Introductions

Speakers:

- **Nick Kuka**
  CERS NextGen Project Director

- **Jim Bohon**
  Retired Annuitant, Unified Program

- **Schumin Wong**
  CalEPA Chief Technical Officer
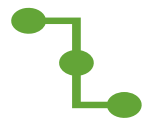
CERS NextGen Overview

CERS NextGen replaces the current CERS application with a new Information System

NextGen will be a SaaS/PaaS product.

The project includes the migration of data from CERS to CERS NextGen

Interfaces with CERS NextGen will require updates to current CUPA systems (Concurrent Development)

Project Update

Project Planning is nearly complete
- All market research is complete
- Requirements have been finalized
- The project team has been hired

Primary Solicitation
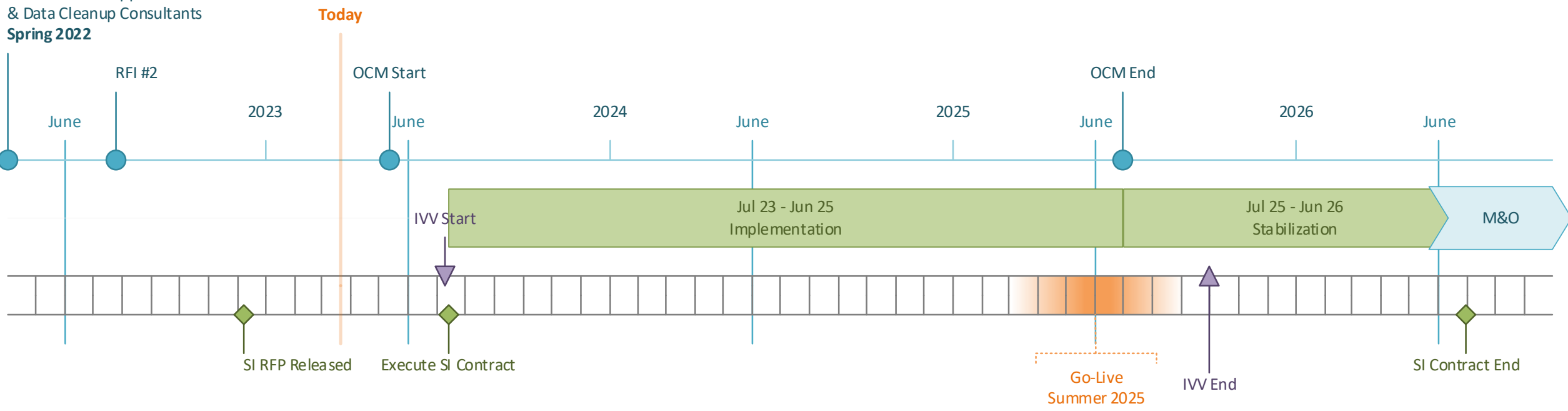- Bids Received
- Technical Review in Progress

Organizational Change Management RFO
- RFO release in May

Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V)
- RFO release planned for April

Procurement Support
& Data Cleanup Consultants
Spring 2022

Today

RFI #2

OCM Start

OCM End

June   2023   June   2024   June   2025   June   2026   June

Jul 23 - Jun 25
Implementation

Jul 25 - Jun 26
Stabilization

M&O

IVV Start

SI RFP Released

Execute SI Contract

Go-Live
Summer 2025

IVV End

SI Contract End

Timeline

THE NEXT 3 YEARS
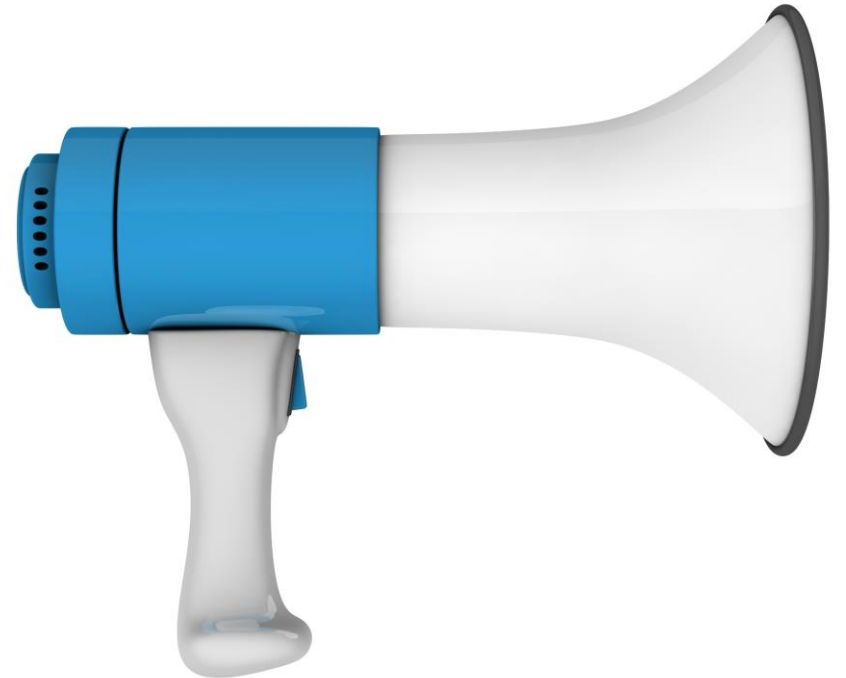
Organizational Change Management

