

CERS NextGen Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

General Project and System Information	
1.	<p>Q: Will submittal deadlines be extended after go-live?</p> <p>A: No. Deadlines still apply unless changed by regulators.</p>
2.	<p>Q: How will CERS Nextgen work for a new business?</p> <p>A: Facilities will be able to create accounts and complete submittals within CERS NextGen.</p>
3.	<p>Q: Will facilities have an option of whether they can submit RTC documents to either the CUPA or CERS?</p> <p>A: Yes, facilities will be able to choose how they submit their RTC documentation: Directly to the regulator, or to CERS NextGen.</p>
4.	<p>Q: Will UST tanks be assigned a new Tank ID number during ownership changes?</p> <p>A: An ownership change will result in a new facility (including CERS ID) being created. The UST (record) will be transferred to the new facility (owner). UST Tank IDs will remain the same.</p>
5.	<p>Q: Will my SPCC Plan be required to be uploaded?</p> <p>A: No.</p>
6.	<p>Q: Can the public see inspection histories and open violations through the new system?</p> <p>A: No, CERS NextGen will not provide access to the general public; however, facilities can see their own compliance history.</p>
7.	<p>Q: Has CalEPA collaborated with other state agencies in the development of the new system?</p> <p>A: Yes, other agencies were involved in the development of the solution requirements.</p>
8.	<p>Q: How can businesses prepare for CERS NextGen?</p> <p>A: Ensure the current data within CERS is as accurate and complete as possible. Ensure every business has a lead business user.</p>
Communications	
9.	<p>Q: How do I ask a technical or system question, or make a suggestion to the Project Team?</p> <p>A: Send an email with your name and your question or comment to the Project Team email box: cersnextgen@calepa.ca.gov</p>

Login and User Accounts	
10.	<p>Q: What can a Business Editor do in the new system?</p> <p>A: Business Editors can create, edit, and view select items, such as UST actions and Business Activity Questionnaires (BAQs), but cannot submit. This User Type is useful for third-party consultants or contractors supporting draft submissions.</p>
11.	<p>Q: Will CUPA and Business accounts be migrated to the next generation of CERS?</p> <p>A: Yes. Business and CUPA user accounts will be migrated with their associated businesses and facilities as before.</p>
12.	<p>Q: Will existing login credentials be used in the next generation of CERS?</p> <p>A: Existing Business and CUPA accounts will be migrated to the new system. However, usernames and passwords will need to be updated to comply with security requirements.</p>
13.	<p>Q: Will users need individual accounts for the next generation of CERS?</p> <p>A: Yes. Users will need individual accounts. Shared or generic accounts will not be allowed in the new system. Each user must have a unique login and must log in at least once per year to maintain access</p>
14.	<p>Q: What are the different Business user types?</p> <p>A: There are three types of Business users in the next Generation of CERS which are Editor, Submitter, and Lead.</p>
15.	<p>Q: What can a Business Submitter do in the new system?</p> <p>A: A Business Submitter is authorized to complete and submit required documentation.</p>
16.	<p>Q: What can a Lead Business User do in the new system?</p> <p>A: A Lead Business User has full permissions, including managing users, updating facility associations, and submitting.</p>
17.	<p>Q: Can a CUPA add a Lead Business User?</p> <p>A: Yes. If a business does not have a Lead Business User, the CUPA may add one directly.</p>
18.	<p>Q: What are the different CUPA user types?</p> <p>A: There are two CUPA user types in the next generation of CERS, Regulators and Lead Regulators.</p>
19.	<p>Q: What can a CUPA Regulator do in the new system?</p> <p>A: Current functionality will remain for regulators with the addition of following two changes. CUPA Regulators can create draft submittals to support businesses but cannot submit on behalf of a facility. Regulators cannot create businesses or facilities, as these tasks remain the responsibility of the business owner.</p>
20.	<p>Q: What can a CUPA Lead Regulator do in the new system?</p> <p>A: Lead Regulators are authorized to manage user access/permissions within their own CUPA or PA. Lead Regulators cannot process submittals.</p>

Submittals	
21.	<p>Q: What are the various submittal statuses in the next generation of CERS?</p> <p>A: There will be Draft, Submitted, Accepted, Not Accepted, and Administrative Complete.</p>
22.	<p>Q: Will Businesses and CUPAs be notified when a status has changed?</p> <p>A: Yes. Automated notifications will be sent as appropriate to both CUPAs and Businesses as the status changes in the system.</p>
23.	<p>Q: What does “Administrative Complete” mean?</p> <p>A: It indicates no changes from the previous submittal, but technical regulatory review may still be needed.</p>
Data Migration	
24.	<p>Q: What data will migrate to CERS NextGen?</p> <p>A: CalEPA will be implementing the existing Office of the Secretary (OOS) data retention policy. Seven years of data will be migrated to the new system. Seven years of data will be maintained in CERS NextGen in accordance with the policy. Additional information pertaining to data removal will be made available as the project progresses.</p>
Chemical Inventory	
25.	<p>Q: Will inventory imports still be available via Microsoft Excel?</p> <p>A: Yes, the excel inventory import will continue to be available.</p>
Electronic Data Transfer (EDT)	
26.	<p>Q: Will vendors have access to an environment for development?</p> <p>A: A development/testing environment will be made available to stakeholders as early as practical in the project schedule.</p>
27.	<p>Q: Where is the CERS NextGen EDT information located?</p> <p>A: The latest EDT information is available on CERS website at: https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cers-nextgen-edt/</p> <p>We are taking an iterative approach to this documentation and have a roadmap for upcoming endpoint releases.</p> <p>Each release will adhere to a versioning protocol to enable readers to easily identify the latest documentation. The most recent versions of available files will be included in each package update. The versioning will follow the same approach used on CERS 3.</p> <p>With each CERS NextGen EDT documentation update, all files will be released as a versioned package, allowing verification of the latest version. Individual schemas within the package will also have a version number to indicate updates.</p> <p>Moving forward, we will include change logs to clearly outline changes between releases.</p>

28.	<p>Q: How is the EDT information organized?</p> <p>A: The information at https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cers-nextgen-edt/ is organized similarly to CERS 3 EDT information to help ensure familiarity and ease of use. A key difference is that the CERS NextGen EDT webpage includes an introductory section outlining the new approach and providing an overview of upcoming changes, removals, and additions.</p>
	Training
29.	<p>Q: Will training be provided before Go-Live?</p> <p>A: Yes. CERS NextGen training will be available prior to go-live.</p>