



### Types of Targets

- Mixed-Use Residential and Commercial Developments
- Affordable Housing
- Utility-Scale Solar Plants
- Seawater Desalination
- Health Care Facilities
- Dams for Water Storage
- Distribution Warehouses

### Hot Spots for Abuse

- Redding
- Sacramento and Davis
- Oakland
- San Jose (8 cases from 2013 through 2017 - wow.)
- Silicon Valley and East Bay (esp. I-680 & Hwy 4)
- Monterey County
- Desert Regions
- Los Angeles/Long Beach
- Inland Empire Cities
- Downtown San Diego

### How Can I Fight It?

Contact Eric Christen at California Alliance for a Cleaner Tomorrow, Inc.  
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## Union Abuse of CEQA and California Environmental Laws: As Brazen As Ever

Most Californians don't know that unions abuse the state's environmental protection laws for reasons that have nothing to do with protecting the environment.

Unions exploit laws such as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA - pronounced Sea-Qua) to squeeze job monopolies and financial payouts from their victims: private developers and local governments.

According to [www.phonyuniontreehuggers.com](http://www.phonyuniontreehuggers.com), a watchdog group for environmental permit extortion, construction trade unions have used environmental laws 92 times since 2014 against proposed construction projects in California.

The list available at [www.phonyuniontreehuggers.com](http://www.phonyuniontreehuggers.com) includes links to primary source documents showing how unions object to environmental reviews required under state law.



## “Greenmail” - CEQA Abuse Code Word

Under California law, groups and individuals can assert that the environmental review of a proposed project fails to comply with the law or is inadequate or incomplete.

Union officials often hire a law firm to submit massive objections to the environmental review at each stage of the process. Meanwhile, union officials and their lawyers pressure the developer to sign a **Project Labor Agreement** that gives unions control of the construction work.



The message from unions is clear: sign the Project Labor Agreement or we'll try to block the project and force you to waste years and millions of dollars dealing with us in court. It's called greenmail - using environmental laws to force economic concessions out of developers and public agencies.

## Frustrated by This Racket? What Can YOU Do to Fight Union Greenmail?



Unions try to hide their greenmail because it is shameful and undermines the credibility of the state's environmental laws. It is hard to portray yourselves as “leaders in the community” when your leadership consists of extorting other community leaders! It needs to remain a secret.

### Five Things CACTI Does for YOU

1. **Expose hidden construction union abuses of environmental laws using indisputable primary source documents.**
2. **Inform news media about the REAL agenda behind union environmental front groups.**
3. **Publicize legislative and regulatory policies that could restrain the problem.**
4. **Encourage targets and victims of greenmail to fight back instead of wringing their hands behind closed doors.**
5. **Develop and implement creative responses to ongoing environmental permit extortion.**

One day CACTI also wants to expose rampant abuse of environmental laws by unions outside of the construction trades, such as grocery worker unions, nurses unions, and service employee unions.

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**REAL reform of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) means challenging the standing of labor unions that object on environmental grounds to a proposed project or activity with the ulterior motive of extracting something of economic value from the public or a private owner.**