

Unified Program Newsletter – August 2024

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CalEPA

27th Annual CUPA Conference – SAVE THE DATE AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Annual California Unified Program Training Conference will be March 24- thru 27, 2025, in Anaheim, CA (Marriott, 700 West Convention Way)!

We invite speakers to submit CUPA-2025 Presentation Abstracts by September 15, 2024. Presentations should relate to the Unified Program, including hazardous waste management, hazardous materials disclosure, accidental release prevention, underground and aboveground storage tanks, and other relevant topics such as:

- Innovative programs or initiatives
- California Fire Code topics
- Professional development
- Enforcement skills
- Emergency response or mutual aid
- Site mitigation and security
- Government management or leadership
- Toxicology and laboratory support
- Risk communication
- Technology
- Natural disaster case studies

Sessions are educational and not for sales purposes. Selected presentations may be recorded for the CUPA LMS for ongoing training. Abstracts will be reviewed for relevance, significance, and alignment with the conference theme. **Prospective speakers will be notified by October 31, 2024.**

Important: Speaker biographies must be submitted and approved before submitting an Abstract. If you have been an approved speaker in the past two years, your bio is already in the system so you may proceed to submit an Abstract. To update your bio, contact the CUPA Team.

NOTE: You will be notified via email about the status of submitted Abstracts. Once an Abstract is approved, we will automatically register all approved speakers for the Conference for the day of your Presentation. Please be aware that days and times may be adjusted to avoid scheduling conflicts.

For more information on the Unified Program, visit the [CUPA Forum website](#) or [CalEPA's website](#).
(<https://www.calcupa.org/>)
(<https://calepa.ca.gov/cupa/>)

CalARP/HMBP

California Code of Regulations (CCR)

CalEPA has published a PDF copy of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) to our website for both the Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) regulations and for the California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) regulations.

Please use the links below to access the PDFs:

- [HMBP regulations \(CCR, Title 19, Division 5, Chapter 1\)](#)
(<https://calepa.ca.gov/hazardous-materials-business-plan-program/hazardous-materials-business-plan-resources/#:~:text=HMBP%20Regulations,19%2C%20Chapter%201>)
- [CalARP regulations \(CCR, Title 19, Division 5, Chapter 2\)](#)
(<https://calepa.ca.gov/california-accidental-release-prevention/california-accidental-release-prevention-program-resources/#:~:text=CalARP%20Regulations,19%2C%20Chapter%202>)

For questions, please contact Elizabeth Brega at Elizabeth.Brega@calepa.ca.gov.

DTSC

DTSC Online Reference Library

The DTSC Online Reference Library (DORY) has been updated to improve search functionality. The new version went live in mid-July. This database contains historical and recent documents that have been written in response to questions regarding

hazardous waste identification, management, and recycling. The library can be found at <https://dtsc.ca.gov/dory/>.

HWPlan Unit Virtual Workshops

The DTSC Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWPlan) Unit is hosting a series of virtual workshops on a range of topics from August through November 2024. Ten workshops are being developed to provide on-going public education and encourage continued collaboration with numerous interested groups during development of the Hazardous Waste Management Plan. Workshop topics are based on public feedback and will provide additional information related to the development of the Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The first workshop is scheduled for August 7th.

Workshop dates and topics are subject to change. Please visit our [HWPlan Workshop](#) page for upcoming workshop details and topics. You may also [join our E-list](#) to be notified by email for all HWPlan updates.

(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/hwplan-workshops/>)

(<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/GIQKxw5/hwplan>)

We look forward to hosting the workshops and your continued participation.

DTSC's 2024 Electronic Verification Questionnaire Report Cycle

DTSC's 2024 Hazardous Waste ID Number Verification Questionnaire report cycle opened on July 9, 2024. The Verification Questionnaire is completed through the [electronic Verification Questionnaire \(eVQ\) System](#). Initial notifications to ID number holders required to complete the questionnaire are sent out in staggered dates throughout July and August to allow the Business Operations Unit to support the influx of telephone and email inquiries generated from the notifications. Please note, the 2024 eVQ cycle will be the last cycle where eVQ is launched in the summer. Beginning in 2025, the eVQ report cycle will be launched in the first quarter of each year.

