

California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council

Planning Meeting

November 6th

CEPEC Planning Meeting November 6, 2025



I. Welcome and Introduction

The California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council (CEPEC) is established by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). It serves as an advisory committee to the Governor and the Director of Cal OES on the scientific validity of an earthquake or volcanic eruption prediction.



Meeting Agenda

- I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
- II. RECOGNITION OF CEPEC MEMBERS BY APPOINTMENT
- III. PURPOSE OF CEPEC
- IV. REVIEW OF CEPEC BY-LAWS
- V. EMERGENCY MEETING PROCEDURES
- VI. BAGLEY-KEENE OPEN MEETING ACT OVERVIEW
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS
- VIII. OPEN COMMENT PERIOD
- IX. PLANNING FOR NEXT MEETING
- X. CLOSING REMARKS

II. Appointed Members

Jeremy Lancaster, PG
State Geologist and CEPEC Chair

Dr. Greg Beroza, Stanford University
Dr. Morgan Page, United States Geological Survey
Dr. Wendy Bohon, California Geological Survey
Dr. Diego Melgar, University of Oregon
Dr. Gareth Funning, University of California, Riverside
Dr. Taka'aki Taira, University of California, Berkeley
Dr. Zachary Ross, California Institute of Technology
Dr. Justin Rubinstein, United States Geological Survey
Dr. Sara McBride, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services,
Seismic Safety Commission

III. Purpose of CEPEC

- Provides expert scientific guidance in:
 - Evaluating the validity of earthquake and volcanic eruption predictions.
 - Assessing short-term probabilities of seismic or volcanic events.
 - Reviewing new scientific developments that affect long-term seismic risk.
- Advises Cal OES Director:
 - On continued earthquake or volcanic hazards that may warrant alerts or emergency actions.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

- In its review, hearings, deliberations or other validation procedures, members of the council, jointly and severally, shall have the same degree of responsibility for their actions and enjoy the same immunities as officers and employees of the State and its political subdivisions engaged in similar work in their respective entities. Any person making a presentation to the Council as part of the Council's validation process, including presentations of a prediction for validation, shall be deemed an Ad Hoc member of the Council until it has evaluated the validity of the prediction. Immunity exists for the content of on-the-record presentations to CEPEC.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS

- The voting membership of the Council shall not exceed nine individuals.
- Membership in CEPEC shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the earth sciences including seismology, geology, and geophysics who are knowledgeable regarding factors influencing seismicity in California, and representatives of the institutions comprising.
- Cal OES shall be responsible for maintaining a current register of CEPEC Members, dates of their appointment and terms of Membership.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

AD-HOC CEPEC MEMBERS AND THEIR TERM OF MEMBERSHIP

- At the discretion of the Chair and Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Ad Hoc Members, providing specific expertise necessary to the deliberations of CEPEC, may be appointed to participate in CEPEC.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION AND REPRESENTATION

- A Member of the CEPEC, Alternate Member, and Ad Hoc Member shall take no action, or speak on behalf of, or in the name of the CEPEC or of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services unless specifically authorized to do so by the Chair of CEPEC.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

COMPENSATION

- Officers and Members of the CEPEC shall serve without compensation.
- All CEPEC Members, Alternate Members, and Ad Hoc Members shall be entitled to travel and receive per diem expenses pursuant to State Board of Control Rules and Regulations and the guidelines established by OES. Sub-committee Members may receive per diem if authorized by the Chair of CEPEC.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE V—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Chair of CEPEC shall:

1. Preside at all meetings of the CEPEC.
2. Rule on all points of order.
3. Appoint the Chair of each Sub-committee and working groups.
4. Be an ex-officio member of all sub-committees and working groups.
5. Represent the CEPEC at official public functions or designate a member of the CEPEC from a designated speakers panel to do so.
6. Oversee administrative matters.
7. Act as signatory on all official documents, findings and recommendations to the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.
8. Advise the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services in the absence of a formal CEPEC meeting.

The Vice Chair of CEPEC shall:

Perform the duties of the Chair in his/her absence; and other duties assigned.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE VI—Sub-Committees

STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES

the Chair of CEPEC may appoint Standing Committees as he/she deems necessary to carry out the responsibilities of CEPEC.

C. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

May be convened, to identify, screen, and make recommendations for filling vacant seats of Members of the Council. All Nominating Committee members must be approved at a meeting of the Council, by a majority of those voting members present.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE VI—Sub-Committees

STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES

D. RAPID ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Provides an initial assessment of the need to convene a Rapid Assessment of Seismic or Volcanic Threat. The Chair of CEPEC may, upon the recommendation of the full membership, appoint members to the Rapid Assessment Sub-committee. The Chair of CEPEC or the Vice Chair in his/her absence may convene the group, Sub-Committee members, Council Members, and Ad Hoc Members.

E. SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

May be appointed at the discretion of the CEPEC Chair if the tasks assigned are expected to be short-term and the assignment falls outside the scope of a standing sub-committee.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE VII—CEPEC MEETINGS

A. CEPEC REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular Meetings of the CEPEC shall be held as necessary and as determined by the CEPEC Chair and arranged in accordance with Section E of this Article (VII).

