36 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a 37 certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 38 established by the department. The line of credit shall be issued by 39 an institution that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 40 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State, or by a 41 federally regulated bank. 42 The line of credit shall not be allowed to expire, unless the 43 institution provides the appropriate notification to the department 44 and the borrower, as defined in a model agreement established by 45 the department. The person who establishes the remediation 46 funding source in the form of a line of credit may use the 47 remediation funding source to pay for the actual cost of the 48 remediation. The institution providing the line of credit shall 49 disburse to the person required to establish the remediation funding

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1 source, or to the department or transferee of the property, as 2 appropriate, only those moneys as the department or the licensed 3 site remediation professional authorizes, in writing, to be disbursed. 4 The **[**person or **]** institution providing the line of credit shall release 5 to the person [required to establish] who established the 6 remediation funding source, or to the department or transferee of 7 the property as appropriate, only those moneys as the department 8 [or the licensed site remediation professional] authorizes, in 9 writing, to be released. [The person entitled to draw upon the line 10 of credit shall submit documentation to the department detailing the 11 costs incurred or to be incurred as part of the remediation. Upon a 12 determination that the costs are consistent with the remediation of 13 the site, the department shall, in writing, authorize a disbursement 14 from the line of credit in the amount of the documented costs.]

15 The department shall return the original line of credit agreement 16 to the [person or] institution providing the line of credit for 17 termination after the **[**person required to establish the remediation 18 funding source substitutes department receives an alternative 19 remediation funding source as specified in this section, or after the 20 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 21 the remediation funding source that that person is no longer 22 required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation 23 of the contaminated site.

24 f. A person may self-guarantee a remediation funding source 25 upon the submittal of documentation to the department 26 demonstrating that the cost of the remediation [as estimated in the 27 remedial action workplan, in the remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330, in a remediation 28 29 certification submitted pursuant to subsection e. of P.L.1983, c.330, 30 in an administrative consent order, or as provided in a departmental or court order,] would not exceed one-third of the tangible net 31 32 worth of the person required to establish the remediation funding 33 source, and that the person has a cash flow sufficient to assure the 34 availability of sufficient moneys for the remediation during the time 35 necessary for the remediation. Documentation shall be delivered to 36 the department (1) by certified mail, overnight delivery, or personal 37 service within 14 days of receipt of notice from the department that 38 the remedial action workplan or remediation agreement as provided 39 in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 is approved, (2) 40 within 14 days of submission to the department of a remedial action 41 workplan certified by a licensed site remediation professional as 42 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon submission of a remediation certification pursuant to 43 44 the department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 45 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an 46 administrative consent order, civil order, or order of the department, 47 as applicable. Satisfactory documentation of a person's capacity to 48 self-guarantee a remediation funding source shall consist of audited

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1 financial statements, in which the auditor expresses an unqualified 2 opinion, that includes a statement of income and expenses or similar 3 statement of that person and the balance sheet or similar statement 4 of assets and liabilities as used by that person for the fiscal year of 5 the person making the application that ended closest in time to the 6 date of the self-guarantee application. In the case of a special 7 purpose entity established specifically for the purpose of acquiring 8 and redeveloping a contaminated site, and for which a statement of 9 income and expenses is not available, the documentation shall 10 include a statement of assets and liabilities certified by a certified 11 public accountant. The self-guarantee application shall be certified 12 as true to the best of the applicant's information, knowledge, and 13 belief, by the chief financial, or similar officer or employee, or 14 general partner, or principal of the person making the self-guarantee 15 application. A person shall be deemed by the department to possess 16 the required cash flow pursuant to this section if that person's gross 17 receipts exceed its gross payments in that fiscal year in an amount 18 at least equal to the estimated costs of completing the remedial 19 action workplan schedule to be performed in the 12-month period 20 following the date on which the application for self-guarantee is 21 and the individual or entity possesses a net cash flow made 22 provided by operating activities in an amount at least equal to the 23 estimated costs of completing the remediation in the 12-month 24 period following the date the application is made. In the event that 25 a self-guarantee is required for a period of more than one year, 26 applications for a self-guarantee shall be renewed annually pursuant 27 to this subsection for each successive year. The department may 28 establish requirements and reporting obligations to ensure that the person proposing to self-guarantee a remediation funding source 29 30 meets the criteria for self-guaranteeing prior to the initiation of 31 remedial action and until completion of the remediation.

g. (1) If the person required to establish the remediation 32 33 funding source fails to perform the remediation as required, or fails 34 to meet the conditions established pursuant to paragraph (3) of 35 subsection a. of section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27) or 36 section 1 of P.L.2013, c.283 (C.58:10C-27.1), or the mandatory 37 remediation timeframes or expedited site specific timeframes 38 established pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28) 39 for the performance of the remedial action, the department shall 40 make a written determination of this fact. A copy of the 41 determination by the department shall be delivered to the person 42 required to establish the remediation funding source and, in the case 43 of a remediation conducted pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 44 et al.), to any transferee of the property. Following this written 45 determination, the department may perform the remediation in place 46 of the person required to establish the remediation funding source. 47 In order to finance the cost of the remediation the department may 48 make disbursements from the remediation funding source, or, if 49 sufficient moneys are not available from those funds, from the

remediation guarantee fund created pursuant to section 45 of
 P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-20).

3 (2) The transferee of property subject to a remediation 4 conducted pursuant to P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), may, at 5 any time after the department's determination of nonperformance by 6 the owner or operator required to establish the remediation funding 7 source, petition the department, in writing, with a copy being sent to 8 the owner and operator, for authority to perform the remediation at 9 the industrial establishment. The department, upon a determination 10 that the transferee is competent to do so, may grant that petition 11 which shall authorize the transferee to perform the remediation as 12 specified in an approved remedial action workplan, or to perform the activities as required in a remediation agreement, or as provided 13 14 in a remediation certification, and to avail itself of the moneys in 15 the remediation trust fund, letter of credit, [or] line of credit , or surety bond, or to make claims upon the environmental insurance 16 17 policy for these purposes. The petition of the transferee shall not be 18 granted by the department if the owner or operator continues or 19 begins to perform its obligations within 14 days of the petition 20 being filed with the department.

21 (3) After the department has begun to perform the remediation 22 in the place of the person required to establish the remediation 23 funding source or has granted the petition of the transferee to 24 perform the remediation, the person required to establish the 25 remediation funding source shall not be permitted by the 26 department to continue its performance obligations except upon the 27 agreement of the department or the transferee, as applicable, or 28 except upon a determination by the department that the transferee is 29 not adequately performing the remediation.

30 h. A letter of credit shall be established pursuant to the 31 provisions of this subsection. A letter of credit shall allow a person 32 to guarantee the availability of funds up to a limit established in a 33 written agreement in order to guarantee the payment of the cost of 34 the remediation for which the letter of credit was established. An 35 originally signed duplicate of the letter of credit agreement shall be 36 delivered to the department (1) by certified mail, overnight 37 delivery, or personal service within 14 days of receipt of notice 38 from the department that the remedial action workplan or 39 remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of 40 P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 days of 41 submission to the department of a remedial action workplan 42 certified by a licensed site remediation professional as provided in 43 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon submission of a remediation certification [pursuant to] to the 44 45 department as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, 46 c.330 (C.13:1K-9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent 47 order, civil order, or order of the department, as applicable. The 48 letter of credit agreement shall conform to a model agreement as 49 established by the department and shall be accompanied by a

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1 certification of acknowledgment that conforms to a model 2 established by the department. The letter of credit shall be issued 3 by an entity that is licensed by the New Jersey Department of 4 Banking and Insurance to transact business in the State, or by a 5 federally regulated bank. 6 The letter of credit shall not be allowed to expire unless the 7 financial institution provides the appropriate notification to the 8 department and the application, as defined by a model agreement 9 established by the department. The financial institution that 10 provides the letter of credit shall release to the department or to a 11 person authorized to perform the remediation pursuant to subsection 12 g. of this section, only moneys authorized by the department, [or 13 the authorized licensed site remediation professional, **]** in writing, to 14 be released. The department shall return the original letter of credit 15 to the financial institution providing the letter of credit for 16 termination after the **[**person required to establish the remediation 17 funding source substitutes] department receives an alternative 18 remediation funding source as authorized in this section, or after the 19 department notifies the person required to establish and maintain 20 the remediation funding source that that person is no longer 21 required to maintain a remediation funding source for the 22 remediation of the contaminated site. 23 i. A surety bond shall be established pursuant to the provisions 24 of this subsection. A surety bond shall allow a person to guarantee 25 the availability of funds up to a limit established in a written 26 agreement in order to guarantee the payment of the cost of the 27 remediation for which the surety bond was established. An 28 originally signed duplicate of the surety bond agreement shall be 29 delivered to the department (1) by certified mail, overnight 30 delivery, or personal service within 14 days of receipt of notice 31 from the department that the remedial action workplan or 32 remediation agreement as provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9) is approved, (2) within 14 days of 33 34 submission to the department of a licensed site remediation 35 professional certified remedial action workplan as provided in 36 subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-9), (3) upon 37 submission of a remediation certification to the department as 38 provided in subsection e. of section 4 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-39 9), or (4) as specified in an administrative consent order, civil order, 40 or order of the department, as applicable. The surety bond 41 agreement shall conform to a model agreement established by the 42 department and shall be accompanied by a certification of 43 acknowledgment that conforms to a model established by the 44 department. The surety company issuing the bond must be a 45 company that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal bonds in 46 United States Treasury Department Circular 570. 47 The surety bond shall not be cancelled unless the surety company 48 provides the appropriate notice of cancellation to the department

