Unified Program Newsletter – June 2023

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CalEPA

CUPA GIS Project

CERS Information Updates Needed

After the completion of the CUPA GIS Project, it has been brought to CalEPA's attention that outdated UPA contact information and bad websites were included on the CUPA Boundary Zone Lookup Tool. This information was pulled from CERS System during the development of the CUPA GIS Project. It is highly recommended that UPAs review their CERS contact information to ensure everything is current and accurate. Updates can be made by following the instructions provided here. The CUPA Boundary Zone Lookup will next be updated after the July Newsletter to reflect changes in CERS. (https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2019/06/How-to-Update-Regulator-Directory-Information-in-CERS.pdf)

California Fire Code Implementation

The California Fire Code (CFC) is one of the six Unified Program elements. CFC implementation in this context is limited to the Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) and Hazardous Material Inventory Statement (HMIS), which are met by the submission of a Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP). State law recognizes the need to ensure that first responders have the information they need to safely respond to emergencies. Because UPAs review and approve the inventory within CERS all agencies implementing the HMBP program are listed as implemented CFC on the GIS Map.

If you still have questions about the CUPA GIS Project or just want to learn more information and are looking for quick answers, be sure to check out the Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQ](https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cupagis/cupa-gis-project-faqs/)) associated with the project.
(https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cupagis/cupa-gis-project-faqs/)

CERS

California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) – Technical Support Delays

The CERS Technical team is available to assist if you are experiencing technical problems accessing CERS or receiving error when using CERS. The CERS Technical Support can be reached at cers@calepa.ca.gov. Typically, our response time is 2-10 business days. However, due to current resource constraints and a number of high priority projects, we have accumulated a backlog. We are actively working on clearing the backlog and your requests are important to us. If you have not heard back from a CERS team member within 10 business days, please feel free to send a follow up. We thank you for your understanding and we apologize for the delays.

California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) – Protecting Your CERS Account

Our data is a valuable asset and we all play an important role in protecting it. Below are ways you can do your part to keep your CERS account and data secured:

- **Don't share your account credentials**– All CERS users are required to have an individual username and password. CERS does not allow for general or shared accounts. CalEPA will never ask you for your password over the phone or via email.
- **Create a strong password** – When creating a strong password, password length is more important than password complexity (using numbers, symbols, upper and lower cases). A 7-character passwords with uppercase and lowercase letters, and numbers can be cracked in .29 milliseconds. A 12-character password with similar complexity would take 2 centuries.
- **Avoid using public information** – Avoid passwords that includes names, birthdays, pet's name, and other publicly known information.
- **Avoid patterns or phrases** – Don't use easy to guess patterns for your password like "123456Abcdefgi" or easy to guess passphrase like "Letmein."
- **Monitor account activity** – Accounts that aren't very active and closely monitored are ideal targets for hackers. If they are able to gain access to these accounts, it is less likely their malicious activities will be noticed and stopped. Sign in every 3-6 months to keep your account active and check your account history log occasionally for suspicious login or activities.
- **Don't hesitate** – If you suspect your account may be compromised, don't hesitate to report the account to CERS@calepa.ca.gov. It is important that you report possibly compromised accounts immediately. This allows the CERS Technical Support Team to take steps to secure the data and begin our investigation and remediation.

Thank you for doing your part in protecting our data!

CalARP

Process Safety Performance Indicators for California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program 4 Facilities

The Process Safety Performance Indicators for CalARP Program 4 facilities are due to the Unified Program Agency (UPA) and to CalEPA by June 30, 2023. Facilities may submit the Process Safety Performance Indicators information to the CalARP@calepa.ca.gov inbox. Facilities may use the Annual CalARP Process Safety Performance Indicator Form, or can submit the equivalent information required by 19 CCR Section 2762.16(h)(1) subsections (A) through (E). Information regarding the requirements and access to the form can also be found on our website.
(https://calepa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/06/Annual-Process-Safety-Performance-Indicator-Form-Fillable-Template-06.30.22.pdf)
(https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I2C69005C5BE511EC98C8000D3A7C4BC3?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default))
(https://calepa.ca.gov/california-accidental-release-prevention/california-accidental-release-prevention-program-4-for-refineries/)

References or links to information cited in this newsletter are subject to change. CalEPA is interested in your comments and suggestions regarding the Unified Program monthly newsletter. Please email your comments and suggestions to: cupa@calepa.ca.gov.

CalEPA Unified Program Home Page