

Unified Program Newsletter – April 2025

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CalEPA

CERS NextGen

CERS NextGen Hazardous Materials Inventory - Working Group

Developing mixture library for data entry

Members Needed!

Kick-off

4/29/25 Tuesday 10-12pm

Teams Meeting

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 286 924 444 094

Passcode: aA2Zf74v

CERS

CERS Stale User Account Deletion

A California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) regulator or business user account that has been inactive for one or more years is considered a stale account.

Air Resources Board • Department of Pesticide Regulation • Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery • Department of Toxic Substances Control • Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment • State Water Resources Control Board • Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Stale accounts pose a security risk as each account offers a malicious actor opportunity to gain access to CERS. To comply with CalEPA's Information Security policies, any CERS account with no login activity within one year will be disabled and removed. This includes first responder and other government account types.

CalEPA will be sending email notifications to users with no recent login activities prompting them to log-in. Please ensure users provided access to CERS who have not logged into CERS within the last year, log in **before** May 2, 2025, to prevent impacts to user access. Please note, this is related to user accounts. Facility records are not impacted, however users whose account have been disabled and removed will lose access to their facility record.

UPAs shall continue CERS access procedures remain in place per CCR, Title 27 as follows:

- Section 15180(e)(4), requiring established written procedures for providing HMRRP information to emergency response personnel and other appropriate government entities in accordance with HSC Section 25504(c); and
- Sections 15185(f) and 15100(b)(2)(B)(i)(c), requiring access to the information collected in CERS to be provided to local information management systems, and to agencies with shared responsibilities for protection of the public health and safety and the environment.

CalARP

Annual Unified Program Training Conference Outline

The California Accidental Release Program (CalARP) Unit has published a training outline as a guide for inspectors to attend courses at the Annual Unified Program Training Conference based on their level of expertise. This outline was developed by the CalARP Track Coordinators to assist inspectors at various levels of expertise to further their knowledge and skills.

The CalARP training outline for the 27th California Unified Program Annual Training Conference can be found at: <https://calepa.ca.gov/california-accidental-release-prevention/training-opportunities/>.

If you have any questions regarding the CalARP Training Opportunities, please contact CalEPA CalARP@calepa.ca.gov.

DTSC

SAVE THE DATE - DTSC Office of Policy Public Workshop

DTSC invites you to attend the 2025 Office of Policy Regulation Priorities Public Workshop on April 30, 2025. The Office of Policy will present a summary and update of

rulemaking packages being developed. The following rulemaking packages will be discussed:

- Plant Waste Exclusion
- Airbag Rule
- Pharmaceuticals Rule
- Manifest Exemption
- Industrial Ethyl Alcohol Exemption
- E-Manifest Third Rule
- Adoption of Various K-listed Wastes
- Remediation of Manufactured Gas Plant Facilities

The webinar will be held virtually over Zoom on **Wednesday, April 30, 2025, from 10:00AM to 12:00PM PST**. Zoom information will be provided over email in the coming weeks.

Please contact alexa.rindy@dtsc.ca.gov to be included in upcoming emails regarding this workshop.

CUPA Training and Assistance Unit: What's Next for 2025 and Beyond?

As we gear up for this year, the CUPA Training and Assistance Unit (CUPA TA) is proud to reflect on our achievements and share our future plans with our dedicated partners and stakeholders. Comprised of three trainers, two inspectors, and a supervisor, the CUPA TA is actively engaging in collaborative efforts to enhance training and support for California Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs).

Key Achievements and Milestones

We are proudly presenting the achievements marked by significant milestones that reflect our ongoing commitment to training and assistance:

1. Collaborative Partnerships: We have established strong partnerships with various CUPAs, laying the groundwork for enhanced cooperation and resource-sharing.
2. Generator Improvements Rule Training: Our team successfully delivered training courses on the Generator Improvements Rule.
3. Tiny Topic Training Program: The launch of our Tiny Topic Training program has proven to be a hit, providing targeted training sessions for specific issues.
4. Training Needs Assessment (TNA): We are moving forward with the analysis of the TNA for CUPA, ensuring that our training offerings align with the actual needs of our stakeholders.

In addition to these initiatives, the CUPA TA has been actively providing technical assistance to CUPAs, participating in various CUPAs meetings, serving as inspectors for DTSC, and supporting the Toxics Packaging Clearing House.

Upcoming Environmental Sampling for Enforcement Training

We have scheduled two major hand-on training courses on Environmental Sampling for Enforcement:

1. The Northern California training session is scheduled for May 14, 2025, at the DTSC Cal Center office located at 8800 Cal Center Dr. Sacramento, California. This training course is full. The session is at capacity. You can contact us if you wish to be on the waiting list. DTSC_CUPATrainers@dtsc.ca.gov.
2. The Southern California training session is scheduled for September 17, 2025, at the DTSC Chatsworth office located at 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, California. Due to the interactive nature of the training, spaces are limited to just 30 participants. Please contact us if you would like to participate via email at DTSC_CUPATrainers@dtsc.ca.gov.

Tiny Topic Trainings

Our Tiny Topic mini training sessions have successfully covered the following topics:

1. 10x and 20x “Rules”
2. Tiered Permitting – Financial Assurance

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue our collaboration with CUPAs and present additional Tiny Topic Trainings at the technical meetings. Upcoming topics requested by CUPAs include:

1. Used Oil Definition
2. Speculative Accumulation
3. Hazardous Waste Tracking System

Insights from the Training Needs Assessment (TNA)

The TNA process has yielded valuable insights based on two key data sets, including:

1. Identification of deficiencies in the Final Summary of Findings from CUPA evaluations.
2. Combination of CUPA requests for training, both from ‘wish lists’ and surveys.