49 and the principal, as defined in a model agreement established by

1 the department. The surety company that provides the surety bond 2 shall release to the department, or to a person authorized to perform 3 the remediation pursuant to subsection g. of this section, only 4 monies authorized by the department, in writing, to be released. 5 The department shall return the original surety bond to the surety 6 company for termination after the department receives an 7 alternative remediation funding source as specified in this section or 8 the department notifies the person that that person is no longer 9 required to maintain a remediation funding source for remediation 10 of the contaminated site. (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.43) 11 12 13 9. (New section) The department shall encourage the use of 14 green and sustainable practices during the remediation of a 15 contaminated site. The use of green and sustainable practices shall 16 not alter the requirement that the remediation be protective of the 17 public health and safety and of the environment. 18 19 10. Section 39 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-15) is amended to 20 read as follows: 21 39. a. Any person who, before the effective date of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.), has discharged a hazardous substance in 22 23 violation of P.L.1976, c.141, and: 24 (1) has not been issued a directive to remove or arrange for the 25 removal of the discharge pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1976, c.141 26 (C.58:10-23.11f); 27 (2) has not been assessed a civil penalty, a civil administrative penalty, or is not the subject of an action pursuant to the provisions 28 29 of section 22 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11u); 30 (3) has not entered into an administrative consent order to clean 31 up and remove the discharge; and 32 (4) has not been ordered by a court to clean up and remove the 33 discharge, shall not be subject to a monetary penalty for the failure 34 to report the discharge or for any civil violation of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) or P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.) that 35 36 resulted in the discharge if the person notifies the department of the 37 discharge and enters into an administrative consent order [or a 38 memorandum of agreement] with the department to remediate the 39 discharge in accordance with the provisions of P.L.1976, c.141 40 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), or any rules or regulations adopted 41 pursuant thereto, within one year of the effective date of P.L.1993, 42 c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.). Any person who notifies the department 43 of the discharge pursuant to this section shall be liable for all 44 cleanup and removal costs as provided in section 8 of P.L.1976, 45 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g). 46 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection a. of this 47 subsection, any person who enters into **[**a memorandum of 48 agreement or] an administrative consent order pursuant to this

section and fails to remediate the discharge in accordance with the 49

1 [memorandum of agreement or] administrative consent order, shall 2 be subject to all penalties for violations that occurred before the 3 effective date of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.13:1K-9.6 et al.) as well as any 4 penalties for subsequent violations. 5 The provisions of this section shall not apply to violations of c. 6 a permit issued pursuant to P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.). 7 Any documents or information provided to the department d. 8 pursuant to this section may not be used in a criminal investigation 9 or criminal prosecution against the person providing the 10 information or documents for those violations that occurred before 11 the effective date of [this act] P.L.1993, c.139 as long as the person 12 remediates the discharge in conformance with the administrative 13 consent order [or memorandum of agreement] entered into 14 pursuant to subsection a. of this section. 15 (cf: P.L.1993, c.139, s.39) 16 17 11. Section 1 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.1) is amended to 18 read as follows: 1. a. Prior to the initiation of the remedial [action] 19 20 investigation phase of the remediation of a contaminated site, any 21 person who is responsible for conducting a remediation of the contaminated site, including the Department of Environmental 22 23 Protection when it conducts a remediation of a contaminated site 24 using public monies, shall provide written notification describing 25 the activities that are to take place at the contaminated site to the 26 clerk of the municipality and to the county health department and 27 the local health agency wherein the site is located. The written 28 notice shall include notice of the location of the contaminated site, 29 including address and the lot and block number of the contaminated 30 site. The written notice shall also inform the municipality, county 31 health department, and local health agency that they may receive a 32 copy of the remedial action workplan **[**and any updates or status 33 reports], any other workplan, report, or validated data required by 34 the department, and any updates thereto, and a copy of the site 35 health and safety plan, from the responsible party, upon request. 36 For any remediation of a contaminated site that will take longer 37 than two years to complete, the person responsible for conducting 38 the remediation shall provide the notification [shall be provided] required by this section every two years until remediation is 39 40 complete. 41 b. Notice required pursuant to this section shall not be required 42 when the remediation of a contaminated site is caused by a leaking 43 residential underground storage tank used to store heating oil for 44 on-site consumption in a one to four family residential building or 45 an emergency response action.

46 (cf: P.L.2007, c.276, s.1)

1 12. Section 2 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.2) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 2. Upon request of a municipality, any person who is 4 responsible for conducting a remediation of a contaminated site 5 shall submit a copy of a remedial action workplan, any other 6 workplan, report, or validated data required by the department, and 7 any updates or status reports pursuant to the "Industrial Site 8 Recovery Act," P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), the "Brownfield 9 and Contaminated Site Remediation Act," P.L.1997, c.278 10 (C.58:10B-1.1 et al.), or the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," 11 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.), and a copy of the site 12 health and safety plan, to the clerk of the municipality wherein the 13 contaminated site is located at the same time as [the workplan is] 14 those documents are submitted to the Department of 15 Environmental Protection] <u>department</u>. Upon request of a county 16 health department or a local health agency, the person who is 17 responsible for conducting a remediation of a contaminated site 18 shall also submit a copy of the remedial action workplan [and]. 19 any other workplan, report, or validated data required by the 20 department, any updates or status reports, and a copy of the site 21 health and safety plan, to the county health department or local 22 health agency, respectively. 23 (cf: P.L.2007, c.276, s.2) 24 25 13. Section 3 of P.L.2006, c.65 (C.58:10B-24.3) is amended to 26 read as follows: 27 3. a. Any person who is responsible for conducting a 28 remediation of a contaminated site shall be responsible for notifying 29 the public of the remediation of the contaminated site pursuant to 30 rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental 31 Protection pursuant to subsection b. of this section. 32 b. Within six months after the date of enactment of this act, the 33 Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt, pursuant to 34 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et 35 seq.), rules and regulations setting forth the notice requirements 36 pursuant to subsection a. of this section. The rules and regulations 37 to be adopted by the department pursuant to this section shall 38 require any person who is responsible for conducting a remediation 39 of a contaminated site to provide written notification to any local 40 property owners and tenants who reside within 200 feet of the 41 contaminated site. The notification shall summarize site conditions 42 and provide information about actions being taken to remediate the 43 site and may require written notification [or] and the posting of a 44 sign visible to the public which shall be located on the boundaries 45 of the contaminated site. 46 c. A person responsible for conducting a remediation shall 47 respond to any inquiries from the public that the person receives, or 48 that the department receives and forwards to the person responsible

49 for conducting the remediation, by providing either: (1) specific

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1 information or documents that are responsive to the public inquiry; 2 or (2) a written status report for the remediation, which shall be 3 made in a form and manner as prescribed by the department 4 pursuant to rules and regulations. A person responsible for 5 conducting a remediation may designate a licensed site remediation 6 professional to respond to public inquiries pursuant to this 7 subsection. (cf: P.L.2006, c.65, s.3) 8 9 10 14. Section 1 of P.L.2005, c.360 (C.58:10B-27.2) is amended to 11 read as follows: 12 1. a. The provisions of any other law, or rule or regulation 13 adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding, the State 14 may enter into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to sections 35 15 and 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-27 and 58:10B-28) for a 16 redevelopment project that was commenced prior to the effective 17 date of sections 34 through 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-26 18 through 58:10B-31) in which the State may agree to reimburse a 19 developer for 75 [%] percent of remediation costs incurred 20 subsequent to entering into the redevelopment agreement, provided 21 that the **[**Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the Commerce 22 and Economic Growth Commission] Executive Director of the New 23 Jersey Economic Development Authority, in consultation with the 24 State Treasurer, finds that: (1) the remediation that has not yet been performed on the 25 26 subject real property is necessary to ensure that the public health 27 and safety and the environment are protected; and 28 (2) (a) the cost or extent of remediation was unanticipated at 29 the time the redevelopment project was commenced; (b) changes to 30 the rules and regulations governing site remediation were adopted 31 after the redevelopment project was commenced; (c) principles of 32 fairness and consistency indicate that the reimbursement of 33 remediation costs provided by P.L.1997, c.278 should be made 34 available to the developer who agreed to remediate and redevelop a 35 brownfield prior to the enactment of P.L.1997, c.278; (d) an estimate of the cost of the remediation to be performed subsequent 36 37 to entry into the redevelopment agreement as approved by the 38 Department of Environmental Protection exceeds \$10 million; (e) 39 the subject real property is situated within a Planning Area 1 as 40 designated in the State Development and Redevelopment Plan; and (f) a phase of the redevelopment project has not been commenced. 41 42 b. A developer that enters into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to this section shall be eligible for reimbursement of 43 44 remediation costs pursuant to sections 36 and 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 45 (C.58:10B-28 and 58:10B-29), provided that: 46 (1) in estimating the amount of State taxes that are anticipated to 47 be derived from a redevelopment project the director shall only 48 consider tax revenues generated subsequent to the date of the 49 redevelopment agreement from a phase of the redevelopment

1 project that has not generated tax revenues prior to January 1, 2006; 2 and 3 (2) a developer has entered into **[**a memorandum of agreement or other] an oversight document with the Commissioner of 4 5 Environmental Protection for the remediation of a contaminated site 6 located on the site of the redevelopment project and the developer is 7 in compliance with the [memorandum of agreement or] oversight 8 document. 9 c. Nothing in this section shall require that a no further action 10 letter be obtained by a developer for remediation of groundwater 11 beneath the subject real property prior to reimbursement of the remediation costs, provided that the developer has completed any 12 13 capital construction or infrastructure required for the remediation of 14 groundwater on the site. 15 (cf: P.L.2005, c.360, s.1) 16 17 15. Section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-28) is amended to 18 read as follows: 19 36. a. The provisions of any other law, or rule or regulation 20 adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding, any developer that enters into a redevelopment agreement pursuant to 21 22 section 35 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-27), may be eligible for 23 reimbursement of up to 75 [%] percent of the costs of the 24 remediation of the subject real property pursuant to the provisions 25 of this section upon the commencement of a business operation, or 26 the completion of the construction of one or more new residences, 27 within a redevelopment project. b. To be eligible for reimbursement of the costs of remediation, 28 29 a developer shall submit an application, in writing, to the director 30 for review and certification of the reimbursement. The director 31 shall review the request for the reimbursement upon receipt of an 32 application therefor, and shall approve or deny the application for 33 certification on a timely basis. The director shall also make a 34 finding of the occupancy rate of the property subject to the 35 redevelopment agreement in the frequency set forth in the 36 redevelopment agreement as provided in section 35 of P.L.1997, 37 c.278 (C.58:10B-27). The director shall certify a developer to be eligible for the 38 39 reimbursement if the director finds that: 40 (1) residential construction is complete, or a place of business is 41 located, in the area subject to the redevelopment agreement that has 42 generated new tax revenues; 43 (2) the developer had (i) entered into [a memorandum of other] an oversight document, with the 44 agreement, or 45 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, after the developer 46 entered into the redevelopment agreement, for the remediation of 47 contamination located on the site of the redevelopment project 48 pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) and the

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developer is in compliance with the [memorandum of agreement] oversight document, or (ii) complied with the requirements set forth in subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3); and (3) the costs of the remediation were actually and reasonably incurred. In making this finding the director may consult with the Department of Environmental Protection. c. When filing an application for certification for a reimbursement pursuant to this section, the developer shall submit to the director a certification of the total remediation costs incurred by the developer for the remediation of the subject property located at the site of the redevelopment project as provided in the redevelopment agreement, information concerning the occupancy rate of the buildings or other work areas located on the property subject to the redevelopment agreement, and such other information as the director deems necessary in order to make the certifications and findings pursuant to this section. (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.53) 16. Section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) is amended to read as follows: 37. a. To qualify for the certification of reimbursement of the remediation costs authorized pursuant to section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-28), a developer shall: (1) enter into [a memorandum of agreement, or other <u>an</u> oversight document with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection; or (2) comply with the requirements set forth in subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), for the remediation of the site of the redevelopment project. Under the [memorandum of agreement, or other] oversight b. document, the developer shall agree to perform and complete any remediation activity as may be required by the Department of Environmental Protection to ensure the remediation is conducted pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et al.). c. After the developer has entered into [a memorandum of agreement, or other <u>an</u> oversight document with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or after the developer has notified the Department of Environmental Protection of the name and license information of the licensed site remediation professional who has been [hired] retained to perform the remediation as required pursuant to subsection b. of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), the commissioner shall submit a copy thereof to the developer, 44 the clerk of the municipality in which the subject property is located, the Division of Business Assistance, Marketing and International Trade in the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and the director.

