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California Environmental Protection Agency

Violation Library Update

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) has deemed it necessary to delay the publishing of the revised California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) Violation Library, which was scheduled to be published on May 1, 2016. The new publishing date of the revised CERS Violation Library will be June 1, 2016.

The decision to delay publishing of the Library is due to problems discovered with the “track change” version of the Library, which is the document used to update the Library in CERS. CalEPA is working to fix these problems. Please contact Kareem Taylor at (916) 327-9557 or kareem.taylor@calepa.ca.gov if you have any questions or concerns.

New Evaluation Process

CalEPA is concluding the beta testing of the new evaluation process with the Fremont Fire Department, Orange County Environmental Health, and Roseville City Fire Department Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA). The new evaluation process is commencing this month with the evaluations of Hayward City Fire Department and Santa Rosa City Fire Department CUPAs. CalEPA sent formal evaluation letters to both CUPAs in April 2016. The webinar training for the new evaluation process will be scheduled soon.

New Online Complaint System

In April 2016, CalEPA launched an online tool that makes it easier for the public to report environmental problems anywhere in California from their smartphones, tablets, and computers.

The new website takes the user through the process of reporting an environmental problem, whether it's related to air or water pollution, hazardous or solid waste, or pesticides. The system can identify the user's location using GPS and allows them to upload photo, video, and other documentation of the suspected hazard. The website is available in English and Spanish.

When a report is submitted, it is routed to the appropriate state or local agencies. CalEPA, along with its boards and departments, works with more than 400 state and local agencies to enforce environmental laws and regulations. If users provide an email address, they will receive an update when their complaint is referred and again when the complaint is closed. Users can also file anonymous reports.

The new website serves as an early warning system, alerting enforcement agencies of potential environmental violations, and providing witness accounts and documentation for investigations. This helps CalEPA and our partners at the local level address and resolve issues earlier, before they become bigger problems.

How does the online complaint system affect a CUPA? Environmental complaint reports will be routed to the appropriate CUPA via email. A CUPA receiving environmental complaints must address those complaints that are within their jurisdiction. Addressing complaints includes, but is not limited to, the receipt, investigation, enforcement, and closure of a complaint. The CUPA should report complaint findings using the online complaint system website.

To access the online complaint system, please use the link <https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/>

For more information about the online complaint system, please use the link <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/PressRoom/Releases/2016/EnvProblems.htm> to access the April 21, 2016 press release "New Online System Launched to Help Californians Report Environmental Problems."

Interagency Refinery Task Force

The Interagency Refinery Task Force had been engaged in their areas of emphasis regarding Safety and Prevention, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Enforcement Coordination, and Community Involvement.

Highlights include the final pre-regulatory activities of amendments to California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) and Process Safety Management regulations addressing Safety and Prevention; and revisions to CalARP Emergency Response Program and Area Plan regulations pertaining to Emergency Preparedness and Response.

The formal rulemaking process for both of those packages will begin shortly.

CERS Tips and Tricks

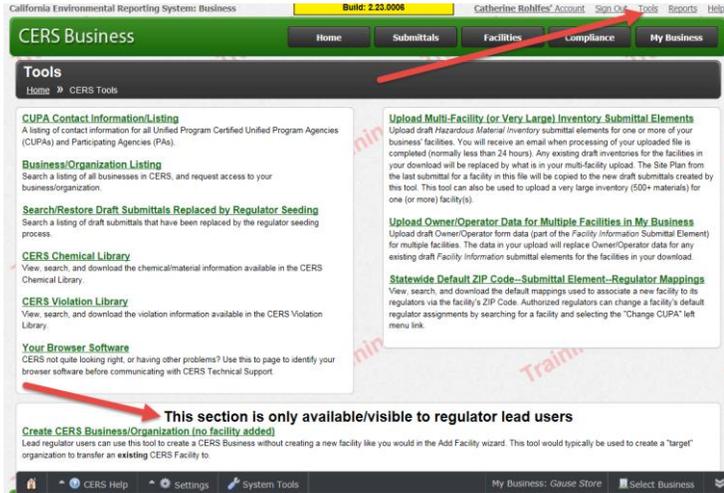
Included are helpful explanations and resolutions regarding current issues recently received by CERS technical support team. If you have questions or concerns, please email CERS at cers@calepa.ca.gov.