(<https://evq.dtsc.ca.gov/Home.aspx>)

If you receive any questions from your stakeholders regarding the questionnaire, refer them to the information below.

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 to Friday from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Pacific Time

DTSC Additional Updates on the Generator Improvements Rule (GIR)

Last month's newsletter provided the announcement of the GIR which went into effect on July 1, 2024. Some additional updates follow:

- Small Quantity Generators (SQGs) of hazardous waste in California are reminded of the upcoming re-notification deadline on **September 1, 2024** ([22 CCR 66262.18](#)).

([https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I30616C600E4811EF9020EE63989CF81A?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I30616C600E4811EF9020EE63989CF81A?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default)))

As per the GIR, SQGs must re-notify the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of their hazardous waste activities every four years using [EPA Form 8700-12](#).
(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/hazardous-waste-id-forms-and-publications/>)

This requirement is essential for maintaining accurate data for compliance and oversight purposes. California is an authorized state, meaning EPA has given California the legal authority to implement federal regulations such as the newly adopted GIR provisions, with the expectation that our regulations are not less stringent than federal regulations. The state regulations **supersede** federal regulations, meaning that SQGs do not need to re-notify on [September 1, 2025](#).

(<https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/re-notification-requirement-small-quantity-generators>)

- Tentative CUPA Training and Assistance Unit GIR Virtual presentation dates for CUPAs: 10/2/2024, 10/17/2024 – details soon

Friendly reminder about useful GIR related links:

- [GIR information webpage](#)
(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/generator-improvements-rule/>)
- [GIR rulemaking webpage](#)
(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/regs/gir/>)
- [Regulatory crosswalk](#)
(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2024/06/DTSC-Crosswalk-Generator-Improvements-Rule-6.4.2024-2.pdf>)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#) answers to questions CUPAs may have regarding GIR
(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/faqs-for-the-adoption-of-gir/>)
- [Quick Reference Guide \(QRG\)](#) template and instructions (towards the top of the GIR information webpage, look for the 'template' link) - note that the QRG is a new requirement for individual large quantity generators to have succinct information available for emergency responders in the event they need to be called out to address an emergency
(<https://dtsc.ca.gov/generator-improvements-rule/>)

Cal FIRE OSFM

Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Program Q&A

Question: Does APSA provide Unified Program Agencies (UPA) the authority to approve facility Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans?

Answer: No. UPAs routinely review SPCC Plans as part of their inspection process. However, there is no requirement in APSA for UPAs to approve SPCC Plans, nor does APSA provide authority to UPAs for SPCC Plan approval.

Question: Does APSA provide UPAs the authority to require specific changes to the facility SPCC Plan?

Answer: No. However, if the SPCC Plan is missing required content, or if the SPCC Plan has not been fully implemented, then the UPA may cite the facility with relevant violation(s) under APSA. Specific changes or amendments to the SPCC Plan are the responsibility of the tank facility owner or operator.

Question: Does APSA provide UPAs the authority to review or approve plans for the installation, modification, repair, closure or removal of aboveground storage tanks (AST) from a facility?

Answer: No. Building standards code authority and enforcement are not provided to UPAs under APSA.

The California Fire Code (CFC) has specific requirements for the installation, modification or repair, closure and removal of aboveground tanks. The local authority having jurisdiction or fire code official generally enforces the fire code within their respective jurisdiction. State-owned buildings, specified state-occupied buildings, and state Institutions are under the authority of the CAL FIRE-Office of the State Fire Marshal.

There are other requirements related to the removal and/or closure of aboveground tanks. An owner or operator of an AST is required to comply with the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22, Chapter 32, Management of Tanks.

Note: The Federal SPCC rule requires an SPCC Plan amendment when there is a change in the facility design, construction, operation, or maintenance that materially affects its potential for a discharge. AST installation, modification, repair, closure, or removal represent changes that may require an SPCC Plan amendment.

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](#)