48 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.54) 1 17. Section 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-31) is amended to 2 read as follows:

3 39. a. The State Treasurer shall reimburse the developer the 4 amount of the remediation costs agreed upon in the redevelopment 5 agreement, and as provided in sections 35 and 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-27 and C.58:10B-28) upon issuance of the certification 6 7 by the director pursuant to section 36 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-8 28). The developer shall be entitled to periodic payments from the 9 fund in an amount, in the frequency, and over the time period as 10 provided in the redevelopment agreement. Notwithstanding any 11 other provision of sections 34 through 39 of P.L.1997, c.278 12 (C.58:10B-26 through C.58:10B-31), the State Treasurer may not 13 reimburse the developer any amount of the remediation costs from the fund until the State Treasurer is satisfied that the anticipated tax 14 15 revenues from the redevelopment project have been realized by the 16 State in an amount sufficient to pay for the cost of the 17 reimbursements.

18 b. A developer shall submit to the director updated remediation 19 costs actually incurred by the developer for the remediation of the 20 contaminated property located at the site of the redevelopment 21 project as provided in the redevelopment agreement. The 22 reimbursement authorized pursuant to this section shall continue 23 until such time as the aggregate dollar amount of the agreed upon 24 reimbursement. To remain entitled to the reimbursement authorized 25 pursuant to this section, the developer shall perform and complete 26 all remediation activities as may be required pursuant to the [memorandum of agreement or other] oversight [agreement] 27 document entered into with the Commissioner of Environmental 28 29 Protection pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-29) 30 or as may be required by the licensed site remediation professional 31 in order to issue a response action outcome for the site. The 32 Department of Environmental Protection may review the 33 remediation costs incurred by the developer to determine if they are 34 reasonable.

Reimbursable remediation costs shall include costs that are incurred in preparing the area of land whereon the contaminated site is located for remediation and may include costs of dynamic compaction of soil necessary for the remediation.

- 39 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.55)
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41 18. Section 2 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-2) is amended to read
42 as follows:

43 2. As used in sections 1 through 29 of P.L.2009, c.60
44 (C.58:10C-1 et seq.):

"Area of concern" means any location where contaminants are or
were known or suspected to have been discharged, generated,
manufactured, refined, transported, stored, handled, treated, or
disposed, or where contaminants have or may have migrated.

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"Board" means the Site Remediation Professional Licensing
 Board established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2009, c.60
 (C.58:10C-3).

"Certified subsurface evaluator" means a person certified to
perform services at the site of an unregulated heating oil tank
pursuant to P.L.1991, c.123 (C.58:10A-24.1 et seq.) as a subsurface
evaluator.

8 "Contamination" or "contaminant" means any discharged 9 hazardous substance as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1976, 10 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b), hazardous waste as defined pursuant to 11 section 1 of P.L.1976, c.99 (C.13:1E-38), or pollutant as defined 12 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-3).

13 "Department" means the Department of Environmental14 Protection.

"Discharge" means any intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping,
pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of hazardous substances
into the waters or onto the lands of the State, or into waters outside
the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the lands,
waters or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State.

21 "Engineering controls" means any mechanism to contain or 22 stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial 23 action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps, 24 covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences 25 and physical access controls.

26 "Environmental crime" means any criminal violation of one of 27 the following State laws: R.S.12:5-1 et seq.; P.L.1975, c.232 (C.13:1D-29 et al.); the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, 28 29 c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.); section 17 of P.L.1975, c.326 (C.13:1E-30 26); the "Comprehensive Regulated Medical Waste Management 31 Act," sections 1 [though] through 25 of P.L.1989, c.34 (C.13:1E-32 48.1 et seq.); P.L.1989, c.151 (C.13:1E-99.21a et al.); the "New 33 Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act," 34 P.L.1987, c.102 (C.13:1E-99.11 et al.); the "Pesticide Control Act 35 of 1971," P.L.1971, c.176 (C.13:1F-1 et seq.); the "Industrial Site Recovery Act," P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-6 et al.); the "Toxic 36 37 Catastrophe Prevention Act," P.L.1985, c.403 (C.13:1K-19 et seq.); 38 "The Wetlands Act of 1970," P.L.1970, c.272 (C.13:9A-1 et seq.); the "Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act," P.L.1987, c.156 39 40 (C.13:9B-1 et al.); the "Coastal Area Facility Review Act," 41 P.L.1973, c.185 (C.13:19-1 et seq.); the "Air Pollution Control Act 42 (1954)," P.L.1954, c.212 (C.26:2C-1 et seq.); the "Water Supply 43 Management Act," P.L.1981, c.262 (C.58:1A-1 et al.); P.L.1947, 44 c.377 (C.58:4A-5 et seq.); the "Spill Compensation and Control 45 Act," P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.); the "Water Pollution 46 Control Act," P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.); P.L.1986, c.102 47 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.); the "Safe Drinking Water Act," P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-1 et al.); the "Flood Hazard Area Control Act," 48 49

P.L.1962, c.19 (C.58:16A-50 et seq.).

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1 "Feasibility study" means a study to develop and evaluate 2 options for remedial action using data gathered during the remedial 3 investigation to develop the objectives of the remedial action, and 4 to develop possible remedial action alternatives, to evaluate those 5 alternatives and create a list of feasible alternatives, and to analyze health, 6 the engineering, scientific, institutional, human 7 environmental, and cost of each selected alternative.

8 "Hazardous substance" means the "environmental hazardous 9 substances" on the environmental hazardous substance list adopted 10 by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.315 11 (C.34:5A-4); such elements and compounds, including petroleum 12 products, which are defined as such by the department, after public 13 hearing, and which shall be consistent to the maximum extent 14 possible with, and which shall include, the list of hazardous 15 substances adopted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency 16 pursuant to section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act 17 Amendments of 1972, Pub. L.92-500, as amended by the Clean 18 Water Act of 1977, Pub. L.95-217 (33 U.S.C. s.1251 et seq.); the 19 list of toxic pollutants designated by Congress or the federal 20 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 307 of that 21 act; and the list of hazardous substances adopted by the federal 22 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 101 of the 23 "Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and 24 Liability Act of 1980," Pub. L.96-510 (42 U.S.C. s.9601 et seq.); 25 provided, however, that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be 26 considered as hazardous substances for the purposes of P.L.1976, 27 c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.).

28 "Immediate environmental concern" means [a condition at a 29 contaminated site where there is]: (1) confirmed contamination in a 30 well used for potable purposes at concentrations [at or] above the 31 ground water remediation standards; (2) confirmed contamination 32 that has migrated into [an occupied] <u>a structure currently used or</u> 33 able to be used for human occupancy or a confined space producing 34 a toxic or harmful atmosphere resulting in an unacceptable human 35 health exposure, or producing an oxygen-deficient atmosphere, or 36 resulting in demonstrated physical damage to essential underground 37 services; (3) confirmed contamination at the site of a nature that 38 either dermal contact, ingestion, or inhalation of the contamination 39 could result in an acute human health exposure; or (4) any other [condition] confirmed contamination that poses an immediate 40 41 threat to the environment or to the public health and safety.

42 "Institutional controls" means a mechanism used to limit human 43 activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the 44 effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants 45 remain at a contaminated site in levels or concentrations above the 46 applicable remediation standard that would allow unrestricted use 47 of that property. Institutional controls may include, without 48 limitation, structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well 49 restriction areas, and deed notices.

"Licensed site remediation professional" means an individual
 who is licensed by the board pursuant to section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60
 (C.58:10C-7) or the department pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009,
 c.60 (C.58:10C-12).

5 "Limited restricted use remedial action" means any remedial
6 action that requires the continued use of institutional controls but
7 does not require the use of an engineering control.

8 "Person" means an individual, public or private corporation,
9 company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock
10 company, the State, and any of its political subdivisions or agents.

11 "Person responsible for conducting the remediation" means (1) 12 any person who executes or is otherwise subject to an oversight 13 document to remediate a contaminated site, (2) the owner or operator of an industrial establishment subject to P.L.1983, c.330 14 15 (C.13:1K-6 et al.), for the remediation of a discharge, (3) the owner 16 or operator of an underground storage tank subject to P.L.1986, 17 c.102 (C.58:10A-21 et seq.), for the remediation of a discharge, (4) 18 any other person who discharges a hazardous substance or is in any 19 way responsible for a hazardous substance, pursuant to section 8 of 20 P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11g), that was discharged at a 21 contaminated site, or (5) any other person who is remediating a site.

22 "Preliminary assessment" means the first phase in the process of 23 identifying areas of concern and determining whether contaminants 24 are or were present at a site or have migrated or are migrating from 25 a site, and shall include the initial search for and evaluation of, 26 existing site specific operational and environmental information, 27 both current and historic, to determine if further investigation concerning the documented, alleged, suspected or latent discharge 28 29 of any contaminant is required. The evaluation of historic 30 information shall be conducted from 1932 to the present, except that 31 the department may require the search for and evaluation of 32 additional information relating to ownership and use of the site 33 prior to 1932 if such information is available through diligent 34 inquiry of the public records.

35 "Receptor evaluation" means an evaluation of the potential
36 impact of contamination on humans and environmentally sensitive
37 natural resources.

"Remedial action" means those actions taken at a site or offsite if 38 39 a contaminant has migrated or is migrating therefrom, as may be 40 required by the department, including the removal, treatment, 41 containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or 42 treatment measures, whether to an unrestricted use or otherwise, 43 designed to ensure that any discharged contaminant at the site or 44 that has migrated or is migrating from the site, is remediated in 45 compliance with the applicable health risk or environmental 46 standards.

47 "Remedial action workplan" means a plan for the remedial action
48 to be undertaken at a site, or at any area to which a discharge
49 originating at a site is migrating or has migrated; a description of

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the remedial action to be used to remediate a site; a time schedule
and cost estimate of the implementation of the remedial action; and
any other information the department deems necessary.

"Remedial investigation" means a process to determine the 4 5 nature and extent of a discharge of a contaminant at a site or a 6 discharge of a contaminant that has migrated or is migrating from 7 the site and the problems presented by a discharge, and may include 8 data collected, site characterization, sampling, monitoring, and the 9 gathering of any other sufficient and relevant information necessary 10 to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the 11 evaluation of remedial actions if necessary.

"Remediation" or "remediate" means all [necessary] actions to 12 investigate [and], clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, 13 14 or threatened discharge of contaminants, including [, as necessary,] 15 preliminary assessment, site investigation, remedial the investigation, and remedial action, or any portion thereof, provided, 16 17 however, that "remediation" or "remediate" shall not include the 18 payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural 19 resources.

20 "Remediation standards" means the combination of numeric 21 standards that establish a level or concentration, and narrative 22 standards to which contaminants must be treated, removed, or 23 otherwise cleaned for soil, groundwater, or surface water, as 24 provided by the department pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, 25 c.139 (C.58:10B-12) in order to meet the health risk or 26 environmental standards.

