



CUPA 101

Jason Boetzer, Assistance Secretary, CalEPA

**Kristen Ward, Interim Deputy Fire Marshal, San Bernardino County Fire
W-D₁**

March 22, 2023



**25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 – 23, 2023**



*California
Environmental
Protection Agency*

Kristen Ward

San Bernardino County Fire
Interim Deputy Fire Marshal
(909) 386-8414
kward@sbcfire.org

Jason Boetzer

CalEPA
Assistant Secretary for Local Programs
and Emergency Response
(916) 715-3005
Jason.Boetzer@calepa.ca.gov



**25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference**
March 20 - 23, 2023

CUPA 101

What will
this class
cover?

- Environmental History/Laws
- What is a CUPA?
- What have we accomplished and where are we going in the future?
- Local program overview.
- Finding employment in environmental compliance.



Poll Question

Let's get to know each other. Who are you??

1. CUPA/PA
2. State Agency
3. Federal Government
4. Industry
5. Student



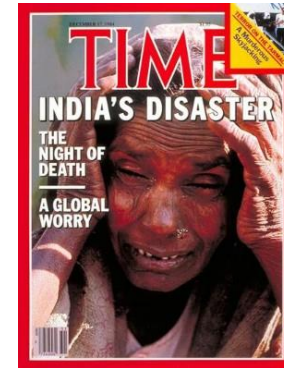
ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

➤ 1970's

- Minamata, Japan – 1968
- DDT banned – 1972
- Yusho, Japan – PCBs banned 1976
- Love Canal – 1979

➤ 1980's

- Stringfellow Acid Pits – 1982
- Times Beach, Missouri – 1982
- Bhopal, India – 1984 3,800 dead, 558,000 injured
- Exxon Valdez Oil Spill - 1989



25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 - 23, 2023



FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

1950-1960's
Air Pollution;
Clean Air Act

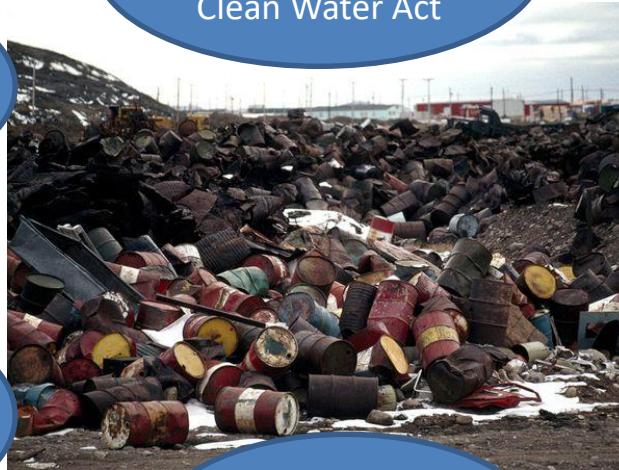
1940-1970's
Pollution Control;
Clean Water Act

1970's
Safe Drinking
Water Act
NEPA

1970's
RCRA & TSCA

1980's
CERCLA; UST;
EPCRA

1990's
CUPA; CalARP;
RMP



EPA/State Health Agencies – Late 1970's

- Original State agencies involved with regulating Hazardous Waste at larger Transfer Storage Disposal-type facilities – CA Dept of Health Services
- CA Hazardous Waste Law – 1978



Early 1980's

- Local hazardous waste programs started in about 22 local agencies
- Numerous criminal cases for spills and accidents



1980's – Explosive Program Growth

- UST – Sher Bill
- Business Plan – Chemical Inventories – 1986
- Local Oversight Program – 1988
- Major Cleanup Efforts
- Increasing Fines, Penalties & Felonies
- More Fire Dept. Involvement
- Military Base Closures



25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 - 23, 2023

1990's – CalEPA/DTSC



*California
Environmental
Protection Agency*

- 1991 – CalEPA created
- 1991 – DTSC moved from DHS to CalEPA
- Emphasis toward innovation; pollution prevention, waste reduction, etc.
- 1994+ - Unified Program (CUPAs) Development and Certifications
- 1997 - CalARP



25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 - 23, 2023

January 1994 – SB 1082

- Why a Unified Program?
 - Duplicate inspections
 - Duplicate programs
 - Multiple invoicing and permitting
 - Multiple agencies
- What happened?
 - Legislative process
 - Political climate then and now



25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 - 23, 2023

2000 and Beyond



- 2001 9-11 Terrorist Acts
- 2005 Katrina
- 2010 Deepwater Horizon
- 2011 Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant
- 2012 Richmond Chevron Refinery Fire
- 2013 West Texas Fertilizer Explosion
- 2015 Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Leak
- 2014 Present California Wild Fires
- 2019 Ridgecrest Earthquake
- 2023 East Palestine Ohio

Chemical Safety Board

<https://www.csb.gov/>

25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 - 23, 2023

Certified Unified Program Agencies and Participating Agencies

- 81 CUPAs – most with no PAs
- 24 PAs via agreements
- Most are “fire” or “environmental health” entities
- State certification process in mid 1990’s
- 1990’s also was the time where CUPA regulations were developed
- Ongoing State evaluation of implementation of the program



SB 1082 Unified Programs

Hazardous Waste Generator Program and Tiered Permitting

Hazardous Materials Inventory (Disclosure)