How to create a CERS Business/Organization for a facility that was transferred to the wrong organization?

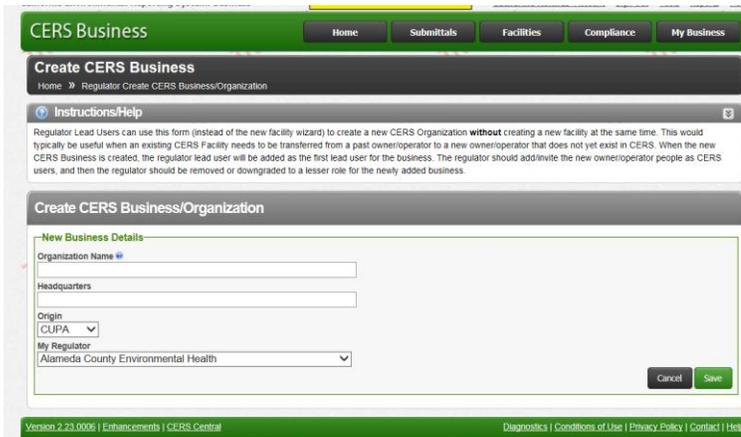
This process must be completed by a CERS Regulator and requires the use of the Business Portal and Regulator Portal.

CERS Business Portal

- “Home” page; select the “Tools” link. (Located in the upper right-hand corner of each page.)



- Select the “Create CERS Business/Organization (no facility added)” link. Please Note: *This link will only be visible to Regulator “Lead Users”.*
- Enter the Business Organization name, city/state of business’ headquarters, and ensure the “Origin” field displays “CUPA” and “My Regulator” field displays the correct regulatory agency. (These fields should already be set by default.)



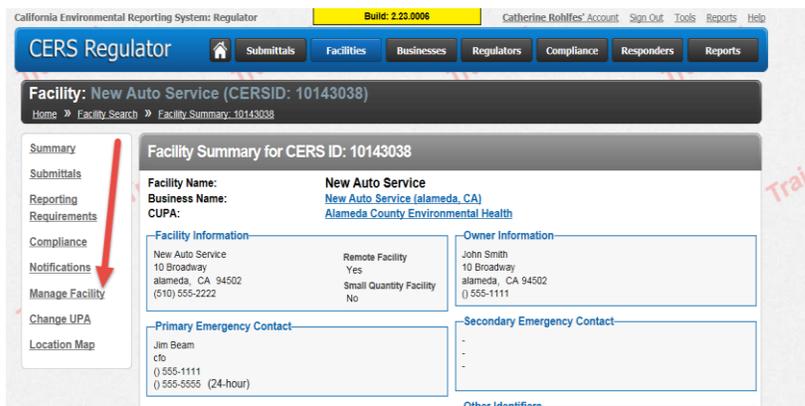
- Select the “Save”
- Select the “People” link, from the sub-menu on the left-hand side of the “Business Summary” page.
- Select the “Add Person” button from the “People” section header bar.



- Enter the e-mail address, phone number and title of the business user that is being added and select the “Continue”
- Select checkbox next to one or more available options, under the “Permission Group” column.
- Select “Save” to add the new user, with the selected permissions, to the Business Organization.

CERS Regulator Portal

- Select ‘Manage Facilities’ link, from the menu on the left-hand side of the “Facility Summary” page. This will allow the inactive facility to be transferred into Business Organization.



- Select Transfer Facility to Another Business
- Select Business Organization

- Select 'Search CERS Organizations'

- Enter "Comments" it is helpful to note why the inactive facility is being transferred in order to become active again.
- Select the 'check mark' on statement 'Transfer Past Submittals' (and any current drafts) to New Business/Organization.
- Select "Confirm"

Department of Toxic Substances Control

New EPA national website on Hazardous Waste- much improved from old website!

Hazardous Waste Webpage

- ORCR launched the new [hazardous waste website!](#)
- New and updated features include:
 - Improved organization and website navigation, providing a cohesive picture of the cradle-to-grave hazardous waste management system
 - An emphasis on EPA's current initiatives and program priorities
 - Easy-to-find regulations and guidance
 - Searchable tables of listed hazardous wastes
 - Added graphics that help visualize processes

State Water Resources Control Board

Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action

As previously noted in the April 2016 UST Program Update, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has issued a Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action to amend California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 to clarify or make specific the method of reporting for existing reporting requirements. Specifically, the proposed amendments define whether existing reporting requirements are to be submitted electronically to the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) or GeoTracker, or if they may be submitted via other means, such as U.S. mail, email, fax, or hand delivery.