27 "Response action outcome" means a written determination by a 28 licensed site remediation professional that the contaminated site 29 was remediated in accordance with all applicable statutes and 30 regulations, and based upon an evaluation of the historical use of 31 the site, or of any area of concern at that site, as applicable, and any 32 other investigation or action the department deems necessary, there 33 are no contaminants present at the site, or at any area of concern, at 34 any other site to which a discharge originating at the site has 35 migrated, or that any contaminants present at the site or that have migrated from the site have been remediated in accordance with 36 37 applicable remediation regulations, and all applicable permits and 38 authorizations have been obtained.

39 "Restricted use remedial action" means any remedial action that
40 requires the continued use of engineering and institutional controls
41 in order to meet the established health risk or environmental
42 standards.

43 <u>"Retained" means hired, individually or through a firm or other</u>
44 person, by or on behalf of a person responsible for conducting
45 remediation, to perform, manage, or supervise remediation or to
46 periodically review and evaluate a remediation performed by other
47 persons.

48 "Site investigation" means the collection and evaluation of data49 adequate to determine whether or not discharged contaminants exist

at a site or have migrated or are migrating from the site at levels in
 excess of the applicable remediation standards. A site investigation
 shall be developed based upon the information collected pursuant to
 the preliminary assessment.
 "Small business" means a business entity that does not acquire
 property for development or redevelopment, and that, during the
 prior three tax years employed not more than 50 full time

prior three tax years, employed not more than 50 full-time
employees or the equivalent thereof, and qualifies as a small
business concern within the meaning of the federal "Small Business
Act," 15 U.S.C. s.631 et seq.

"Temporary license" means a license issued by the department
pursuant to section 12 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-12) to conduct
business as a licensed site remediation professional in the State.

14 "Unregulated heating oil tank" means any one or combination of 15 tanks, including appurtenant pipes, lines, fixtures, and other related 16 equipment, used to contain an accumulation of heating oil for on-17 site consumption in a residential building, or those tanks with a 18 capacity of 2,000 gallons or less used to store heating oil for on-site 19 consumption in a nonresidential building, the volume of which, 20 including the volume of the appurtenant pipes, lines, fixtures and 21 other related equipment, is 10 [%] percent or more below the 22 ground.

"Waters" means the ocean and its estuaries to the seaward limit
of the State's jurisdiction, all springs, streams and bodies of surface
or groundwater, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries
of the State.

27 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.2)

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29 19. Section 7 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-7) is amended to read30 as follows:

31 7. a. The board shall establish a licensing program and
32 licensing requirements for site remediation professionals, and shall
33 oversee their licensing and performance.

34 b. The board shall establish standards for education, training and experience that shall be required of any person who applies for 35 a license or a license renewal. The board shall conduct 36 37 examinations to certify that an applicant possesses sufficient 38 knowledge of the State laws, rules and regulations, standards and 39 requirements applicable to site remediation and that the applicant is 40 qualified to obtain a license or a license renewal. The board shall 41 also adopt standards for the professional conduct of licensed site 42 remediation professionals pursuant to the provisions of section 16 43 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-16). The board shall require an 44 applicant to submit references to ensure that the applicant meets the 45 standards and requirements established for training, experience and 46 professional conduct by licensed site remediation professionals. No 47 person may take the licensing examination until the board 48 determines that the applicant meets the standards for education, 49 training and experience.

1 c. An application for a license shall be made in a manner and 2 on such forms as may be prescribed by the board. The filing of an 3 application shall be accompanied by an application fee that shall 4 cover the costs of processing the application and developing and 5 conducting the examinations. The board may also charge an annual 6 license fee that shall cover the costs of the licensing program.

d. An applicant for a site remediation professional license shalldemonstrate to the board that the applicant:

9 (1) holds a bachelor's degree or higher in natural, chemical or 10 physical science, or an engineering degree in a discipline related to 11 site remediation, from an accredited institution of higher education, 12 or has been issued a temporary license to remediate discharges from 13 underground storage tanks only pursuant to subsection d. of section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-13) and meets the other 13 15 requirements established in this subsection and in subsection f. of 16 this section;

(2) has eight years of full-time professional experience, as
described in subsection e. of this section, in the field of site
remediation, of which five years shall have occurred in New Jersey
and at least three years shall have occurred in New Jersey
[immediately] within the five years prior to submission of the
application;

(3) has a minimum of 5,000 hours of relevant professional
experience within the State over the five years immediately prior to
submission of the application that is of a professional grade and
character that indicates the applicant is competent to issue a
response action outcome;

(4) has attended and completed the minimum environmental
health and safety education and training provided pursuant to 29
C.F.R. Section 1910.120 no more than one year prior to submission
of an application for a license pursuant to this section;

(5) has attended and completed a course approved by the
department on the State's rules and regulations concerning the
technical requirements for site remediation no more than three years
prior to submission of the application;

(6) has not been convicted of, or plead guilty to, an 36 37 environmental crime, any similar or related criminal offense under 38 federal or state law, or any crime involving fraud, breach of trust, 39 theft by deception, forgery , or any offense that would qualify the 40 person for registration pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1994, c.133 41 (C.2C:7-2), or any other crime or offense involving moral turpitude, 42 or any similar or related offense under federal or state law . For the 43 purposes of this section, a conviction or plea of guilty shall include 44 a non vult, nolo contendere, no contest, or finding of guilt by a 45 judge or jury; and

46 (7) has not had a professional license <u>or certification</u> revoked by
47 any state licensing board or any other professional licensing agency
48 within the previous 10 years <u>, and has not surrendered a</u>

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1 professional license or certification in response to a disciplinary

2 <u>investigation within the previous 10 years</u>.

e. For the purposes of this section, "full-time professional 3 4 experience" includes experience in which the applicant is required 5 to apply scientific or engineering principles to contaminated site 6 remediation where the resulting conclusions form the basis for 7 reports, studies or other documents connected with the remediation 8 of a contaminated site. The board may consider the applicant's 9 work activities, field of practice, duration of employment, and work 10 products prepared in determining the credit to be allowed for 11 professional experience. The board may allow applicants with 12 relevant advanced degrees up to two years of credit for professional 13 experience, of which one year of credit may be awarded for 14 applicants who have earned a master's degree in a relevant field of 15 study and up to two years of credit may be awarded for applicants 16 who have earned a doctorate degree in a relevant field of study.

17 f. The board shall authorize an applicant who has been issued a 18 temporary license pursuant to subsection d. of section 13 of 19 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-13), who meets all other requirements 20 established pursuant to this section but does not hold a bachelor's 21 degree from an accredited institution of higher education to take the 22 licensing examination to qualify for a license pursuant to this 23 section. An applicant who does not satisfactorily complete the 24 examination authorized pursuant to this subsection shall not be 25 authorized to reapply for a license.

g. No person may obtain a license unless that person meets the
standards established for education, training and experience
required in subsection b. of this section, satisfactorily passes the
examination, and satisfies any other requirements established by the
board to ensure that licensed site remediation professionals meet the
requirements established pursuant to this section.

32 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.7)

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34 20. Section 11 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-11) is amended to 35 read as follows:

11. <u>a.</u> No person shall be, act as, advertise as, or hold himself
out to be, or represent himself as being, a licensed site remediation
professional unless that person has been issued a valid license
pursuant to P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.).

b. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of
P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a person who is not a licensed site
remediation professional shall not perform remediation unless the
remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and
evaluated by a licensed site remediation professional.

45 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.11)

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47 21. Section 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-14) is amended to 48 read as follows:

1 14. a. For any site for which a licensed site remediation 2 professional is required to be [hired] retained pursuant to the 3 provisions of section 30 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), the 4 person responsible for conducting the remediation shall certify all 5 documents submitted to the department concerning the remediation 6 of the contaminated site. The licensed site remediation professional 7 shall certify that the work was performed, the licensed site 8 remediation professional managed, supervised, or performed the 9 work that is the basis of the submission, and that the work and the 10 submitted documents are consistent with all applicable remediation 11 requirements adopted by the department. 12 b. A licensed site remediation professional shall certify 13 electronic submissions made to the department concerning the 14 remediation of a contaminated site. The licensed site remediation 15 professional shall attest that no other person is authorized or able to 16 use any password, encryption method, or electronic signature 17 provided to the licensed site remediation professional by the board 18 or the department. 19 c. The licensed site remediation professional shall employ the 20 following remediation requirements in providing professional 21 services for the remediation of contaminated sites: 22 (1) The licensed site remediation professional shall make each 23 decision concerning a contaminated site in order to meet the 24 following standards: 25 (a) health risk and environmental standards established pursuant 26 to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); 27 (b) remediation standards adopted by the department pursuant to 28 section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); 29 (c) maximum contaminant levels for building interiors adopted

30 by the Department of Health and Senior Services pursuant to 31 section 1 of P.L.2007, c.1 (C.52:27D-130.4) as applicable; and

(d) any other applicable standards adopted pursuant to law.

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33 (2) The licensed site remediation professional shall apply the 34 following regulations:

35 (a) rules and regulations adopted by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2009, 36 37 c.60 (C.58:10C-6);

38 (b) technical standards for site remediation adopted by the department pursuant to P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-1 et al.); 39

[(b)] (c) mandatory remediation timeframes and expedited site 40 41 specific timeframes adopted by the department pursuant to section 42 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28); [and]

43 [(c)] (d) presumptive remedies adopted by the department 44 pursuant to section 35 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-12); and

45 (e) any other applicable rules and regulations concerning the 46 remediation.

(3) The licensed site remediation professional shall apply any 47 48 available and appropriate technical guidelines concerning site 49 remediation as issued by the department. The department shall provide interested parties the opportunity to participate in the
 development and review of technical guidelines issued for the
 remediation of contaminated sites.

4 (4) When there is no specific requirement provided by the 5 technical standards for site remediation adopted by the department, 6 and guidelines issued by the department are not appropriate or 7 necessary, in the professional judgment of the licensed site 8 remediation professional, to meet the remediation requirements 9 listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the licensed site 10 remediation professional may use the following additional 11 guidelines to make decisions regarding a remediation, and shall set 12 forth justification , including, if applicable, the scientific, technical, 13 or other justification, for such use, in the relevant submittal to the 14 department:

(a) relevant guidance from the federal Environmental ProtectionAgency or other states; and

(b) other relevant, applicable, and appropriate methods andpractices that ensure the protection of the public health and safety,and of the environment.

20 Upon completion of the remediation, the licensed site d. 21 remediation professional shall issue a response action outcome to 22 the person responsible for conducting the remediation when, in the 23 opinion of the licensed site remediation professional, the site has 24 been remediated so that it is in compliance with all applicable 25 statutes, rules and regulations protective of public health and safety 26 and the environment. The licensed site remediation professional 27 shall file the response action outcome with the department when it 28 is issued to the person responsible for conducting the remediation. 29 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.14)

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31 22. Section 16 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-16) is amended to
 32 read as follows:

16. a. A licensed site remediation professional's highest priority
in the performance of professional services shall be the protection
of public health and safety and the environment.

b. A licensed site remediation professional shall exercise
reasonable care and diligence, and shall apply the knowledge and
skill ordinarily exercised by licensed site remediation professionals
in good standing practicing in the State at the time the services are
performed.

