

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-60

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF
INYO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING COUNTY POLICY
IMPLEMENTING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S ALQUIST-PRIOLO
EARTHQUAKE FAULT ZONING ACT**

WHEREAS, the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (California Public Resources Code Chapter 7.5, Division 2, Section 2621 et. seq.) was signed into law on December 22, 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act requires the County to demonstrate that proposed buildings will not be constructed across active faults before a project can be permitted; and

WHEREAS, project sites located within "Earthquake Fault Zones," as designated by the California State Geologist, must be evaluated and a written report for the specific site must be prepared by a California-registered geologist; and

WHEREAS, if an active fault is found, a structure for human occupancy cannot be placed over the trace of the fault and must be setback from the fault; and

WHEREAS, geologic reports prepared for a project applicant must also be subject to independent peer review by the County; and

WHEREAS, completed reports must be approved by the County and submitted to the California Division of Mines and Geology for review; and

WHEREAS, the County of Inyo adopted Resolution #95-22 implementing the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act on May 2, 1995; and

WHEREAS, the County of Inyo now seeks to rescind Resolution #95-22 and clarify the County of Inyo policies for implementing the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, specifically the exemptions provided for under that Act.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Inyo County Board of Supervisors hereby orders as follows:

- 1.) Resolution #95-22 is hereby rescinded.
- 2.) Inyo County's policy for implementing the State of California's Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act is that as stated in the attached amended Exhibit A.
- 3.) Inyo County's Alquist-Priolo policies are only applicable to the regulatory zones established according to California Public Resources Code by the California State Geologist.

4.) Applicants for development projects are responsible for all costs associated with the implementation of the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act and the County of Inyo's Policy Implementing the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of December, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Arcularius, Cash, Brown, Fortney and Cervantes
NOES: -0-
ABSTAIN: -0-
ABSENT: -0-


Richard Cervantes, Chairperson
Inyo County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

KEVIN CARRUNCHIO
Clerk of the Board

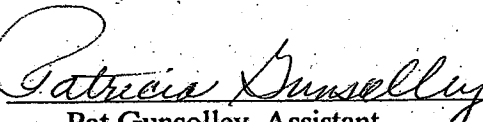
By 
Pat Gunsolley, Assistant

EXHIBIT "A"

THE COUNTY OF INYO'S POLICY IMPLEMENTING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S ALQUIST-PRIOLO EARTHQUAKE FAULT ZONING ACT

A.) Investigations and Report Standards: The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act allow counties to establish policies and criteria for implementing the Act. This includes setting specific investigations and report standards. Generally, fault-rupture hazard investigations and associated reports need to follow the guidelines outlined in Division of Mines and Geology Note 49 entitled "Guidelines for Evaluating the Hazard of Surface Fault Rupture" and Appendix C of Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42 entitled "Guidelines for Evaluating the Hazard of Surface Fault Rupture."

The policies outlined in this standard procedure are intended to adopt and implement the State guidelines provided for in the Act.

1. Trenches and/or other exposures in Quaternary alluvium must provide subsurface coverage for that portion of the project proposed within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.
2. In determining the amount of subsurface coverage provided by widely spaced trenches and/or other exposures in Holocene alluvium, a 5 degree "factor of safety" will be used based on the overall trend of the principal faulting. Subsurface data (trench coverage or fault location) should not be extrapolated more than 600 feet beyond a trench without additional surface or subsurface information. Where an echelon faulting or other complex structure is suspected, 600 feet may not be sufficient.
3. The County Geologist shall be notified at least two days in advance as to where and when trenching will take place. Failure to notify the County Geologist could result in the need to re-excavate trenches.
4. Trenches excavated in Holocene-age alluvium should be a minimum depth of 10 feet. In pre-Holocene materials, trenches must be excavated to a reasonable depth to adequately expose faulting.
5. For non-critical facilities, a minimum 50-foot setback for human occupancy structures from active faulting is required. Greater setbacks may be appropriate from poorly defined faulting or complex faulting such as low angle and thrust faulting as recommended by the County Geologist.
6. If active faulting is suspected within 500 feet beyond the end of a trench, a 50-foot setback from the end of the trench will be considered appropriate.
7. A potentially active fault is a Quaternary fault with unknown Holocene activity. For purposes of establishing minimum building setbacks, a potentially active fault shall be treated the same as an active fault. If it can be demonstrated that no surface ground rupture has occurred along a fault during all of the Holocene, the

fault should be designated as “not active.” There are no minimum building setbacks for faults designated as not active. However, the potential for sympathetic movement along the fault must be addressed.

8. Principal faulting encountered in the trenches should be staked. Fault laths should be surveyed or tied to a recoverable monument. Trench locations can be tied to a recoverable point. Building setback lines must be tied to a surveyed point.
9. Fault location and/or building setbacks must be shown on a plat contained within the report and on the grading plan and composite development plan. The direction (azimuth) and setback distance of the building setback line must be specified.
10. Trench logs should be completed on each trench. The logs must be a reasonable graphic representation of the subsurface conditions encountered in the trenches, show the topographic profile and be at an undistorted scale no smaller than 1 inch equals 10 feet. Trench logs should show distances along trench, depth and direction of trench and/or identify which trench wall was logged. The strike and dip of faulting and prominent fracturing should be shown.
11. The determined or estimated age of faulted and unfaulted materials exposed in the trenches should be discussed in the written report.
12. Conclusions based solely on geophysical investigation methods are unacceptable. Geophysical methods alone never prove the absence of a fault nor do they identify the recency of activity.
13. It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify that a development lies outside of the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone in cases where the exact boundary of the zone with respect to proposed structures is in question.
14. The applicant is responsible for hiring a California-registered geologist to conduct the required geologic study.
15. The applicant is responsible for paying all costs associated with report preparation and peer review conducted by the County.
16. The Board of Supervisors shall be notified each time a County peer review of a required geologic study is conducted.
17. The applicant is responsible for the preparation and finding of any waiver from the Alquist-Priolo Act requested from the California State Geologist.

B.) Exceptions to the Act: Per California Public Resources Code Section 2621.6 and Section 2621.7 of Appendix “A” to the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, the following shall be exempt from the requirements of the Act:

- 1.) Single-family wood-frame or steel-frame dwellings to be build on parcels of land for which geologic reports have been approved pursuant to paragraph 1 of Section 2621.6(a) of the Act.
- 2.) A single-family wood-frame or steel-frame dwelling not exceeding two stories when that dwelling is not part of a development of four or more dwellings.
- 3.) A mobilehome whose body width exceeds eight feet shall be considered to be a single-family wood-frame dwelling not exceeding two stories.
- 4.) The conversion of an existing apartment complex into a condominium.

- 5.) Any development or structure in existence prior to May 4, 1975, except for an alteration or addition to a structure that exceeds the value limit specified subdivision (c) of Section 2621.7 of the Act.
- 6.) An alteration or addition to any structure if the value of the alteration or addition does not exceed 50 percent of the value of the structure.
- 7.) Alterations which include seismic retrofitting, as defined in Section 8894.2 of the Government Code, and applied to any of the specified types of buildings specified in Section 2621.7(e)(1) of the Act.