The 45-day public comment period for the proposed regulatory action began on Friday, March 25, 2016 and ends at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

The Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action to amend California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 is available at: <http://www.oal.ca.gov/res/docs/pdf/notice/13z-2016.pdf>

The proposed rulemaking package is available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/comments/index.shtml

Additional information and resources related to the proposed emergency regulation are provided on the State Water Board's Underground Storage Tank (UST) Leak Prevention webpage: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/elect_rpt_regs/

For more information, please contact Gabriel Herrera at gabriel.herrera@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 319-9128.

Informational Workshop on Permanent Closure of Single-Walled USTs May 17 in Redding

The State Water Board will be holding an informational workshop to discuss the permanent closure of single-walled USTs in Redding on May 17, 2016. UST Leak Prevention Program staff will discuss in detail the design and construction requirements, as well as the closure requirements, imposed by Senate Bill 445 (Stats. 2014, Ch. 547). Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks (RUST) Program staff will discuss loan and grant funding opportunities available to assist eligible small business owners/operators to meet the single-walled UST removal requirement. Lastly, UST Cleanup Fund staff will present information regarding cleanup funds available to assist eligible owners/operators with cleaning up petroleum-related contamination from the UST.

The workshop is from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 in the Community Room of the Redding Library, 1100 Parkview Avenue, Redding, California 96001. See attached document.

U.S. EPA Requirements for Piping Now in Effect

On April 12, 2016, updated federal requirements went into effect for UST product piping. All piping, except safe suction piping, installed or replaced after April 11, 2016 must be secondarily contained and interstitially monitored. The State Water Board created a notification to UST owners/operators explaining the new requirements. The notification can be found at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/tech_notices/docs/sc_im.pdf.

For more information, please contact Cory Hootman at cory.hootman@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5668.

U.S. EPA Guidance on Field-Constructed USTs and Airport Hydrant Systems

The U.S. EPA has published finalized requirements and guidance on Field-Constructed USTs and Airport Hydrant Systems. The document can be found on the U.S. EPA Office of Underground Storage Tanks website at: <https://www.epa.gov/ust/requirements-field-constructed-tanks-and-airport-hydrant-systems>. Shortly, the State Water Board will reach out to those Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs) who have these specialty facilities to discuss compliance strategies.

U.S. EPA CUPA/PA Data Study

The U.S. EPA has released a final version of its study analyzing 2014-2015 UST data for 82 CUPAs and 10 Participating Agencies (PAs). The study looked at inspection rates, Significant Operational Compliance rates, CERS implementation progress, and estimated permit revenues. Significant variability was found for each area of the study. The study can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/ca_ust_cupa_pa_datastudy.pdf.

March 2016 Quarterly UST Status Report

The March 2016 Quarterly UST Status Report was submitted to the U.S. EPA April 11, 2016 and posted to our website at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/adm_notices/updates/index.shtml. The report outlines the status, by CUPA, of the effort to enter UST related business and compliance, monitoring, and enforcement (CME) data into the CERS. The report shows continued progress by many CUPAs. A new goal (goal 4) was added to the report last quarter to provide an indication of the quality of the reported data. Goal 4 is determined by a recent evaluation of the CUPA by the State Water Board. The report shows 24 CUPAs now meet all three of the EPA goals, up from 19 in the previous quarter. Eight of those additionally meet the new goal 4.

Please contact Dan Firth at daniel.firth@calepa.ca.gov if you have any questions.

Revised CERS FAQs Posted

The CERS FAQ titled, "Reporting BOE Numbers" has been updated to reflect new information. The updated FAQ contains a revised blanket BOE number for non-petroleum USTs. Please note that UST owners must update their BOE number, if applicable, with their next UST submittal, but no later than their next routine annual compliance inspection.

The CERS FAQ titled, "Creating a Valid Report 6 from CERS" has been updated to indicate how CERS calculates counts of Hazardous Substance Systems. A typographical error regarding temporary closure has also been corrected.

The FAQs can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/cers/faqs.shtml.

For more information, please contact Gabriel Herrera at gabriel.herrera@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 319-9128.