41 c. A licensed site remediation professional shall not provide 42 professional services outside the areas of professional competency, 43 unless the licensed site remediation professional has relied upon the 44 technical assistance of another professional whom the licensed site 45 remediation professional has reasonably determined to be qualified 46 by education, training, and experience. A licensed site remediation 47 professional shall not perform services that constitute the practice 48 of professional engineering unless the licensed site remediation 49 professional is a professional engineer licensed in the State.

1 d. A licensed site remediation professional retained by a person 2 responsible for conducting the remediation shall notify the 3 department within 15 calendar days after being retained. In 4 addition, a licensed site remediation professional shall notify the 5 department within 15 calendar days after being released from responsibility for a remediation if the release occurs prior to 6 7 issuance of the response action outcome for the site by the licensed 8 site remediation professional.

9 e. A licensed site remediation professional and the person 10 responsible for conducting the remediation shall correct any 11 deficiency the department identifies in a document submitted 12 concerning a remediation. The deficiency shall be corrected in 13 accordance with timeframes established by the department.

14 A licensed site remediation professional may complete any f. 15 phase of remediation based on remediation work performed under 16 the supervision of another licensed site remediation professional, 17 provided that the licensed site remediation professional: (1)18 reviews all available documentation on which he relies; (2) 19 conducts a site visit to observe current conditions and to verify the 20 status of as much of the work as is reasonably observable; and (3) 21 concludes, in the exercise of independent professional judgment, 22 that there is sufficient information upon which to complete any 23 additional phase of remediation and prepare workplans and reports 24 related thereto.

g. A licensed site remediation professional who has taken over
the responsibility for the remediation of a contaminated site from
another licensed site remediation professional shall correct all
deficiencies in a document submitted by the previous licensed site
remediation professional identified by the department in accordance
with timeframes established by the department.

31 h. A licensed site remediation professional shall not certify any 32 document submitted to the department unless the licensed site remediation professional : (1) believes that the information in the 33 34 submission is true, accurate, and complete; and (2) has managed, 35 supervised or performed the work that is the basis of the 36 submission, or has periodically reviewed and evaluated the work 37 performed by other persons that forms the basis for the information in the submission, or has completed the work of another licensed 38 39 site remediation professional and has concluded such work is 40 reliable pursuant to subsection f. of this section. A licensed site 41 remediation professional shall not knowingly make any false 42 statement, representation, or certification in any document or 43 information required to be submitted to the board or the department. 44 A licensed site remediation professional shall exercise i. 45 independent professional judgment, comply with the requirements 46 and procedures set forth in the provisions of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), make a good faith and reasonable effort to 47 48 identify and obtain the relevant and material facts, data, reports and 49 other information evidencing conditions at a contaminated site for

1 which he is [responsible] retained that is in possession of the 2 owner of the property, or that is otherwise available, and identify 3 and obtain whatever additional data and other information as the 4 licensed site remediation professional deems necessary. The 5 licensed site remediation professional shall disclose and explain in 6 any document submitted to the department any facts, data, 7 information, qualifications, or limitations known by the licensed 8 site remediation professional that are not supportive of the 9 conclusions reached in the document.

10 If a licensed site remediation professional [identifies] i. obtains specific knowledge of a condition [at a contaminated site] 11 12 that in his independent professional judgment is an immediate 13 environmental concern, then the licensed site remediation 14 professional shall: (1) immediately verbally advise, and confirm in 15 writing to, the person responsible for conducting the remediation of that person's duty to notify the department of the condition, 16 17 provided the person is known to the licensed site remediation 18 professional; and (2) immediately notify the department of the 19 condition by calling the department's telephone hotline.

20 k. If a licensed site remediation professional retained to 21 perform remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains 22 specific knowledge that a discharge has occurred [on a 23 contaminated site for which he is responsible] at any location on 24 the site, the licensed site remediation professional shall: (1) notify 25 the person responsible for conducting the remediation of the 26 existence of the discharge; and (2) notify the department of the 27 discharge by calling the department's telephone hotline. The person 28 responsible for conducting the remediation shall also be responsible 29 for notifying the department of the existence of the discharge. The 30 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a discharge that may 31 be a result of the existence of historic fill material.

1. If a licensed site remediation professional learns of an action or decision by a client that results in a deviation from the remedial action workplan or other report concerning the remediation developed by the licensed site remediation professional, the licensed site remediation professional shall promptly notify the client and the department, in writing, of the deviation.

m. A licensed site remediation professional shall not reveal information obtained in a professional capacity, except as may be authorized or required by law, without the prior consent of the client, if the client has notified the licensed site remediation professional, in writing, that the information is confidential. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to information that is in the public domain.

n. A licensed site remediation professional who learns of
material facts, data or other information subsequent to the
completion of a report concerning a phase of remediation, which
would result in a report with material differences from the report

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submitted, shall promptly notify the client and the department in
 writing of those facts, data, information, and circumstances.

3 o. A licensed site remediation professional who succeeds 4 another licensed site remediation professional before the issuance of 5 a response action outcome, and who learns of material facts, data or 6 other information concerning a phase of the remediation for which a 7 report was submitted to the department and the material facts, data 8 or other information were not disclosed in the report, shall promptly 9 notify the client and the department in writing of those facts, data, 10 information, and circumstances.

p. A licensed site remediation professional shall not allow the use of his name by a person, and shall not associate with a person in a business venture, if the licensed site remediation professional knows or should know that the person engages in fraudulent or dishonest business or professional practices regarding the professional responsibilities of a licensed site remediation professional.

18 q. A licensed site remediation professional shall cooperate in 19 an investigation by the board or the department by promptly 20 furnishing, in response to formal requests, orders or subpoenas, any 21 information the board or the department, or persons duly authorized 22 by the board or the department, deems necessary to perform its 23 duties. In an investigation by the board of a license application or a 24 license suspension or revocation, a licensed site remediation 25 professional shall not:

26 (1) knowingly make a false statement of material fact;

(2) fail to disclose a fact necessary to correct a material
misunderstanding known by the licensed site remediation
professional to have arisen in the matter;

30 (3) knowingly and materially falsify, tamper with, alter, conceal,
31 or destroy any document, data record, remedial system, or
32 monitoring device that is relevant to the investigation, without
33 obtaining the prior approval of the department; or

34 (4) knowingly allow or tolerate any employee, agent, or
35 contractor of the licensed site remediation professional to engage in
36 any of the foregoing activities.

r. A licensed site remediation professional shall be jointly
responsible for a violation of any provision of this section
committed by another licensed site remediation professional whose
work he supervises or reviews if:

(1) the licensed site remediation professional orders, directs, or
agrees to the provision of professional services conducted or
prepared by another licensed site remediation professional under his
supervision;

45 (2) the licensed site remediation professional knows that the46 professional services constitute a violation of this section; and

47 (3) the licensed site remediation professional fails to take48 reasonable steps to avoid or mitigate the violation.

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1 A licensed site remediation professional shall comply with s. 2 all conditions imposed by the board as a result of a license 3 suspension or other disciplinary proceeding conducted by the board. 4 A licensed site remediation professional shall inform a client t. 5 or prospective client of any relevant and material assumptions, 6 limitations, or qualifications underlying their communication. 7 Evidence that a licensed site remediation professional has provided 8 the client or prospective client with timely written documentation of 9 these assumptions, limitations, or qualifications shall be deemed by 10 the board or the department to have satisfied the requirements of 11 this subsection. 12 u. A licensed site remediation professional shall not state or 13 imply, as an inducement or a threat to a client or prospective client, an ability to improperly influence a government agency or official. 14 15 v. In any description of qualifications, experience, or ability to 16 provide services, a licensed site remediation professional shall not 17 knowingly: 18 (1) make a material misrepresentation of fact; 19 (2) omit a fact when the omission results in a materially 20 misleading description; or 21 (3) make a statement that, in the opinion of the board, is likely 22 to create an unjustified expectation about results the licensed site 23 remediation professional may achieve, or state or imply that the 24 licensed site remediation professional may achieve results by means 25 that violate the provisions of applicable environmental statutes, 26 rules or regulations, including the provisions of P.L.2009, c.60 27 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). w. A licensed site remediation professional shall provide any 28 29 notification to the board or the department required pursuant to this 30 section, even if the licensed site remediation professional is 31 discharged by the client prior to doing so. 32 x. A licensed site remediation professional shall not accept 33 compensation, financial or otherwise, for professional services 34 pertaining to a contaminated site from two or more persons whose interests are adverse or conflicting unless the circumstances are 35 36 fully disclosed and agreed to by all clients engaging the licensed 37 site remediation professional. 38 y. A licensed site remediation professional shall not be a 39 salaried employee of the person responsible for conducting the 40 remediation, or any related entities, for which the licensed site 41 remediation professional is providing remediation services. 42 A licensed site remediation professional shall not allow any Z. 43 ownership interest, compensation, or promise of continued 44 employment, of the licensed site remediation professional or any 45 immediate family member, to affect the professional services 46 provided by the licensed site remediation professional. aa. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of 47 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a licensed site remediation 48 49 professional shall not facilitate, aid, assist, or cooperate with any

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1 person in retaining or arranging for the retention of any person who 2 is not a licensed site remediation professional to perform 3 remediation, unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or 4 periodically reviewed and evaluated by a licensed site remediation 5 professional retained for that purpose, and the department has been 6 notified of the retention. 7 bb. Except as provided in subsection d. of section 30 of 8 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10B-1.3), a licensed site remediation 9 professional shall not manage, supervise, perform, engage, or 10 participate in remediation unless: 11 (1) the licensed site remediation professional has been retained 12 by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the 13 department has been notified of the retention; or 14 (2) the remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed 15 by another licensed site remediation professional retained by the 16 person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the 17 department has been notified of the retention of the other licensed 18 site remediation professional. 19 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.16) 20 21 23. (New section) If a licensed site remediation professional 22 obtains specific knowledge of a condition in an unoccupied 23 structure, that, in his independent professional judgment, constitutes 24 an immediate environmental concern, and the person responsible 25 for conducting the remediation provides to the department a written 26 certification from the property owner that the building (i) is not 27 occupied, (ii) will not be occupied, and (iii) will be demolished, then no further remediation relative to the immediate environmental 28 29 concern in the unoccupied structure shall be required, provided the 30 conditions of the certification are maintained. Nothing in this 31 section shall be construed to limit the responsibility of a license site 32 remediation professional to comply with the notification 33 requirements of subsection j. of section 16 of P.L.2009, c.60 34 (C.58:10C-16), or the responsibility of a person to report a 35 discharge pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.). The 36 department shall prescribe the form and manner of the written 37 certification pursuant to this section. 38 39 24. Section 19 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-19) is amended to 40 read as follows: 41 19. a. The department shall establish a permit program to 42 regulate the operation, maintenance and inspection of engineering 43 or institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a 44 remedial action of a contaminated site. The department may require 45 periodic monitoring, inspections, and maintenance by the person 46 responsible for the engineering or institutional controls and the 47 submission of certifications regarding those activities. The 48 department may issue a permit, permit by rule, or general permit 49 pursuant to this section.