Note that topics already covered or scheduled for the 2025 California Unified Program Annual Training Conference, like Tiered Permitting, were moved down the priority list.

According to the TNA findings, the prioritized top five trainings need are as follows:

1. Hazardous Waste Generator Inspection
2. Transporter Inspections
3. Return to Compliance and Corrective Action

4. Tank Assessments and Requirements
5. Used Oil

We remain committed to flexibility in our TNA results prioritization, responding to the needs of emerging topics as they arise. If you have suggestions for additional training topics, we encourage your input to ensure our offerings align with the evolving environmental regulations and standards. See our email address below.

In addition, are you interested in co-presenting any of the above topics? We would like to partner with CUPA staff and to continue to build strong collaborative partnerships. Please contact us at DTSC_CUPATrainers@dtsc.ca.gov.

CUPA TA is seeking collaborative partnership with CUPA staff who are interested in co-presenting any of the priority topics listed above. If successful, these training courses may even be presented at the 2026 California Unified Program Annual Training Conference in San Diego, California.

As we continue our work, we appreciate the continued support and collaboration of our CUPA partners. Looking forward to continuing building a strong collaborative partnership. DTSC_CUPATrainers@dtsc.ca.gov.

Virtual Training: Hazardous Waste Sampling and Lab Results Interpretation

Open to all regulators

Do you know how to approach waste sampling—when to sample, what to collect, and common pitfalls to avoid?

Do you find laboratory data challenging to navigate, demystify or verify?

Not sure when TTLC results trigger leachate testing or how to interpret QA/QC flags?

Whether you're overseeing sampling yourself or reviewing results submitted by a facility, this session will help you ask the right questions, spot red flags, and make informed compliance decisions.

Join us for a focused session designed to help **regulators** build confidence in evaluating hazardous waste sampling plans and interpreting laboratory data.

Date: Thursday, May 8, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Where: Online — a meeting link will be shared after registration is confirmed.

Presented by: DTSC's CUPA Training and Assistance Unit

Audience: This session is intended for CUPA and other regulatory agency staff.

Industry partners: Stay tuned. A separate session will be offered soon.

Sign up here: <https://dtsc-ca.gov.zoom.us/join/ReD5L2NRmu3UTfbMQ7APg>

If you have questions about the training, feel free to contact us at [DTSC CUPATrainers@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:CUPATrainers@dtsc.ca.gov).

Email Directory

The Business Operations Unit (BOU) of DTSC's Hazardous Waste Management Program processes applications for hazardous waste ID numbers and registers hazardous waste transporters. They also handle Biennial Reports and Annual Facility Reports. Additionally, answer questions about the Hazardous Waste Tracking System and the RCRAInfo system. For an email directory, go to <https://hwts.dtsc.ca.gov/contact-us> and share it with your stakeholders.

Inactivation of ID Numbers Due to Noncompletion of DTSC's 2025 Hazardous Waste ID Number Verification Questionnaire

Hazardous waste handlers must fill out the 2025 electronic Verification Questionnaire (eVQ), which was due by March 31, 2025. Hazardous waste handlers that didn't complete their eVQ by April 7, 2025, had their ID number(s) deactivated on April 8, 2025. The deactivation date was recorded as if it happened on December 31, 2024. If a handler has not completed their eVQ, direct them to the information below. Inactive IDs can easily be reactivated in Step 3 of the questionnaire. The eVQ System will remain open until May 30, 2025, at 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time, to accept late submissions.

- ▷ **Website:** <https://evq.dtsc.ca.gov>
- ▷ **Training Video:** <https://dtsc.ca.gov/evq-training-video/>
- ▷ **Email:** eVQ@dtsc.ca.gov

Toll-free Number: 1-877-454-4012 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cal FIRE OSFM

Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS)

On March 12, 2025, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and Department of the Army announced a joint memorandum issuing guidance on “continuous surface connection” regarding the WOTUS definition. The guidance is consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court’s May 25, 2023, decision in the case of *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency*. For more information, visit the U.S. EPA website at <https://www.epa.gov/wotus>.

The WOTUS definition impacts Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) tank facilities that are subject to the Federal Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) rule per Health and Safety Code, Section 25270.3(a). These tank facilities store more than 1,320 gallons of oil (including at least 55 gallons of APSA petroleum) and have a potential threat of discharge to navigable waters of the U.S. or adjoining shoreline.

Professional Engineer Certification

Question: Where can information related to the license status of California professional engineers (PE) be found?

Answer: The licensing for a PE in California is under the jurisdiction of the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board). You may search for the license status of a California PE by visiting the Board's website at https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/consumers/lic_lookup.shtml. You may also contact the Board at 1-866-780-5370 (toll free) if there have been any complaints or disciplinary actions taken against the PE's license.

Unified Program Agencies (UPA) and tank facility owners/operators are encouraged to utilize and follow the Board's complaint process, as necessary, which may be found on the Board's website at https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/consumers/complaint_licensee.shtml.

Additionally, the Board's consumer guide posted on their website at <https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/pubs/index.shtml> provides information on professional engineering services, including when a license is required or not required, licensed engineer's seal and signature requirements, etc.

U.S. EPA information on PE certification of SPCC Plans and applying a PE's seal may be found at <https://www.epa.gov/oil-spills-prevention-and-preparedness-regulations/pe-certification-and-applying-pes-seal>.

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](#)