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## Unified Program Newsletter – January 2018

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### **CalEPA**

#### **CalEPA’s Upcoming Basic Inspector Academy (BIA)**

The BIA is a free, three-day training class open to state, local, and tribal environmental enforcement staff. BIA gives environmental inspectors across California the core skills necessary to conduct thorough, effective inspections to implement environmental programs. The training is conducted by a team of instructors from the CalEPA boards, departments and office (BDOs), as well as a local environmental attorney. BIA helps to ensure all environmental agencies take consistent, effective, and coordinated compliance and enforcement actions. For information about the BIA and the schedule through June 2018, see the BIA Flyer (PDF). Inspectors must register through CARB’s training website.

#### **CERS Bookmarks and Favorites**

As 2018 begins, CalEPA would like to request all CERS users to update existing internet “favorites” and “bookmarks” weblinks for CERS Central and Unified Program webpages. As the website host has changed for these CalEPA internet resources, previously used internet “favorites” and “bookmarks” may link to webpages that are no longer available or to webpages that no longer contain accurate information. To ensure quick access to the correct webpages, please refresh internet “favorites” and “bookmarks” to reference the following weblinks:

CERS Central: <https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/>  
Unified Program: <https://calepa.ca.gov/cupa/>

## CERS Regulator and Business Account Management

CalEPA requests each Regulator and Business ‘Lead User’ to review and manage the ‘People’ associated with each CERS account. CalEPA recommends that each CERS user account be deleted if the user is no longer with the agency/organization or no longer has a need to access CERS. The following instructions are provided to assist “Lead Users” with the deletion of a CERS user account:

Local Regulator Lead Users:

- 1) Sign into the CERS Regulator Portal: <https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/3>
- 2) Select the Regulators tab
- 3) Review ‘People’
- 4) Select the user account to be deleted.
- 5) Select ‘Delete’
- 6) Select ‘Confirm’

The screenshot displays the CERS Regulator portal interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the title "CERS Regulator" and several menu items: "Submittals", "Facilities", "Businesses", "Regulators", "Compliance", "Responders", and "Reports". A timer shows 50 minutes and 46 seconds. Below the navigation bar, the current page is identified as "Regulator: California Environmental Protection Agency (Unified Program)". The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar contains a list of menu items: "Summary", "People", "Action Required", "Compliance", "Notifications", "Documents", "Directory Info", "Local Requirements", "Non-Regulated Facilities", "Geographic Data", "Email History", and "EDT". The main panel displays the "Summary" for the selected regulator, including sections for "General" (Name, UPA Type, Short Name, Abbreviated Name, County), "Address / Contact" (Address, Phone, Fax, Public Contact Email, Web Site, Public Reporting Portal Url), and "Related Regulators". A blue arrow points from the "People" tab in the sidebar to the "People" section at the bottom of the main panel, which includes an "Add Person" button.

Business Lead Users:

- 1) Sign into the CERS Business Portal: <https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/>
- 2) Select 'People/Users' icon
- 3) Select the user account to be deleted.
- 4) Select 'Delete'
- 5) Select 'Confirm'



## **State Water Board**

### **Underground Storage Tank Leak Prevention Semiannual Report**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) in collaboration with the State Water Board, has prepared the first California Underground Storage Tank (UST) Leak Prevention: Semiannual Report (EPA Semiannual Report) using data collected between January and June of 2017 from CERS and the California GeoTracker database. The use of electronic data sources such as CERS and Geotracker have enabled an increased scope and accuracy for the new EPA semiannual report.

This EPA Semiannual Report was prepared to help those involved in the operation and regulation of USTs gain a broader perspective of the UST Leak Prevention Program, and how having the best available information in CERS can be used to guide and improve California's UST Leak Prevention program. The EPA Semiannual Report can be found at

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/adm\\_notices/cal\\_ust\\_rpt\\_jan\\_jun2017.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/adm_notices/cal_ust_rpt_jan_jun2017.pdf)

### **Proposed Changes to Underground Storage Tank Regulations**

The State Water Board proposes to amend California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 (commencing with section 2610) (California UST Regulations) to make the California UST Regulations at least as stringent as part 280 of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (Federal UST Regulations). These proposed amendments are administrative and technical in nature and impose new design and construction, monitoring, notification, testing, inspecting, recordkeeping, training, and reporting requirements. The proposed amendments also include more stringent requirements which are necessary to implement chapter 6.7 of division 20 of the Health and Safety

Code and modifies certain existing California UST Regulations to be consistent with the Federal UST Regulations.

The 45-day public comment period for the proposed Title 23 regulations ended on January 2, 2018. State Water Board staff is currently reviewing the comments received and preparing responses for the rulemaking record. Based on the comments received and necessary revisions to the proposed regulations or the Initial Statement of Reasons, an additional comment period (either 15-day or 45-day) may be necessary. The proposed rulemaking package is available at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ust/adm\\_notices/fed\\_rec\\_regs](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/fed_rec_regs). If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Cory Hootman at (916) 341-5668 or by email at [cory.hootman@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cory.hootman@waterboards.ca.gov).

## **DTSC**

### **Permit by Rule and Conditional Authorization Tier Permitting Facilities Must Adjust Closure Cost Estimates for Inflation by March 1, 2018**

Financial assurance is required for tier permitting facilities that are under the permit by rule (PBR) and conditional authorization (CA) tiers. Closure cost estimates are required as part of the closure plans under PBR and CA. Adjusted closure costs are estimated by multiplying the current cost estimate and the estimated inflation factor.

The inflation factor in a closure plan's closure cost estimate and a facility's financial assurance mechanism should be calculated using the values provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) at <https://www.bea.gov/iTable/iTable.cfm?reqid=19&step=2#reqid=19&step=3&isuri=1&1921=survey&1903=13>.

PBR and CA facilities are required to adjust closure cost estimates for inflation by March 1<sup>st</sup> of every year (California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 67450.13). Because the inflation factor for the full 2017 year will not be available until the end of March, 2018, DTSC recommends using a ratio of the third quarter inflation factor for the past two years to estimate the 2018 inflation factor.

As provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA in Line 27 of "Table 1.1.9. Implicit Price Deflators for Gross Domestic Product (A)(Q)" of "Section 1- Domestic Product and Income," the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter inflation factor for 2017 is 113.692 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter inflation factor for 2016 is 111.72. The estimated inflation factor for 2018 is 1.018, derived as follows:

Estimated inflation factor for 2018	=	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter inflation factor for 2017	÷	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter inflation factor for 2016
1.018		113.692		111.721

**CalEPA is interested in your comments and suggestions regarding the Unified Program monthly newsletter. Please provide your comments and suggestions to: [cupa@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:cupa@calepa.ca.gov).**