Memorandum

Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Construction DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEF, Structure Construction CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS SENIOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS RESIDENT ENGINEERS

From:

RAMON HOPKINS, Chief Division of Construction Date: April 17, 2024

File: Division of Construction CPD 24-3

Subject: MANDATORY VALLEY FEVER AWARENESS TRAINING FOR 2024

This directive reminds Caltrans Construction field employees who work in Valley Fever endemic counties that the annual Valley Fever awareness training must be completed for the year 2024 by June 1, 2024. Caltrans' Division of Construction recommends that all field employees, including those who do not work in Valley Fever endemic counties, take the training. This directive supersedes Construction Procedure Directive 23-2, "Mandatory Valley Fever Awareness Training for 2023."

California Labor Code Section 6709 requires construction employers to provide Valley Fever awareness training to all employees who work at job sites in endemic counties by May 1, 2020, and annually thereafter. Training must be provided before employees begin work that could cause substantial dust disturbance. Substantial dust disturbance creates airborne dust that is visible longer than one hour on any day. Counties are declared highly endemic if the annual case rate of Valley Fever is greater than 20 cases per 100,000 persons in a year. Currently, those counties are Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Monterey, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura. If a county is added to the state Department of Public Health list, the mandatory training will not apply in the initial year of that county's listing; however, the mandatory training will apply to employers in that county in the year after the county is listed as highly endemic.

Online training developed by Caltrans' Office of Health and Safety can be found at:

https://hs.onramp.dot.ca.gov/valley-fever-awareness-online-training

Click on *Access the Valley Fever Awareness Online Training* at the bottom of the page to begin the training. Use Microsoft Edge as the browser to watch the training video. At the end of the 22-minute video, a certificate of completion template is provided, which can be saved or printed as a PDF file. Employees and their supervisors must sign and date the certificate, which becomes part of the employee's training record. Do not use

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the LinkedIn Learning version, which does not generate a certificate of completion.

This training may be taken before registering for the training in the learning management system (LMS). To record this training in LMS, you may self-certify to record the session in LMS. The self-certification instructions are posted at:

https://hs.onramp.dot.ca.gov/downloads/hs/files/VFA-Online-Training-Self-Certifyrev.pdf

The CT LMS Training Coordinator mentioned in the instructions is your district construction training coordinator. The list of statewide Construction training coordinators is provided on Onramp:

https://construction.onramp.dot.ca.gov/administrative-training-support/constructiontraining-coordinators

To record your training for 30 minutes of work time into your timesheet, enter the following: Unit: Yours, Project: Yours, Phase: N, Reporting Code: G101974, and Sub Object: 059.

Supervisors must make sure that their employees who take the training sign the certificate of training by June 15. This will satisfy the requirement of the mandatory annual training of this year. However, the Health and Safety intranet site will continue to provide the on-demand training to be taken at any time. A reminder to take the mandatory annual training will be sent before May 1 of next year, and the LMS may send an autogenerated reminder.

If you have questions or comments regarding this directive, contact Sunil Repaka, Division of Construction, at <u>Sunil.Repaka@dot.ca.gov</u> or (916) 764-8809.