Accidental Release Prevention Program

Underground Storage Tanks

Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks

California Fire Code – HM Plans/Inventory only



SB 1082 Program Goals

Combined Inspections

Consistent Inspections/Enforcement

Interagency Coordination

Single Fee System

Consolidated Permit



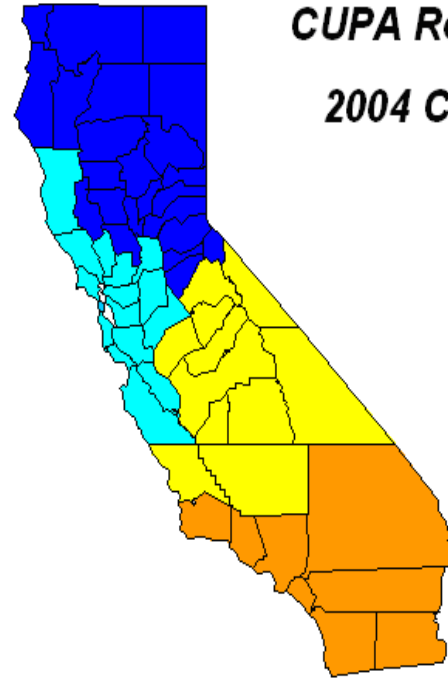
Regulated Universe 2020-2021

- Business Plan Facilities: 148,089
- CalARP Facilities: 2,017
- Hazardous Waste Facilities: 94,066
- Underground Tank Facilities: 13,696
- Aboveground Tank Facilities: 17,834







Unified Program Led to the CUPA Forum

- 1996 – UPAs unite in a CUPA Forum to consolidate efforts and provide a single voice to the State and federal agencies
- 1998 – UPAAG established
- 1998 – CUPA Forum begins holding annual conferences



CUPA Regional Forum

2004 Configuration

-  *Northern Region*
-  *Bay Area Region*
-  *Central Region*
-  *Southern Region*



25th California Unified Program
Annual Training Conference
March 20 - 23, 2023

Accomplishments

Enhanced and increased interagency cooperation on a large range of issues

Development of legislation/regulations through cooperative efforts

Large number of stakeholders kept informed and involved

Increased and consistent enforcement

ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE



Accomplishments

Major reductions of incidents at high risk facilities through CalARP

Improved and streamlined State performance review process

Title 27 Data Dictionary – CERS Changes

Tired Permit Program moved to locals

Standard Violation Classification

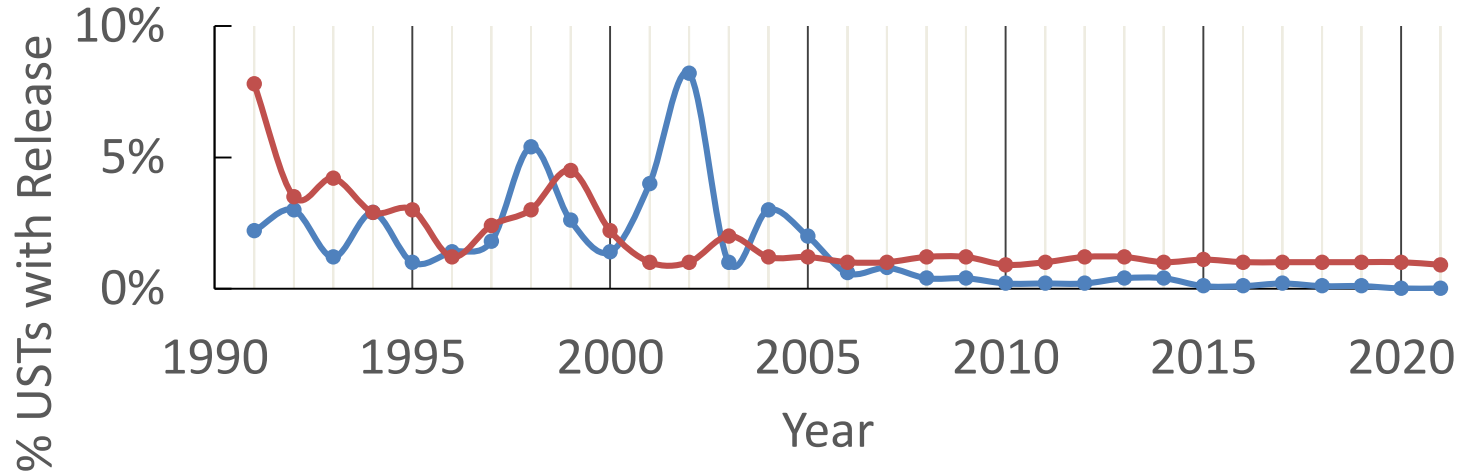
Statewide Enforcement Cases

Administrative Enforcement Orders



Percentage of USTs Having a Release Over Time

California:...



UPAAG New UP Strategic Plan

- Educating and Influencing Stakeholders
- Attracting and Retaining Highly Skilled Staff
- Leveraging Budgets
- Ensure Equitable Enforcement
- Using Technology to Achieve Strategies



Environmental Justice

- Principles of environmental justice
- California was one of the first states in the nation to codify environmental justice in statute
- The aim is to lift the unfair burden of pollution from those most vulnerable to its effects
- CalEnviroScreen
 - <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30>



A Shifting Workplace

- Program innovators are retiring; new workforce training is critical.
- Face of regulatory programs continuing to evolve at State and local levels.
- Technology is making us look at how we do our work.
- Lessons learned during 2020



Your Career

- Would you like a career in a field that has opportunities in federal, state, and local government as well as private industry?
- Would you like a career that involves field work and the direct application of many disciplines and specialties?
- Would you like to work for the public good?



Employment

How do you find the jobs and apply?

- Website
- Contacts within Agencies
- Personnel Offices
- Job Search engines
- Professional Networking



Resources

- <http://www.calcupa.org>
- <http://www.ccdeh.com/jobs/env-health-haz-mat-jobs>
- <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement/Publications>
- <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/CUPA/>
- <https://calepa.ca.gov/employment/>





Any Questions?

Jason Boetzer – CalEPA

Kristen Ward – San Bernardino County Fire

