

ALABAMA DRYCLEANING ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE  
TRUST ADVISORY BOARD RATE SCHEDULE AND  
GUIDANCE ON PREPARATION OF COST PROPOSALS AND PAYMENT REQUESTS

Effective March 1, 2024

The Alabama Drycleaning Environmental Response Trust Advisory Board (Board) Rate Schedule has been prepared to provide owners or operators and Approved Drycleaner Environmental Consultants (ADEC) with the maximum allowable fees and rates for certain common items used for environmental investigation and remediation. The enclosed list includes typical items for which the Board has established maximum allowable rates. Costs for the scope of work required by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) will be evaluated through the Cost Proposal and Payment Request process and approval and reimbursement will be based on the maximum rates shown in the attached table. The rates listed in the attached table are effective March 1, 2024. All Cost Proposals submitted after March 1, 2024 are eligible for funding using the new rates. **If a Cost Proposal was pre-approved at the prior rates, the Payment Request should be submitted with the rates that were approved at the time the Cost Proposal was authorized.**

For some activities, the ADEC may be able to charge lower rates than those listed on the attached table. In this situation, the ADEC should only charge the actual cost of conducting that activity.

Drycleaning Environmental Response Trust Fund activities should not be charged at a higher rate than would be typically charged at a non-Fund site. The Board will only reimburse actual expenses and proper documentation must be submitted with the payment request in order to receive reimbursement.

Please note the brief description of the following Alabama Drycleaning Environmental Response Trust Advisory Board policies and procedures:

#### Eligibility of Releases

The Alabama Drycleaning Environmental Response Trust Fund only covers drycleaning agents associated with a drycleaning facility or wholesale distribution facility that has been determined to be eligible for participation in the Trust Fund. No payment shall be made from the Fund for costs incurred prior to May 24, 2000.

#### Cost Proposals

A cost proposal must be submitted with the cost for performing site activities required and approved by ADEM. In order to receive reimbursement for site costs, the cost proposals shall be pre-approved by the Board based on the ADEM approved workplan for investigation, assessment, or remediation of the site. The Board will review the proposed costs and will issue a letter of approval to the owner or operator. In order for a Cost Proposal to be considered at a Board meeting, the signed Cost Proposal must be received at the Board office before the deadline posted on the Board's website. Electronic submittals are acceptable as long as submitted to [randy@alstateboard.com](mailto:randy@alstateboard.com) before the posted deadline. **Submittal of Cost Proposals to other email addresses will not be considered received before the deadline. Cost Proposals received after the Board's deadline will not be accepted.**

Authorization of costs under a Cost Proposal is not a project budget. Each section of approved cost is approved based on unit rates, time and materials to complete the Scope of Work required by ADEM. If the entire Scope of Work is not performed or if out-of-scope activities (not required by

ADEM) are performed, the Board expects that the final costs submitted for payment represent the actual required work that was performed, which is less than authorized.

The amount of an authorized Cost Proposal is the maximum reimbursable amount, unless an addendum is requested and approved. If pricing from a vendor varies from the amount authorized, the ADEC must submit an addendum to be reimbursed for any amount over the original authorized amount.

### Cost Proposal Addendum

Where the owner/operator requests an increase in the scope of work and wishes to have those costs covered under the Trust Fund, a cost proposal addendum may be requested to cover additional work tasks or unforeseen site circumstances. The ADEC should notify the appropriate ADEM Project Manager immediately and request an addendum to modify the workplan and submit a cost proposal addendum to the Board. The Board will review the increase in proposed costs associated with the ADEM approved revised workplan and issue a letter of approval to the owner or operator. Any Cost Proposal addendum must be received at the Board office before the deadline posted on the Board's website.

### Payment Requests

Payment Requests must be submitted on or before the quarterly Board deadline for the quarter in which the Cost Proposal will be one year old. (For example, if a Cost Proposal is approved in February 2024, the Payment Request must be received by the Board Deadline in January 2025 for consideration at the February 2025 Board meeting). If the Payment Request cannot be submitted, the owner or the retained Alabama Drycleaning Environmental Consultant (ADEC) must submit a written request for extension to the Board Engineer. An extension will be granted until the following quarter (approximately 3 months). No more than two extensions will be granted, at which point the work covered under the approved Cost Proposal will not be eligible for reimbursement. All requests for extension must be in writing to the Board Engineer with rationale for the extension. Failure to obtain an extension will result in denial of Payment Requests that are greater than one year old. Electronic submittals are acceptable as long as submitted to [randy@alstateboard.com](mailto:randy@alstateboard.com) before the posted deadline. **Submittal of Payment Requests to other email addresses will not be considered received before the deadline.**

Timesheets or other adequate detailed labor documentation must be submitted with the payment request. Often, Cost Proposals are approved with a budget for items that do not have published reasonable rates (for example, office supplies, shipping, well sampling materials, etc.). In order to be reimbursed for any item that does not have a Board approved Reasonable Rate, the Payment Request must include a copy of the actual invoices or receipts for the items. If an invoice or receipt is not included, the item cannot be reimbursed, even though a budget was authorized for the items.

The Board needs an updated Form W-9 each year before the Responsible party can receive a payment from the fund. A copy of the form is available on the Board website.

### Pass Through

Consistent with the ADEM Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund, the Alabama Drycleaner Board will reimburse a maximum 10% on pass through items, with the exception of corrective action system

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purchase and installation, and construction associated with remediation (i.e. excavation and soil disposal).

### Mileage Costs

Please include the current Federal Mileage Rate in the Cost Proposals and Payment Requests.

### Drilling Costs

If drilling cannot be performed for the rates pre-approved by the Board, the ADEC must obtain three quotes for alternate pricing. Alternate pricing for drilling must be approved in the Cost Proposal, and not adjusted for the Payment Request.

### IDW Cost

Three quotes are required for management of Investigation Derived Waste. If three quotes cannot be obtained, ADECs shall submit documentation of non-response from waste management vendors. Costs shall be presented as Disposal/Treatment Cost, Stop Charge, and Transportation Costs. Any applicable surcharges shall be presented as part of the unit rate. If applicable, submit costs for management as hazardous and non-hazardous waste. All quotes must be less than 90 days old and should be valid for 180 days.

### Cost Proposal and Payment Request Forms

The Board has developed Cost Proposal (CP) and Payment Request (PR) forms that are available on the Board website [www.drycleaningtrustfund.alabama.gov](http://www.drycleaningtrustfund.alabama.gov).

Two original signed forms are required to be submitted to the Board office at the following address:

Alabama Drycleaning Environmental Response Trust Advisory Board  
Attention: Board Engineer  
2777 Zelda Road  
Montgomery, Alabama 36106

One electronic copy of the CP and PR forms shall be submitted to the Board Engineer at [acousins@acessllc.com](mailto:acousins@acessllc.com). Submission of the electronic copies are allowed but must be submitted to [randy@alstateboard.com](mailto:randy@alstateboard.com). **Submission to other email addresses will not be considered received by the Board office.** Please note that Cost Proposal and Payment Request forms shall not be altered or modified. Please contact the Board Engineer at [acousins@acessllc.com](mailto:acousins@acessllc.com) should there be an issue with the forms that won't allow the ADEC to accurately represent the costs to be considered.