



## **Designing for the Future: Climate Risk, Legal Exposure, and a New Tool to Build Resilience in Practice**

Thank you for viewing the AIA Trust Week 2025 webinar presented by Yvonne Castillo, Director of Risk Advisory, Victor Insurance Managers, LLC & Dom McGough, Senior Managing Consultant, Marsh Advisory. Please send your completed quiz to [aiatrust@aia.org](mailto:aiatrust@aia.org) with your member number to receive 1.5 AIA HSW learning units.

1. Which of the following best explains why climate change is a present, not future, concern for the built environment?
  - A. Global warming has reached 1.5°C, a warming level of concern by scientists, and each fraction of a degree adds significant physical risk.
  - B. Most infrastructure was built after 2020 using future-focused codes.
  - C. Greenhouse gas emissions peaked in 1990 and have been declining ever since.
  - D. Courts do not consider climate change data relevant to professional liability.
2. In negligence claims involving architects, what do courts primarily assess?
  - A. Whether the design was the most innovative available.
  - B. Whether the professional acted as a reasonable architect would, in the same situation, at the same time, and in the same location.
  - C. Whether the project was completed under budget.
  - D. Whether codes and regulations were followed, regardless of changing risks.
3. What key principle did the court emphasize in *Barnett v. City of Yonkers* regarding an architect's liability for emerging risks?
  - A. Architects are always liable when their projects involve materials later found to be hazardous.
  - B. Courts assess whether risks were known or reasonably discoverable at the time of design and construction.
  - C. Liability depends only on whether the project complied with codes in place at the time.
  - D. Courts will excuse liability if an architect relied on contractors to select materials.
4. What was the key takeaway from *Save the Colorado v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* regarding climate impacts on infrastructure projects?
  - A. Courts will ignore climate change impacts if codes do not address them.
  - B. Courts, depending on the jurisdiction, may expect design and construction stakeholders to quantify and model foreseeable future climate impacts in project development and feasibility decision-making.
  - C. Projects in Colorado are exempt from federal climate requirements.
  - D. The Corps was correct in relying only on current hydrology without future projections.

5. Which of the following best reflects the 3-step framework for architects when addressing climate risks?
  - A. Follow only minimum code requirements, reduce project costs, and rely on insurance.
  - B. Use climate science projection tools/data, exercise reasonable professional judgment, and integrate evolving codes and standards.
  - C. Focus on client preferences, ignore projections beyond 2030, and minimize liability clauses.
  - D. Defer all climate risk assessments to government agencies and regulators.
6. In climate scenarios, what does “RCP” stand for?
  - A. Retrospective Carbon Policy
  - B. Relative Climate Pathway
  - C. Realistic Climate Projection
  - D. Representative Concentration Pathway
7. What climate models are used to generate future climate scenarios?
  - A. General Circulation Model
  - B. General Climate Model
  - C. Global Climate Framework
8. RCP8.5 is a climate scenario with more emissions reductions than RCP2.6.
  - A. True
  - B. False
9. Climate models can’t differentiate between different types of flooding.
  - A. True
  - B. False
10. In peril modelling, what is a vulnerability function?
  - A. A way of modelling uncertainty of perils
  - B. A function that turns peril severity into asset damage
  - C. A way of combining two or more perils