Will start approximately as the System Integration Contractor starts

Responsible for planning and implementing project outreach to Unified Program stakeholders

Readiness assessment – how ready are program participants for CERS NextGen and the changes brought about by the new system?

Facilitate outreach to stakeholders, including:

- Project Schedule Updates
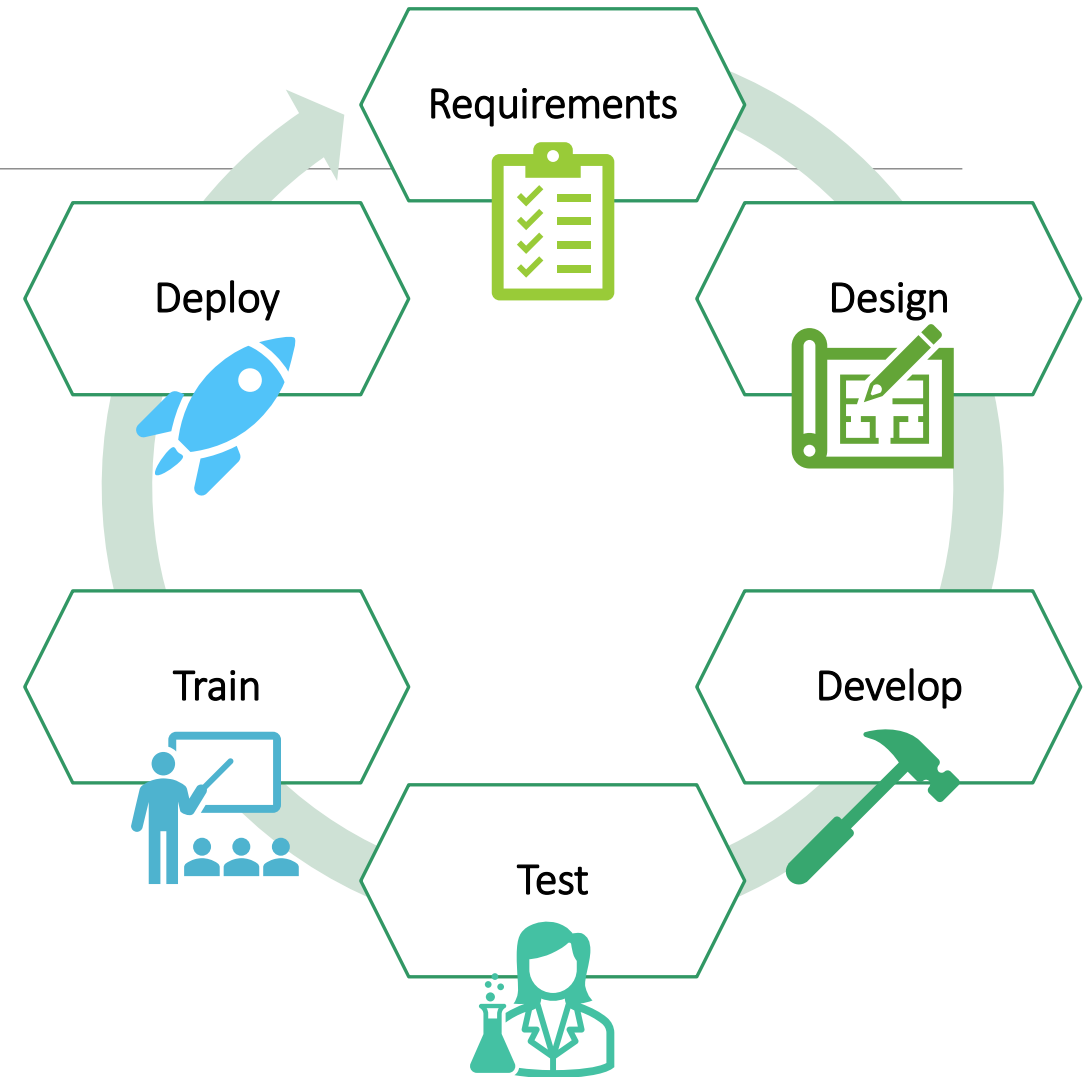- Concurrent Development Activities
- Training
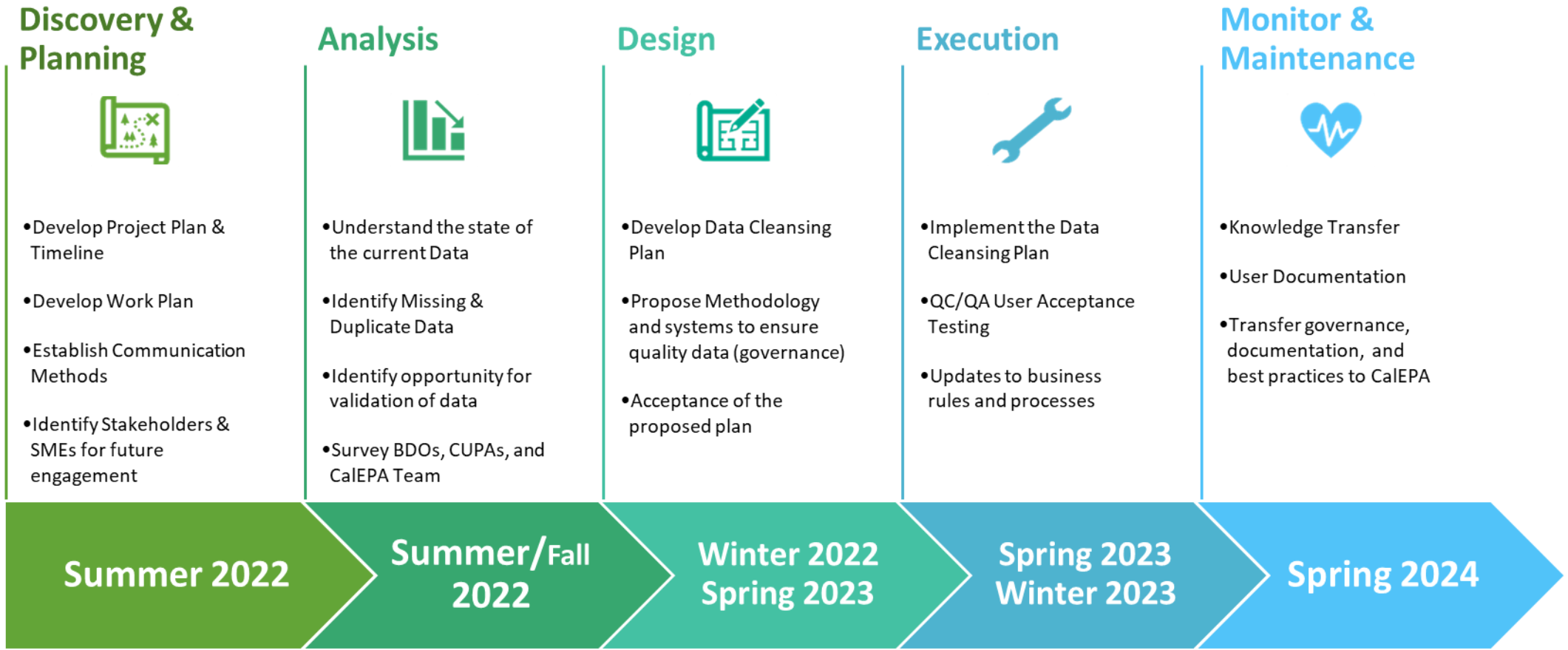
Independent Verification and Validation

Will start around the time the System Integration Contractor starts

Provides independent system development oversight

◦ Reviews and reports on alignment of system development activities with industry best practices

◦ Reports to the California Department of Technology (CDT) and CalEPA

Requirements

Design

Develop

Test

Train

Deploy

Data Cleanup and Data Retention

Discovery & Planning

- Develop Project Plan & Timeline
- Develop Work Plan
- Establish Communication Methods
- Identify Stakeholders & SMEs for future engagement

