

## Article 10. Seismic Hazards Mapping

### § 3720. Purpose.

These regulations shall govern the exercise of city, county and state agency responsibilities to identify and map seismic hazard zones and to mitigate seismic hazards to protect public health and safety in accordance with the provisions of the Public Resources Code, section 2690 et seq. (Seismic Hazards Mapping Act or “SHMA”).

#### NOTE

*Authority cited: Section 2695, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 2695(a)(1) and (3)-(5), Public Resources Code.*

### § 3721. Definitions.

[No change to text.]

#### NOTE

*Authority cited: Section 2695, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 2690-26969.6, Public Resources Code.*

### § 3722. Requirements for Mapping Seismic Hazard Zones.

(a) The Department of Conservation, ~~Division of Mines and Geology~~ California Geological Survey (CGS), shall prepare one or more State-wide probabilistic ground shaking maps for a suitably defined reference soil column. One of the maps shall show ground shaking levels which have a 10% probability of being exceeded in 50 years. These maps shall be used with the following criteria to define seismic hazard zones:

....

#### NOTE

*Authority cited: Section 2695, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 2695(a)(1), Public Resources Code.*

### § 3724. Specific Criteria for Project Approval.

The following specific criteria for project approval shall apply within seismic hazard zones and shall be used by affected lead agencies in complying with the provisions of the ~~Act~~ SHMA:

....

(b) The geotechnical report shall be prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist, having competence in the field of seismic hazard evaluation and mitigation. The geotechnical report shall contain site-specific evaluations of the seismic hazard(s) affecting the project, and shall identify portions of the project site containing seismic hazards. The report shall also identify off-site seismic hazards that could adversely affect the site in the event of an earthquake. The contents of the geotechnical report shall include, but shall not be limited, the following:

....

(4) Recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures as required in section 3724-(a), above.

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*NOTE*

*Authority cited: Section 2695, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 2695(a)(3)(A), (B), and (C), Public Resources Code.*

**§ 3725.** Waivers of Geotechnical Report Requirements.

For a specific project, the lead agency may determine that the geological and geotechnical conditions at the site are such that public safety is adequately protected and no mitigation is required. This finding shall be based on a report presenting evaluations of sites in the immediate vicinity having similar geologic and geotechnical characteristics. The report shall be prepared by a certified engineering geologist or registered civil engineer, having competence in the field of seismic hazard evaluation and mitigation. The lead agency shall review submitted reports in the same manner as in section 3724(c) of this article. The lead agency shall also provide a written commentary that addresses the report conclusions and the justification for applying the conclusions contained in the report to the project site. When the lead agency makes such a finding, it may waive the requirement of a geotechnical report for the project. All such waivers shall be recorded with the county recorder and a separate copy, together with the report and the commentary, filed with the State Geologist within 30 days of the waiver.

*NOTE*

*Authority cited: Section 2695, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 2697(a)(5), Public Resources Code.*