

CERS Regulator User Group Agenda & Phone Conference Information

October 9, 2012 8:30-10:00am

Just prior to the meeting, please:

1. Sign into the web conference at <http://www.readytalk.com> using Participant Access Code: **4556812**
2. Call the phone conference number at (866) 618-7124 and provide passcode: **8228723**
3. Mute/unmute your phone by pressing: *6

Conference call reservation information is distributed via the [user group's listserv](#). If you did not receive a message from the listserv, please contact Cathie Gause at: cgause@calepa.ca.gov

Agenda

Welcome

Review Agenda (5 minutes: Barbara Houghton)

Review minutes from August meeting (5 minutes: Barbara Houghton)

- Action Item Update
 - [Enhancement #12](#) – Emergency Responders: Search, Facility Hazard Details and Location Maps. See Page 3.
 - Ad Hoc Group Study of Enhancement #13. Will be reviewed during Enhancements Discussion.

Enhancement Discussion (45 minutes: Barbara Houghton)

- As requested Enhancements will be reviewed based on ratings conducted this spring. See Page 2 for Enhancements that were ranked highest for initial reviewed.

Wrap Up/Agenda Items for next meeting (5 minutes: CRUG)

Regulator Meeting Adjourned

Question and Answer Session: 9:30-10:00 (30 minutes: Dan Firth and Chris Allen)

Next meeting: October 9, 2012

Attachment #1: Selected CERS Enhancements to review/discuss.

Enhance. No.	Status	Description	No Ranked "High" (out of 21 responses)
14	<i>Scheduled</i>	<p>Regulator Submittal Review: Visual alerts for elements with "Changes" and "Substantive Changes"</p> <p>On Regulator Portal submittal search page, show a "Changed" or "Substantially Changed" icon on submittal elements when compared with last submittal. Clicking on the icon would show an abstract of old/new values for changed fields. On the actual form detail pages, changes between the current and last submittal could be highlighted in some fashion. A somewhat streamlined version of this feature would be implemented for the HMIS/Inventory submittal element (see Enhancement Request #25).</p> <p>Estimated completion during Q1 2013</p>	14
32	Proposed	<p>Owner/Operator Form: Ability to copy some/all data from one facility to one or more additional facilities.</p> <p>Support the ability to copy owner/operator form data from from one facility to one or more additional facilities.</p> <p><u>Estimated Cal/EPA Effort Level:</u> Days to Weeks depending on scope</p>	11
31	Proposed	<p>Report: Print out Portions or the Entirety of a Submittal/Element</p> <p>Cal/EPA implemented printable versions of all individual UPCFs by ~July 2012. Some regulators/businesses have requested the ability to print out all forms/documents in a submittal element and/or submittal. Program issues include: Is this functionality necessary, and for what specific portions of the CERS data set; what format should the output be in; is the desire for an entire submittal, or a single submittal element; do uploaded documents need to be included (and why). Technical issues include: offline processing required for large inventories and/or submittal elements with many documents; generating very large printable reports could use excessive server resources and degrade performance of other more critical CERS functions.</p> <p>Estimated Cal/EPA Effort Level: Weeks to Months depending on scope</p>	11
13 (Reviewed August 2012). Will be discussed by AdHoc Group	<i>Scheduled</i>	<p>Regulator Submittal Review: "One-click" Acceptance of Submittal Elements</p> <p>On the regulator portal submittal search page, add a link on each submittal element (with status "Submitted" or "Under Review") allowing authorized regulators to automatically set the submittal element's status to "Accepted" with just one click. Any other submittal status or comments would require the regulator to select the submittal element and use the "Set Submittal Status" button.</p> <p>Estimated completion during Q1 2013</p>	11
15	Proposed	<p>Implement various enhancements supporting the Submittal Element "Next Due Date" field.</p> <p>CERS2 included a new "Next Due Date" field associated with each submittal element a facility must report on. The field was added by Cal/EPA to support future features such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sending email reminders to businesses with upcoming/overdue facility reports. • Improving the CERS2 business portal interface to more specifically direct users toward submittal elements needing attention. • Reports for regulators to view upcoming/overdue facility reporting. <p>Regulators can already set the "Next Due Date" field manually in two different portions of the Regulator Portal, but the data is not displayed, reportable, or used in any other way right now. Cal/EPA is seeking interest and suggestions from UPAs.</p> <p>Estimated Cal/EPA Effort Level: Weeks+</p>	10

Entire/current CERS Enhancements Listing at <https://cersapps.calepa.ca.gov/Enhancements/>

Attachment #2

Enhancement 12

Firth, Daniel@EPA <Daniel.Firth@calepa.ca.gov>

Thu, Aug 23, 2012 at 11:31 AM

To: Barbara Houghton <barbara.houghton@edcgov.us>, "Huerta, Mike" <MHuerta@buttecounty.net>

Cc: Vince Mendes <VMendes@co.fresno.ca.us>

I can add a bit more: In CERS 1 we included the emergency responder features as they existed in Unidocs and the Cal/EPA technical staff augmented with a Bing Map search feature similar to Google maps. It was not included in CERS 2 initially due to the large amount of staff time necessary to rebuild it in the CERS 2 format and because we received input from an inspector in San Diego requesting the Responder feature be modified to show different information than in the CERS 1 version. Cal/EPA determined to wait to add that feature for several reasons:

1. No recognized statewide fire or emergency response entity had previously accepted or approved the CERS 1 version, AND we had almost zero response from any local agency as to it's value. The Unidocs version was developed based on input from fire agencies in the Santa Clara County Fire Chiefs Association and was very specifically developed for first-in engine companies only, not hazmat responders or inspectors.
2. Because at least one agency felt the CERS 1 version should be modified Cal/EPA wants some appropriate statewide response related entity (State Fire Marshal, CalChiefs, etc) to be involved in any future design/feature. I understand that the CFB Emergency Response TAG has been working on this at some level but am not sure where they are.
3. Any CUPA can give any fire or emergency response agency person access to CERS as a 'viewer' to view all data in CERS.
4. Cal/EPA has been exchanging CERS data with ePlan, a free emergency response website available to any fire agency in California.
5. Information in CERS can also be delivered via EDT to software providers to Fire and Response agencies such as Fire RMS or Fire House. These software vendors would likely be able to customize their software to meet varying needs of their clients. Further, agencies with local web portals may provide their own emergency responder features.
6. There is a sizable up front staff investment to build the features in CERS 2 plus there would be an ongoing investment of staff resources to maintain and update going forward. Cal/EPA is not sure that they have the resources or whether they should use limited resources given the other needs of CERS and the options that might work better for responders in the long run.

The third option implies that emergency response agencies check into ePlan to see if it would meet their needs. The fourth option would require some kind of agreement specifying what data would be available, for whom, limitations and methods of data transfer.

Once the CRUG and CBUG weigh in on this particular option, their recommendations plus the above will be included in the discussions at the Change Management Group and or the Data Steering Committee (the latter as it pertains to policy decisions). Cal/EPA would make the final decision based on all of the recommendations and the available resources.

Hope that helps.

Dan