Analysis

- Understand the state of the current Data
- Identify Missing & Duplicate Data
- Identify opportunity for validation of data
- Survey BDOs, CUPAs, and CalEPA Team

Design

- Develop Data Cleansing Plan
- Propose Methodology and systems to ensure quality data (governance)
- Acceptance of the proposed plan

Execution

- Implement the Data Cleansing Plan
- QC/QA User Acceptance Testing
- Updates to business rules and processes

Monitor & Maintenance

- Knowledge Transfer
- User Documentation
- Transfer governance, documentation, and best practices to CalEPA

| Summer 2022 | Summer/Fall 2022 | Winter 2022 Spring 2023 | Spring 2023 Winter 2023 | Spring 2024 |

Change Description	Level of Impact
Definition of "Facilities" – Address + Owner	Low
HW Recycling form changed to data entry instead of upload	Low
"Compliance Activities" – Expansion to "Inspections"	Low
All facility filing done through CERS NexGen	Medium
Modified Submittal Process	Medium
Submittal Due Dates	Medium
Eliminate Emergency Response Tab	Medium
Required / New Data Fields	High
RTC Records & Submission Process	High
Submittals moved to "Profile" Data – Data location for permitting information	High
UST Records and Tank Information	High

Key Changes

Facilities CERS IDs => Address + Owner

Topic Summary	CERS IDs will continue to be assigned to facilities. A "Facility" will be defined as an address + owner.	
	Current State	**Future State**
Expected Changes	Facility => location. Facility gets transferred upon ownership change keeping the CERS ID.	Facility => location + owner. Upon an ownership change, a new facility, with a new CERS ID, will be created at that location. Facility transfer requests no longer used.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• This change largely resolves challenges with the legacy approach and is not likely to cause much impact to users and local systems.	

HW Recycling submittal changed to data entry

Topic Summary	The Hazardous Waste Recycling submittal is being 'converted' to on-screen data entry instead of document upload.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** Submittal requires a document to be scanned and uploaded.	**Future State** Submittal is on-screen with data entry fields.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• If a local system needs to pull this data, additional data fields will need to be added to match those in CERS NextGen. • Businesses that report will need to learn the new functionality.	

Compliance Activities

Topic Summary	Regulators complete numerous tasks to assess facility compliance other than on-site inspections. Such compliance activities have no way to be documented currently and results in undercounting local compliance efforts.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** "Routine Inspection" "Other Inspection"	**Future State** The 'inspection type' field is being changed to list various 'Compliance Activities'. Additional compliance activities may include various physical inspection types (Routine, follow-up, complaint), 'administrative review' and/or 'document review', and will also include NOV, NTC, AEOs, Referrals.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Local systems may need to modify dropdowns or replace the inspection type field used. Many systems already track more detailed data than is reported to CERS. • Local systems will need to modify schema of data sent to CERS NextGen to allow for additional compliance activity types.	

All facility filing done through CERS NextGen

Topic Summary	Local Portal input of facility and submittal element information to CERS NextGen will not be supported.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** A few local regulators allow reporting to local portals and pass submittal data to CERS.	**Future State** All facility reporting will be made directly to CERS NextGen
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Local submission rules in a few jurisdictions may need to be changed. • Some businesses will need to learn to use CERS NextGen. • A few jurisdictions will need to shift to populating local systems from CERS NextGen.	

Modified Submittal Process

Topic Summary	Submittal process will be updated to enable a revised submittal review, update, resubmission processes.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** New submittal must be made for any corrections.	**Future State** A submittal element can be electronically returned to a facility for revisions or for acceptance of minor revisions made by the regulator. The function will include captured comments on each part of the process. The function will include actions taken during the process.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Businesses and regulators will need to adjust to new process. • If local system is tracking/capturing submittal status, it will need to add and align submittal statuses. • May need to update local system interfaces to capture status changes.	

Submittal Due Dates

Topic Summary	Businesses sometimes forget to file in a timely manner. Reminders to businesses for upcoming submission requirements will help.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** CERS allows, but does not require setting a next due date.	**Future State** CERS NextGen will require that a due date be set for all submittal elements. Notifications will automatically be sent to businesses.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Regulators will need to establish due dates in CERS NextGen.	