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1 The department may require any person who is responsible b. 2 for the monitoring, operation, and maintenance of an engineering or 3 institutional control implemented before the date of enactment of 4 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), and any person required to 5 submit a certification on a biennial basis pursuant to section 6 of 6 P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-13.1), that engineering or institutional 7 controls and related systems are properly maintained and that 8 periodic monitoring for compliance is conducted, to obtain a permit 9 pursuant to this section.

10 c. (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, 11 the department may require that a person issued a permit pursuant 12 to this section maintain insurance, financial assurance or another financial instrument to guarantee that funding is available to 13 14 operate, maintain, and inspect the engineering controls installed as 15 part of a remedial action of a contaminated site for the period that 16 such controls are required. The person required to maintain the 17 funding source pursuant to this section may petition the department 18 on an annual basis to decrease the amount of funding required to be 19 maintained.

20 (2) A government entity, a person who is not otherwise liable 21 for cleanup and removal costs pursuant to P.L.1976, c.141 22 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) who purchases contaminated property 23 before the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) 24 and undertakes a remediation of the property, a person who 25 undertakes a remediation at their primary or secondary residence, 26 the owner or operator of a child care center licensed pursuant to 27 P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) who performs a remediation at 28 the licensed child care center, the person responsible for conducting 29 a remediation at a public school or private school as defined in 30 N.J.S.18A:1-1, or a charter school established pursuant to P.L.1995, 31 c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.), or the owner or operator of a small business responsible for performing a remediation at their business 32 33 property, shall not be required to establish or maintain a funding 34 source pursuant to this section, for the operation, maintenance, and 35 inspection of the engineering controls installed as part of a remedial action of a contaminated site. 36

37 d. <u>A person who is issued a permit pursuant to this section</u>
38 <u>shall retain a licensed site remediation professional to manage</u>,
39 <u>supervise</u>, or perform the requirements of the permit for the
40 <u>duration of the permit</u>.

41 <u>e.</u> The department may charge, in accordance with a schedule 42 adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, 43 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), reasonable application fees to cover the 44 costs of processing the application, and reasonable annual fees to 45 cover the costs of the administration and enforcement of the 46 permits.

47 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.19)

1 25. Section 20 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-20) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 20. A licensed site remediation professional shall, for each 4 contaminated site, maintain and preserve all data, documents and 5 information concerning the remediation [activities at each 6 contaminated site] that the licensed site remediation professional 7 has [worked on] prepared or relied upon, including but not limited 8 to, technical records and contractual documents, raw sampling and 9 monitoring data, whether or not the data and information, including 10 technical records and contractual documents, were developed by the 11 licensed site remediation professional or the licensee's divisions, 12 employees, agents, accountants, contractors, or attorneys, that relate 13 in any way to the contamination at the site. [Three] An electronic 14 [copies] <u>copy</u> of the records shall be submitted to the department at 15 the time the response action outcome is filed with the department. 16 (cf: P.L.2009, c.60, s.20) 17 18 26. Section 27 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-27) is amended to 19 read as follows: 20 27. a. Except as provided in section 1 of P.L.2013, c.283 (C. 21 58:10C-27.1), and this section, the department shall undertake 22 direct oversight of a remediation of a contaminated site under the 23 following conditions: 24 (1) the person responsible for conducting the remediation has a 25 history of noncompliance with the laws concerning remediation, or 26 any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, that includes the 27 issuance of at least two enforcement actions after the date of 28 enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) during any five-29 year period concerning a remediation; 30 (2) the person responsible for conducting the remediation at a 31 contaminated site has failed to meet a mandatory remediation 32 timeframe or an expedited site specific timeframe adopted by the 33 department pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-28), 34 including any extension thereof granted by the department, or a 35 schedule established pursuant to an administrative order or court 36 order; or 37 (3) unless a longer period has been ordered by a court, the 38 person responsible for conducting the remediation has, prior to the 39 date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), failed to 40 complete the remedial investigation of the entire contaminated site 10 years after the discovery of a discharge at the site and has failed 41 42 to complete the remedial investigation of the entire contaminated 43 site within five years after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 44 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). 45 If a person responsible for conducting a remediation fails to meet 46 the conditions established in paragraph (3) of this subsection, or a 47 requirement established pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of 48 P.L.2013, c.283 (C.58:10C-27.1), the department shall not

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1 undertake direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person 2 demonstrates, and the department finds, that: 3 (1) the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe 4 because he was unable to enter the contaminated site because he 5 does not own the property, and the person took all appropriate and timely action pursuant to section 40 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-6 7 16) prior to the applicable timeframe; or 8 (2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the 9 person has made timely submissions to the department, and the 10 person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the 11 performance of additional review by the department pursuant to 12 subsection c. of section 21 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-21). 13 As used in this subsection, "enforcement action" means an 14 administrative order, a notice of civil administrative penalty, or a 15 court order. 16 b. The department may undertake direct oversight of a 17 remediation of a contaminated site under the following conditions: (1) the contamination at the site includes chromate chemical 18 19 production waste; 20 (2) the department determines that more than one 21 environmentally sensitive natural resource has been injured by 22 contamination from the site; 23 (3) the site has contributed to sediments contaminated by 24 polychlorinated biphenyl, mercury, arsenic, or dioxin in a surface 25 water body; or 26 (4) the site is ranked by the department in the category requiring 27 the highest priority pursuant to the ranking system developed pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1982, c.202 (C.58:10-23.16). 28 29 c. For any site subject to direct oversight by the department 30 pursuant to this section: 31 (1) the department shall review each document submitted by a 32 licensed site remediation professional and shall approve or deny the 33 submission; 34 (2) a feasibility study shall be performed and submitted to the 35 department for approval; (3) the department shall select the remedial action for the site; 36 37 (4) the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall 38 establish a remediation [trust fund] funding source other than a self-guarantee pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1993, c.139 (C.58:10B-39 40 3) in the amount of the estimated cost of the remediation; 41 (5) all disbursements of funds from the remediation [trust fund] 42 funding source shall require prior approval by the department; 43 (6) all submissions prepared by the licensed site remediation 44 professional concerning the remediation required by the department 45 shall be provided simultaneously to the department and the person 46 responsible for conducting the remediation; and 47 (7) the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall 48 implement a public participation plan approved by the department

1 to solicit public comment from the members of the surrounding 2 community concerning the remediation of the site. 3 d. The department shall issue guidelines establishing specific 4 criteria for the conditions under which a site may be subject to 5 direct oversight pursuant to subsection b. of this section. 6 e. (1) Any oversight procedure, remedy, or other obligation in 7 P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall not affect a remediation 8 conducted pursuant to and in compliance with a settlement of 9 litigation to which the department is a party if the settlement (a) 10 occurred prior to the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 11 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), or (b) is a settlement of litigation pending on 12 the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.). 13 (2) For any litigation pending or settled on the date of enactment 14 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et al.), concerning a remediation 15 performed pursuant to the "Resource Conservation and Recovery 16 Act," 42 U.S.C. s.6921 et seq., nothing in P.L.2009, c.60 17 (C.58:10C-1 et al.) shall affect an oversight procedure, remedy, or 18 other obligation imposed by a federal administrative order or 19 federal court order. 20 f. When a contaminated site is subject to direct oversight 21 pursuant to this section, the requirements of direct oversight shall 22 run with the site, regardless of who owns the property, and 23 regardless of whether there is a transfer of ownership of the 24 property. 25 g. (1) The department may modify the direct oversight 26 requirements of subsection c. of this section for a contaminated site 27 if: 28 (a) the person responsible for conducting the remediation 29 demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the performance of 30 the remediation due to the imposition of direct oversight pursuant to 31 this section; or 32 (b) there is a public emergency resulting from a natural disaster, 33 as declared by the Governor or the President of the United States, or 34 an official authorized to act on their behalf, that resulted in a delay 35 in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-specific timeframe or 36 other condition that triggered direct oversight. 37 (2) The department may modify the direct oversight 38 requirements of subsection c. of this section for a contaminated site 39 if the department makes a written determination that the 40 modification is in the public interest and protective of the public 41 health and safety and the environment. At least 60 days prior to 42 making a modification pursuant to this paragraph, the department 43 shall publish its written determination and the proposed 44 modification to the requirements of direct oversight, including the 45 reasons for its determination, on the department's Internet website. 46 The department shall solicit and accept public comments on the 47 proposed modification for a period of at least 30 days after the date 48 of publication. The department shall consider the public comments

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1 received during the comment period prior to making a modification 2 pursuant to this paragraph. 3 (3) The department may, prior to a change in ownership of a contaminated site, enter into an administrative consent order with 4 5 the prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing for the modification of any or all of the direct oversight requirements of 6 7 subsection c. of this section for the contaminated site. 8 (4) The department may reinstate any or all of the direct 9 oversight requirements that it modifies pursuant to paragraphs (1), 10 (2), and (3) of this subsection if, after the modification, the 11 department finds that the person responsible for conducting the 12 remediation has failed to comply with any applicable timeframe, administrative consent order modifying the requirements of direct 13 14 oversight, or any law, rule, or regulation concerning the remediation 15 of contaminated sites. 16 (cf: P.L.2013, c.283, s.2) 17 18 27. This act shall take effect immediately. 19 20 21 **STATEMENT** 22 23 This bill would make various changes to the laws governing the 24 remediation of contaminated sites and licensed site remediation 25 professionals (LSRPs). 26 The bill would require a plaintiff, in any action for damages for 27 personal injuries, wrongful death, or property damage resulting from an alleged act of malpractice or negligence by an LSRP, to 28 29 provide each defendant with an affidavit of merit. An affidavit of 30 merit is a sworn statement from an appropriate licensed person 31 stating that there exists a reasonable probability that the care, skill, or knowledge exercised or exhibited in the practice or work that is 32 33 the subject of the complaint fell outside acceptable professional or 34 occupational standards. If a plaintiff fails to file an affidavit of 35 merit, his case would be dismissed for failure to state a cause of 36 action. The State currently requires an affidavit of merit for suits 37 against various other licensed professionals including doctors, 38 accountants, attorneys, and engineers. 39 The bill would authorize the Superior Court and the municipal 40 courts to impose a civil penalty for a violation of the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," P.L.1976, c.141 (C. 58:10-23.11 et 41 42 seq.), to be assessed in accordance with the "Penalty Enforcement 43 Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.). 44 The bill makes several changes to laws governing the 45 establishment of remediation funding sources, and when and how 46 those remediation funding sources may be used, dispersed, and The bill provides that a person may establish, as a 47 released. 48 remediation funding source, a surety bond from an entity that is 49 listed as an acceptable surety on federal bonds in United States

1 Treasury Department Circular 570. The bill also establishes 2 requirements for utilizing a surety bond as a remediation funding 3 source.

The bill would require the Department of Environmental 4 5 Protection (DEP) to encourage the use of green and sustainable 6 practices during the remediation of a contaminated site. However, 7 the use of green and sustainable practices would not alter the 8 requirement that the remediation be protective of the public health 9 and safety and of the environment.