B. CEPEC SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the CEPEC may be held at the call of the CEPEC Chair.

Notice to all CEPEC members shall be not less than one (1) day prior to the date set for such special meetings. Such notice must include the specific subject matter of the meeting. No other subject matter may be considered.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE VII—CEPEC MEETINGS

C. CEPEC RAPID ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE CALLS OR MEETINGS

- Rapid Assessment Emergency Conference Calls or Meetings shall be convened according to criteria and procedures established by CEPEC and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and conducted with the Rapid Assessment Subcommittee
- Notice of Rapid Assessment Emergency Conference Calls or Meetings shall be either by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center by pager and/or telephone, or by the CEPEC Chair via telephone.
- The Bagley-Keene notification requirements will be waived for a Rapid Assessment Emergency Conference Call or Meetings

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE VII—CEPEC MEETINGS

D. CEPEC QUORUM

A quorum is required for any official business including regular and special meetings. A quorum **shall consist of a simple majority** of appointed and serving CEPEC members. The following criteria shall be used to determine if an official action is being taken by the CEPEC:

1. A vote of the CEPEC is required before an action can be taken.
2. The action will result in the CEPEC or its staff spending money.
3. The action will result in the forwarding of a recommendation, assessment, or document, to the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.
4. The action will result in correspondence being sent from CEPEC.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of appointed members with a quorum present and concurrences of the Chair and Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

POLICY STATEMENTS

- A. Policies are adopted by the California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council for the purpose of informing and guiding the members of interpretations of the By-laws and decisions of the Chair concerning the operations of the CEPEC.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

POLICY STATEMENTS (Continued)

- B. Nothing in these policy statements shall be in conflict with the Constitution and Laws of the State of California or the By-laws of CEPEC.
- C. When a policy is established, it shall be prepared as a formal document and attested to by the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and Chair of CEPEC. Copies shall be provided to each CEPEC member.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Policy No. 1

Topic: CEPEC MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

1. All requests for CEPEC agenda items shall be submitted to the Chair and contain the information identified below.
2. All agenda item requests shall be submitted to the Chair no later than 14 working days prior to a regularly scheduled CEPEC meeting in order to be considered for placement on a meeting agenda.
3. Recommended action that may be required on any proposed item shall be accompanied by supporting documentation/information.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Policy No. 1

Topic: CEPEC MEETING AGENDA ITEMS (Continued)

4. Every meeting agenda shall have an open period whereby individuals may bring items of an urgency nature before the committee.
5. The following information shall be included in a request for an item to be placed on the CEPEC Agenda:

DATE SUBMITTED:

SUBMITTED BY: (CEPEC Member or Agency Name)

FOR: (Date) Meeting

PRESENTED BY: (Name of Person(s) making presentation)

ITEM: (Brief description of the issue)

EXPLANATION: (Full description of issue and attachments)

ACTION RECOMMENDED: (None, for discussion only; Action Recommended)

DELEGATED TASKS: (Agency or staff to follow-up)

ATTACHMENT: YES / NO

NOTE: All Action Items require supporting documentation/attachments.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Policy No. 2

Topic: CEPEC REQUESTS OF STAFF TIME

1. In order to avoid additional impacts on OES staff time and budget, all CEPEC members shall make such requests through the Chair.
2. The Chair shall be responsible for obtaining authorization from OES management to redirect staff activities or re-prioritize previously approved tasks and assignments.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Policy No. 3

Topic: CEPEC CORRESPONDENCE

1. Any CEPEC member, sub-committee, task force, or work group members may formally request mission specific information on behalf of the CEPEC.
2. All information requests or correspondence must be approved by the CEPEC Chair or the chair of the sub-committee, task force, or work group.
3. All information requests and correspondence shall not state position or policy of the CEPEC unless previously approved by the CEPEC Chair.
4. The CEPEC Chair will be provided with a copy of all information requests.

IV. CEPEC By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—CEPEC BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Policy No. 3

Topic: CEPEC CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

5. All CEPEC Position/Policy setting correspondence must be submitted in draft form to the Chair no later than 14 working days prior to the next regularly scheduled CEPEC meeting in order to be considered for placement on the agenda.

EXCEPTION: *Due to urgency or time constraints in matters that may require immediate action, such correspondence may be sent with the approval of Chair or the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.*

6. All CEPEC Position/Policy setting correspondence must receive an approval vote by a majority of the CEPEC members at a regularly scheduled meeting. A quorum is required prior to a vote.

V. Emergency Meeting Procedures

The CEPEC Rapid Review Conference Call shall be convened and Chaired by the State Geologist as CEPEC Chair, or by his/her designee if the Vice Chair is unavailable. The Agenda for the call shall be as follows:

- Convene the call as an Official Emergency Meeting of CEPEC; determination made as to others, if any, who should be asked to join
- The State Geologist provides description of event
- The State Geologist provides a seismic history and possible implications of event, supplemented as necessary by CEPEC members or outside experts
- CEPEC formulates description of situation and suggests nature of recommendation to CalOES for its consideration and action for appropriate public information notification
- State Geologist confirms recommendation to CalOES via e-mail to meeting participants



VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Opportunity for public attendees to provide comments or ask questions on any item included in the agenda.

VIII. OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

Opportunity for public attendees to provide comments or ask questions on any urgent items not included in the agenda.

IX. PLANNING FOR NEXT MEETING

The Council discusses administrative details and determines topics for the next planning meeting.

X. CLOSING REMARKS