Eliminated Emergency Response Tab

Topic Summary	The Emergency Response tab in CERS is used to meet the requirement that CUPAs provide access to facility and hazardous material inventory information to local emergency responders.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** The ER tab provides required information to responders that is up-to-date. CUPA managers provide access to local response leaders who control actual responder access.	**Future State** Facility and hazardous materials inventory data will be sent to FEMA's CBRNResponder, Aristatek's PEAC, and other tools for use by local responders. CBRNResponder is being implemented statewide in support of the Hazardous Materials Business Plan program Area Plan requirement. CUPAs will be able to use CBRNResponder as an electronic Area Plan.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• If desired, implement CBRNResponder for the CUPA jurisdiction to meet the Area Plan requirement. • Coordinate with local response leaders to provide access to CBRNResponder. • If PEAC is used locally, this will be part of CERS to CERS NextGen transition.	

Required / New Data Fields

Topic Summary	Most existing data fields will become required in CERS NextGen and some new data fields will be added. Current entry requirements do not reflect legal filing requirements.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** All fields are legally required, but many data fields are not required to be filled in to make a successful submission. Most data fields are not validated.	**Future State** Most data fields will become required to make a successful submission. Most data fields will be validated before being accepted. New data fields will be created to support revised business processes.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Businesses will be required to enter valid information in virtually all fields. • Data field mapping for pulled data to local systems will need to be updated. • May require changes to local systems.	

RTC Records and Submission Process

Topic Summary	CERS NextGen will include the ability for a facility to enter Return-To-Compliance (RTC) information for violations cited during an inspection (or other "Compliance Activity"). This new functionality will provide a fast and secure process for facilities to provide documents and pictures to their regulator to show they have corrected violations.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** RTC information is provided directly to regulator. Regulator provides new and updated violation information to CERS, including the 'actual RTC date', but no additional information about the RTC.	**Future State** RTC information can provided directly to regulator **or** to CERS NextGen. Regulator provides new and updated violation information to CERS, including the 'actual RTC date' **for RTC provided directly to regulator.** RTC information will exist as an independent record in CERS NextGen that becomes related to a violation.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Submissions of RTC to CERS will continue to require the UPA to act on the submission. • Regulators that wish to pull RTC information into local systems will need to align with records structure and map data fields. If desired to be automated, will require a new integration. • Local systems will need to pull violation updates from CERS NextGen for violations resolved in CERS NextGen (new integration). • Businesses will need to learn a new function in CERS NextGen.	

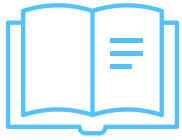# Profile Data

Topic Summary	Some data previously found in a submittal element will now be stored within another record as 'profile' information.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** Facility submittal • Business activities • Business Owner/Operator UST Owner/operator part of submittal UST tank information part of submittal	**Future State** Business activities stored on facility profile Business Owner/Operator part of facility profile Property Owner part of facility profile UST Owner/Operator part of facility profile UST tank information part of UST record
Actions to Take / Impacts	• Local systems may need to add/modify data fields in existing records structure. • Local systems will need to pull data from different records to capture information needed for permits (tiered permitting, UST, HazMat).	

UST Records

Topic Summary	In CERS NextGen, each UST will exist as a record, assigned to a location, and attached to a facility. Tank information will be stored on the UST record and persist between facilities.	
Expected Changes	**Current State** UST information stored within submittal elements. Facility transfer required to provide tank / historic submittal information to new owner.	**Future State** USTs will exist as separate tank and monitoring plan records (like a profile). Tank information will be stored in the tank record (including geographic coordinates and monitoring info) USTs can be transferred to a new facility upon ownership change. UST submittal will be annual information such as financial responsibility and tank testing.
Actions to Take / Impacts	• New record type in CERS NextGen. • Local systems will need to pull the tank record, not the submittal record, for permits. • If local system wants to track UST assignment/ownership to a facility (before/after a UST transfer request), will need to pull updates from CERS NextGen.	

Concurrent Development

Definition
- Modifying UPA systems to align with CERS NextGen requirements and capabilities, in parallel to the development of CERS NextGen by CalEPA's chosen System Integrator.

Purpose
- Identify System Impacts
- Plan for Changes
- Timing

Scope
- UPA Systems only, no businesses
- System Integrator will not 'touch' UPA systems

Concurrent Development: Next Steps

Start discussions with your solution support teams (vendor and/or internal)

Review the Final CERS NextGen Requirements on Cal eProcure

Quarterly town halls starting in the Summer of 2023

Project Information Page:	https://cers.calepa.ca.gov/cersnextgen/
Project Inbox:	CERSNextGen@CalEPA.CA.GOV
RFP Documents:	https://caleprocure.ca.gov/event/0555/0000025396

Panel Discussion

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