10 Current law requires a person responsible for conducting a 11 remediation to provide written notice of the remediation to the 12 municipality and county in which the contaminated site is located 13 prior to initiating the remedial action. The bill would require that 14 such written notice be provided earlier in the site remediation 15 process - prior to the initiation of the remedial investigation. The 16 bill would also expand the types of documents a person responsible 17 for conducting a remediation is required to provide to a 18 municipality or county, upon request.

19 The bill would require a person responsible for conducting a 20 remediation to respond to any inquiries from the public that the 21 person receives or that the DEP receives and forwards to that 22 person. Under the bill, the person's response must include either: 23 (1) specific information or documents that are responsive to the 24 public inquiry; or (2) a written status report for the remediation in a 25 form and manner as determined by the DEP. A person responsible 26 for conducting a remediation would be permitted to designate an 27 LSRP to respond to public inquiries under the bill.

28 Current law provides that an "immediate environmental concern" 29 includes "confirmed contamination that has migrated into an 30 occupied structure..." The bill would expand the definition to 31 include "confirmed contamination that has migrated into a structure 32 currently used or able to be used for human occupancy..." Under 33 existing law, the DEP has established expedited timeframes to 34 address immediate environmental concerns. However, under the 35 bill, no further remediation relative to an immediate environmental 36 concern that affects an unoccupied structure would be required if a 37 person responsible for conducting the remediation provides to the DEP a written certification from the property owner that the 38 39 building: (1) is not occupied; (2) will not be occupied; and (3) will 40 be demolished.

41 Under existing law, if an LSRP identifies a condition that, in his 42 independent professional judgment, is an immediate environmental 43 concern, then the LSRP must, among other things, immediately 44 verbally advise the person responsible for conducting the 45 remediation of that person's duty to notify the DEP. The bill would 46 require an LSRP to notify the person responsible for conducting the 47 remediation, in writing, of the person's duty to notify the DEP of 48 the condition.

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1 The bill provides that, if an LSRP who is retained to perform 2 remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains specific 3 knowledge that a discharge has occurred at any location on the site, 4 the LSRP must notify the person responsible for conducting the 5 remediation and the DEP.

6 The bill makes certain changes to the licensing requirements for 7 LSRPs. Under current law, an applicant for an LSRP license must 8 demonstrate, among other things, that the applicant has the requisite 9 number of years of full-time professional experience in the field of 10 site remediation, of which five years must have occurred in New 11 Jersey, and at least three years must have occurred in the State 12 immediately prior to submission of the application. The bill would change this requirement to provide that an applicant must have 13 14 worked at least three years in the State within the five years 15 immediately prior to submission of the application, to account for 16 applicants who may have been absent from work for personal 17 reasons.

18 Current law specifies the crimes and other offenses that 19 disqualify a person from becoming an LSRP. This bill would 20 expand that list to include any criminal offense involving breach of 21 trust, and any offense that would qualify the person for registration 22 on the State's sex offender registry, or any other crime or offense 23 involving moral turpitude. Under the bill, an applicant for an LSRP 24 license would need to demonstrate that he has not had a 25 professional certification revoked, and has not surrendered a 26 professional license or certification in response to a disciplinary 27 investigation, within the previous 10 years.

28 The bill provides that a person who is not an LSRP may not 29 perform remediation unless the remediation is managed, supervised, 30 or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP. The bill 31 specifies that an LSRP, when providing professional services for 32 the remediation of a contaminated site, must apply the rules and 33 regulations adopted by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing 34 Board (board), and any other applicable rules and regulations 35 concerning the remediation.

The bill specifies that an LSRP may not certify any document submitted to the DEP unless the LSRP believes that the information in the submission is true, accurate, and complete. The bill would also explicitly prohibit an LSRP from knowingly making any false statement, representation, or certification in any document or information required to be submitted to the DEP or the board.

42 The bill provides that an LSRP is prohibited from facilitating, 43 aiding, assisting, or cooperating with any person in retaining or 44 arranging for the retention of any person who is not an LSRP to 45 perform remediation, unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP 46 47 retained for that purpose, and the DEP has been notified of the Additionally, under the bill, an LSRP would be 48 retention. 49 prohibited from managing, supervising, performing, engaging, or

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1 participating in a remediation unless: (1) the LSRP has been 2 retained by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, 3 and the DEP has been notified of the retention; or (2) the 4 remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed by another 5 LSRP retained by the person responsible for conducting the 6 remediation, and the DEP has been notified of the retention of the 7 other LSRP.

8 The bill requires a person who is issued a remedial action permit 9 for the operation, maintenance, and inspection of engineering or 10 institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a 11 remedial action to retain an LSRP to manage, supervise, or perform 12 the requirements of the permit for the duration of the permit.

13 Under the bill, if a person responsible for conducting a remediation fails to meet certain conditions, the DEP would not 14 15 undertake direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person 16 demonstrates, and the DEP finds, that: (1) the person was unable to 17 meet the applicable timeframe because he was unable to enter the 18 contaminated site because he does not own the property, and the 19 person took all appropriate and timely action to gain access to the 20 site; or (2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the 21 person has made timely submissions to the DEP, and the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the performance of 22 23 additional review by the DEP.

The bill provides that, when a contaminated site is subject to direct oversight, the requirements of direct oversight run with the site, regardless of who owns the property, and regardless of whether there is a transfer of ownership of the property.

The bill authorizes the DEP to modify the requirements of direct 28 29 oversight if: (1) the person responsible for conducting the 30 remediation demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the 31 performance of the remediation due to the imposition of direct 32 oversight; or (2) there is a public emergency resulting from a 33 natural disaster, as declared by the State or federal government, that 34 resulted in a delay in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-35 specific timeframe or other condition that triggered direct oversight. 36 The DEP would also be authorized to modify the requirements of 37 direct oversight for a contaminated site if the DEP makes a written determination that the modification is in the public interest and 38 39 protective of the public health and safety and the environment. The 40 DEP would be required to publish its written determination, 41 including the reasons for its determination, on the DEP's Internet 42 website, and solicit and consider public comments on the proposed 43 modification.

The bill also authorizes the DEP, prior to a change in ownership of a contaminated site, to enter into an administrative consent order with the prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing for the modification of the requirements of direct oversight. The DEP would be authorized to reinstate the direct oversight requirements that it modifies under the bill if, after the

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modification, the DEP finds that the person responsible for
 conducting the remediation failed to comply with any applicable
 timeframe, administrative consent order, or any law, rule, or
 regulation concerning site remediation.
 The bill makes certain changes to the definition of the term
 "remediation," used in various existing site remediation laws. The

bill also adds a definition for the term "retained" in the "Site
Remediation Reform Act," P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-1 et seq.), and

9 makes consistent the use of that term throughout that law.

10 The bill deletes various references in the site remediation laws to11 the term "memorandum of agreement."

SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3682

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 17, 2019

The Senate Environment and Energy Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 3682, with committee amendments.

This bill, as amended by the committee, would make various changes to the laws governing the remediation of contaminated sites and licensed site remediation professionals (LSRPs).

The bill would require a plaintiff, in any action for damages for personal injuries, wrongful death, or property damage resulting from an alleged act of malpractice or negligence by an LSRP, to provide each defendant with an affidavit of merit. (An affidavit of merit is a sworn statement from an appropriate licensed person stating that there exists a reasonable probability that the care, skill, or knowledge exercised or exhibited in the practice or work that is the subject of the complaint fell outside acceptable professional or occupational standards.) If a plaintiff fails to file an affidavit of merit, the case would be dismissed for failure to state a cause of action.

The bill would authorize the Superior Court and the municipal courts to impose a civil penalty for a violation of the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," to be assessed in accordance with the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

The bill makes several changes to laws governing the establishment of remediation funding sources, and when and how those remediation funding sources may be used, dispersed, and released. The bill provides that a person may establish, as a remediation funding source, a surety bond from an entity that is listed as an acceptable surety on federal bonds in United States Treasury Department Circular 570. The bill also establishes requirements for utilizing a surety bond as a remediation funding source.

The bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to encourage the use of green and sustainable practices during the remediation of a contaminated site. The use of green and sustainable practices would not alter the requirement that the remediation be protective of the public health and safety and of the environment.

Under the bill, a person would not be required to retain an LSRP to conduct sampling or investigation to confirm or evaluate a remediation performed or supervised by a retained LSRP, provided that the sampling or investigation: (1) is not required pursuant to this section or any other law, rule, regulation, or order; (2) is not conducted in order to obtain a response action outcome; and (3) is not conducted in order to investigate, clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or threatened discharge of a contaminant.

Current law requires a person responsible for conducting a remediation to provide written notice of the remediation to the municipality and county in which the contaminated site is located prior to initiating the remedial action. The bill would require that such written notice be provided earlier in the site remediation process – prior to the initiation of the remedial investigation. The bill would also expand the types of documents a person responsible for conducting a remediation is required to provide to a municipality or county, upon request.

The bill would require a person responsible for conducting a remediation to respond to any inquiries from the public regarding the status of the remediation that the person receives or that the DEP receives and forwards to that person. Under the bill, the person's response must include either: (1) information or documents that are responsive to the public inquiry; or (2) a written summary status report for the remediation in a form and manner as determined by the DEP. A person responsible for conducting a remediation would be permitted to designate an LSRP to respond to public inquiries under the bill.

Current law provides that an "immediate environmental concern" includes "confirmed contamination that has migrated into an occupied structure..." The bill would remove the word "occupied," so that the definition reads, in relevant part, "confirmed contamination that has migrated into a structure..." Under existing law, the DEP has established expedited timeframes to address immediate environmental concerns. However, under the bill, no further remediation relative to an immediate environmental concern that affects an unoccupied structure would be required if a person responsible for conducting the remediation provides to the DEP a written certification from the property owner that the building: (1) is not occupied; (2) will not be occupied; and (3) will be demolished.

Under existing law, if an LSRP identifies a condition that, in the LSRP's independent professional judgment, is an immediate environmental concern, then the LSRP must, among other things, immediately verbally advise the person responsible for conducting the remediation of that person's duty to notify the DEP. The bill would require an LSRP to also notify the person responsible for conducting the remediation, in writing, of the person's duty to notify the DEP of the condition.

The bill provides that, if an LSRP who is retained to perform remediation at a site or any portion of a site obtains specific knowledge that a discharge has occurred at any location on the site, the LSRP must notify the person responsible for conducting the remediation and the DEP.

The bill makes certain changes to the licensing requirements for LSRPs. Under current law, an applicant for an LSRP license must demonstrate, among other things, that the applicant has the requisite number of years of full-time professional experience in the field of site remediation, of which five years must have occurred in the State, and at least three years must have occurred in the State immediately prior to submission of the application. The bill would change this requirement to provide that an applicant must have worked at least three years in the State within the five years immediately prior to submission of the application, to account for applicants who may have been absent from work for personal reasons.

Current law specifies the crimes and other offenses that disqualify a person from becoming an LSRP. This bill would expand that list to include any crime involving breach of trust, and any crime or offense that would qualify the person for registration on the State's sex offender registry, or any other crime involving moral turpitude. Under the bill, an applicant for an LSRP license would need to demonstrate that the person has not had a professional certification revoked, and has not surrendered a professional license or professional certification in response to a disciplinary investigation, within the previous 10 years.

