CERS NextGen Common Questions and Answers

Question	Answer
What is the link for the CERS NextGen Project Website?	http://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cersnextgen/
Will these topics be discussed at the CUPA conference?	Yes, there will be a dedicated session regarding CERS NextGen at the CUPA conference in 2024. It is Tu-L2 scheduled for Tuesday at 10am.
How can I stay up to date on the project?	Join the project e-mail listserv by going to the project website: http://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cersnextgen/
What is the project timeline?	The Project has been split into two phases. A 12-month Phase 1 to build significant majority of the foundational system functionality and all functionality for the UST Program. Phase 2 will complete the other 5 Programs and is anticipated to take 6 months. The version with complete functionality for all CUPA Programs is anticipated to be required in 2027 but available after peak reporting in 2026.
Can you define concurrent development?	Local regulators will need to update their systems in parallel with the development of the CERS NextGen solution so that, upon 'go-live', they are prepared to interface with the new system.
Will businesses be required to take any action before implementation?	To retain system access you must log into CERS annually to comply with new State Security requirements starting in 2024. To stay up to date on the project and receive updates that may impact users please sign up for the project listserv and check the project website.
What data will be migrated to the new system?	The retention of historic submittals will follow the State Office of the Secretary's records retention policy. In general this means 7 years of historical data will be retained.
UPAs need to download facility submittal information to meet local Retention Schedules. Will CalEPA enable a data dump of submittal information prior to data migration to CERS NextGen?	Yes, CalEPA will make data available to UPAs prior to data migration. More information will be released regarding this as the project proceeds.
Will inventory imports still be available via Excel as they currently are?	Yes, the excel inventory import will continue to be available.
How can businesses prepare for CERS NextGen?	Ensure the current data within CERS is as accurate and complete as possible.

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What new options are being included for compliance monitoring and enforcement data?	The concept of inspection types is being replaced and expanded to reflect Compliance Activities. This provides UPAs the ability to document inspections AND other administrative actions. The relationship between inspections, violations, and enforcements will not change.
Will vendors have access to an environment for development?	CalEPA will ensure the solicitation includes CalEPA's expectation that the selected vendor should make available data integration information and a dev/testing environment to stakeholders as early as practical in the project schedule.
How many new submittal statuses are coming and will they all generate automated emails?	Statuses will be added to accommodate the submittal revision process (back-and-forth) between the facility and the regulator. The exact number of statuses will depend on the selected solution and each will be configurable to send automated emails, as appropriate.
Will facilities have an option of whether they can submit RTC documents to either the CUPA or CERS?	Yes, facilities will be able to choose how they submit their RTC documentation: Directly to the regulator, or to CERS.
New Owners will be assigned a new CERS ID for the facility. Does that mean new UST Owners will be assigned new UST CERS Tank ID?	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.
Will my SPCC Plan be required to be uploaded?	No.
Can the general public see inspection histories and open violations through the new system?	CERS NextGen will not provide access to the general public. Information will continue to be made available on the Regulated Site Portal.
Has CalEPA collaborated with other state agencies in the development of the new system.	Yes, other agencies were involved in the development of the solution requirements.
Will the vendor be giving us a test environment to make sure that the work flows all work prior to going live?	Yes, CalEPA will provide a test environment for the UPAs and UPA vendors providing CERS-related IT Services for the Unified Program. UPA vendor access to the test environment will be at the discretion of each UPA."
Can there be control over which people who receive automated emails for particular sites?	Notifications will be configurable in the new system. Specific rules for these notification have not yet been finalized.