The bill provides that a person who is not an LSRP may not perform remediation unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP. The bill specifies that an LSRP, when providing professional services for the remediation of a contaminated site, must apply the rules and regulations adopted by the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board (board), and any other applicable rules and regulations concerning the remediation.

The bill specifies that an LSRP may not certify any document submitted to the DEP unless the LSRP believes that the information in the submission is true, accurate, and complete. The bill would also explicitly prohibit an LSRP from knowingly making any false statement, representation, or certification in any document or information required to be submitted to the DEP or the board.

The bill provides that an LSRP is prohibited from facilitating, aiding, assisting, or cooperating with any person in retaining or arranging for the retention of any person who is not an LSRP to perform remediation, unless the remediation is managed, supervised, or periodically reviewed and evaluated by an LSRP retained for that purpose, and the DEP has been notified of the retention. Additionally, under the bill, an LSRP would be prohibited from managing, supervising, performing, engaging, or participating in a remediation unless: (1) the LSRP has been retained by a person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the DEP has been notified of the

retention; or (2) the remediation is being managed, supervised, or performed by another LSRP retained by the person responsible for conducting the remediation, and the DEP has been notified of the retention of the other LSRP.

The bill requires a person who is issued a remedial action permit for the operation, maintenance, and inspection of engineering or institutional controls and related systems installed as part of a remedial action to retain an LSRP to manage, supervise, or perform the requirements of the permit for the duration of the permit.

Under the bill, if a person responsible for conducting a remediation fails to meet certain conditions, the DEP would not undertake direct oversight of the contaminated site if the person demonstrates, and the DEP finds, that: (1) the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe because the person was unable to enter the contaminated site because the person does not own the property, and the person took all appropriate and timely action to gain access to the site; or (2) the contaminated site is subject to federal oversight, the person has made timely submissions to the DEP, and the person was unable to meet the applicable timeframe due to the performance of additional review by the DEP.

The bill provides that, when a contaminated site is subject to direct oversight, the requirements of direct oversight run with the site, regardless of who owns the property, and regardless of whether there is a transfer of ownership of the property.

The bill authorizes the DEP to modify the requirements of direct oversight if: (1) the person responsible for conducting the remediation demonstrates financial hardship that prevents the performance of the remediation due to the imposition of direct oversight; or (2) there is a public emergency, as declared by the State or federal government, that resulted in a delay in meeting the mandatory or expedited site-specific timeframe or other condition that triggered direct oversight. The DEP would also be authorized to modify the requirements of direct oversight for a contaminated site if the DEP makes a written determination that the modification is in the public interest and protective of the public health and safety and the environment. The DEP would be required to publish its written determination, including the reasons for its determination, on the DEP's Internet website, and solicit and consider public comments on the proposed modification.

The bill also authorizes the DEP, prior to a change in ownership of a contaminated site, to enter into an administrative consent order with the prospective purchaser of the contaminated site providing for the modification of the requirements of direct oversight, with certain exceptions. The DEP would be authorized to reinstate the direct oversight requirements that it modifies under the bill if, after the modification, the DEP finds that the person responsible for conducting the remediation failed to comply with any applicable timeframe, administrative consent order, or any law, rule, or regulation concerning site remediation.

The bill makes certain changes to the definition of the term "remediation," used in various existing site remediation laws. The bill also adds a definition for the term "retained" in the "Site Remediation Reform Act," and makes consistent the use of that term throughout that law.

Lastly, the bill deletes various references in the site remediation laws to the term "memorandum of agreement."

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments to the bill:

(1) revise the definition of the term "remediation" in section 3 of P.L.1983, c.330 (C.13:1K-8) to make it consistent with other laws, by specifying that "remediation" does not include the payment of compensation for damage to, or loss of, natural resources;

(2) provide that a person is not required to retain an LSRP to conduct sampling or investigation to confirm or evaluate a remediation performed or supervised by a retained LSRP, provided that the sampling or investigation: (1) is not required pursuant to this section or any other law, rule, regulation, or order; (2) is not conducted in order to obtain a response action outcome; and (3) is not conducted in order to investigate, clean up, or respond to any known, suspected, or threatened discharge of a contaminant;

(3) specify that a person responsible for conducting a remediation is required to provide to a municipality, upon request, any other workplan, report, or validated data required by the DEP pursuant to law, rule, or regulation;

(4) clarify that a person responsible for conducting a remediation is required to respond to any written or email inquiries from the public regarding the status of the remediation that the person receives, or that the DEP receives and forwards to the person;

(5) specify that the status report that a person responsible for conducting remediation may provide in response to a public inquiry is a written summary status report;

(6) amend the definition of the term "immediate environmental concern" in section 2 of P.L.2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-2) to provide that it includes "confirmed contamination that has migrated into a structure or a confined space...";

(7) remove language providing that a person can be disqualified from becoming an LSRP for "offenses" involving moral turpitude, and instead provide that a person can be disqualified only for "crimes" involving moral turpitude;

(8) specify that a person may be disqualified from becoming an LSRP if a professional certification is revoked within the previous 10 years, as opposed to any certification;

(9) provide that, when the DEP, pursuant to the bill, modifies the requirement of direct oversight due to a public emergency, that public emergency does not need to be the result of a natural disaster;

(10) provide that the DEP may not enter into a pre-purchaser administrative consent order to modify the requirements of direct oversight with any person who: (a) has discharged a hazardous substance at the contaminated site, is in any way responsible for a hazardous substance at the site, or is otherwise liable for cleanup and removal costs at the site, (b) has owned or operated the contaminated site, or (c) is a predecessor, successor, subsidiary, partner, shareholder, assign, trustee in bankruptcy, responsible corporate official, or receiver appointed pursuant to a proceeding in law or equity, to any person described in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above; and

(11) make technical corrections to the bill.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

08/23/2019

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

TRENTON – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills and resolutions into law:

A3118 (Burzichelli, Schepisi, Jasey/Bucco, Thompson) - Establishes licensure for master hearth specialists.

A4420 (Holley/Scutari) - Modifies certain fees charged by check casher licensees.

A4482 (Verrelli, Murphy, Downey/Greenstein) - Establishes "Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence Against Persons with Developmental Disabilities" in DHS.

A5293 (Pinkin, Zwicker, Lopez, McKeon/Smith, Bateman, Greenstein) - Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of contaminated sites.

A5390 (Tucker, Mukherji, Timberlake/Gopal, Oroho) - Provides in-State tuition at public institutions of higher education to individuals living in NJ who are entitled to educational assistance under US Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitations and Employment Program.

S499 (Vitale, Madden/Downey, Houghtaling, Zwicker) - Provides for improved system for eligibility determination for Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare.

Copy of Statement on S499

S785 (Sarlo, Lagana/Calabrese, Mukherji) - Requires Police Training Commission to develop supplemental training course for certain county corrections officers.

S1014 (Rice/Wimberly, Mukherji) - Changes composition of State Employment and Training Commission.

S1126 (Bucco, Doherty, Bucco/Coughlin, Webber) - Requires public school districts to provide instruction on "New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act" as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

S1403 (Diegnan, Singleton/DeAngelo, Mazzeo, Sumter) - Permits service credit transferred from another Stateadministered retirement system to apply toward creditable service requirement for retirement in SPRS.

S1887 (Singleton, Greenstein/DeAngelo, Wirths, Space) - Directs Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development to establish pilot program to assist certain unemployed and underemployed individuals to complete industry-valued Credentials in 12 months.

S1948 (Vitale/Quijano, Holley, Lopez) - Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.

S2507 (Singleton, Pou/Danielsen, DeCroce) - Prohibits sale or lease of access to certain dental provider network contracts.

S2538 (Singleton, Pennacchio/Kean, Murphy, DeCroce, Armato) - Makes New Jersey National Guard members with NGB-22 form eligible for certain veterans' benefits.

S2660 (Gopal, Sarlo/Downey, Houghtaling, Schaer) - Establishes grant program and tuition reimbursement program for certain teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; appropriates \$5 million to DOE.

Copy of Statement on S2660

S2690 (Ruiz, Cryan, Beach, Turner, Andrzejczak/McKeon, Dancer, Land) - Prohibits pharmacy benefits managers and carriers from engaging in "clawback" and "gag clause" practices; requires certain disclosures by pharmacists; requires Director of Division of Consumer Affairs to conduct public information campaign.

S2691 (Kean, Cunningham/Quijano, Vainieri Huttle, Reynolds-Jackson) - Makes supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 to Commission on Human Trafficking.

Copy of Statement on S2691

S3100 (Weinberg, Addiego/Benson, Vainieri Huttle, Mukherji) - Revises definition of hemophilia and expands hemophilia treatment program.

SJR73 (Singleton/Murphy, Verrelli, Dancer) - Urges U.S. Congress to pass "Military Hunger Prevention Act."

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bills:

A3717 (Mukherji, Downey, Houghtaling/Greenstein, Gopal) - Prohibits pharmacy benefits managers from making certain retroactive reductions in claims payments to pharmacies; requires pharmacy benefits managers to disclose certain product information to pharmacies.

Copy of Statement on A3717

A5363 (Burzichelli, Benson, Murphy/Gopal) - Requires carriers that offer health benefits plans to provide new or existing subscribers with notification of certain hospital and health system contract expirations.

Copy of Statement on A5363

S834 (Scutari, Greenstein/Jones, Pintor Marin) - Prohibits resale of non-prescription diabetes test devices by pharmacists.

Copy of Statement on S834

S2804 (Ruiz, Turner/Lopez, McKnight, Verrelli) - Requires young children entering public schools or Head Start Programs for first time to have comprehensive eye examination completed.

Copy of Statement on S2804

S3075 (Weinberg, Ruiz/Lampitt, Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle) - Requires DOH to regulate and license embryo storage facilities.

Copy of Statement on S3075

S3309 (Vitale, Greenstein/Greenwald, Pintor Marin, Reynolds-Jackson) - Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.

Copy of Statement on S3309

S3330 (Addiego, Singleton/Jones, Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt, Murphy) - Establishes pilot program in DCF to study impact of child care services provided by community providers operating in public school facilities; requires community providers to meet certain criteria.

Copy of Statement on S3330

S3661 (Singleton, Oroho/Jasey, Wirths, Webber) - Clarifies assessment payment and election participation requirements in planned real estate developments.

Copy of Statement on S3661

Governor Murphy absolute vetoed the following bills and resolutions:

A4135 (Land, Taliaferro/Sweeney, Andrzejczak) - Concerns use of digital parking meters to monitor parking compliance; establishes fund to encourage designated drivers.

Copy of Statement on A4135

AJR158 (Houghtaling, Downey, Mosquera/Gopal) - Establishes New Jersey Task Force on Medicaid Financial

Resource Limits.

Copy of Statement on AJR158

S1364 (Andrzejczak/Land, Milam) - Provides funding from the General Fund to the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority; appropriates \$4 million.

Copy of Statement on S1364