



Region I

Los Angeles
Orange
San Luis Obispo
Santa Barbara
Ventura

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Region I
CA Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Southern Region
1 MacArthur Place STE 600
Office 714.708.1200

Local Emergency Planning Committee – Region I

Meeting Minutes

August 13th, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL @ 10:00 AM BY LEE KIRBY, CHAIRPERSON

*Note: "V" indicates a voting member or alternate voting member.
"*" indicates in person attendance.*

*Lee Kirby – Chairperson, Downey Fire (V)
*Curt Corbin – Orange County Fire Authority (V)
Linda Philips – League of Women Voters (V)
Victor Morales – El Segundo Fire Department (V)
*Jerry Prado – CalTrans (V)
*Alvin Dong – LA City Fire Department (V)
*Tom Haug – O'Brien's, Response (V)
*Dang Chiem – Long Beach Fire, CUPA (V)
Nazy Chiniforoushan – City of Torrance Fire Department
Bob Dunivin – LA City Fire Department
*Steve Alva – LA City Fire Department
*Minh Le – LA City Fire Department
*Richard Thompson – LA City Fire Department

*Russ Siems – Anaheim Fire & Rescue
Daniel Maguire – County of Ventura Fire Department
*Alix Stayton – Public Water Agencies Group
Fernando Florez – LA County Fire
Milton Molina – LA County Fire
Joseph Caston – Department of Homeland Security, CISA
Carlos Vazquez – Department of Homeland Security, CISA
Jennifer Stevens – Department of Toxic Substances Control
CPT Quinones – 9th Civil Support Team
Steve Zody – 195 Wing, CA ANG
Cymbre Magana-Figueroa – Department of Fish & Wildlife
Stefan Sadeli – Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
Shannon Johnson – City of Simi Valley
Mina Taghizadeh – Cal EPA
Brandy Villanueva – Area G, LA County
Bret McLaughlin – Veteran's Affairs
Robert Stauffacher – City of San Diego
Kati Sithi – Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Rebecca Lustig – Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Joe Diaz – Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
*Art Herrera – CalTrans
Jeremy Gates – Southern California Edison
Steve Mayville – LEPC Region VI, Chair
Vincente Miles – Harbor Regional Center
Shruthi Sill – Orange County Health Care Agency
Andrew Kendrick – DCOR, LLC
Ernest Jacques – Messer
Chris Betancourt – Univar Solutions
Tim Ross – JCI Chemicals
Steve Cooper – AG Layne
*Rick Nelson – Ralph's
Rudy Terry – Ralph's
Michael Squyres – Spectrum Chemical
*Arsenio Hernandez – Action Cleanup Environmental Services Inc.
*Julian Agustin – Action Cleanup Environmental Services Inc.
*Chris Sanchez – Brenntag Pacific
*Steve Burton – Brenntag Pacific
Robert Steckler – Brenntag Pacific

Susan Smith – Azelis Americas
Carlos Flores – Chemical Strategies, Inc.
Dave Stone – Cal OES
*Jack Fry – Cal OES
Chris Herring – Cal OES
Erika Olsen – Cal OES
Jose Contreras – Cal OES
Chris Valenzano – Cal OES
Cruz Ponce – Cal OES
JP Robles – Cal OES
Michael Beeman – Cal OES
Ibrahim Koroma – Cal OES
*Brian Mancebo – Cal OES
*John Rose – Cal OES
*Jon Dumitru – Cal OES
*Deborah Yoon – Cal OES

2. ESTABLISH QUORUM & VOTE ON ITEMS

- Quorum has been met with 6 of 11 members present.
- 2025 Q2 minutes
 - Motion to approve by Alvin Dong; seconded by Tom Haug. Minutes are approved without changes.

3. OPENING CHAIR REPORT (LEE KIRBY)

- Thank you all for attending in person and online. Q1 meeting was cancelled due to LA Fires.
- Regional plan being developed is difficult. Who's interested: Thomas Haug, Lee Kirby. Cal OES can review the plan when ready, but staff haven't been assigned yet. Tom Haug and Lee Kirby can work together to solicit LEPC members to review certain portions that may relate to their field. HMEP grant funding can be used to contract out the regional plan. Lee Kirby, Tom Haug, and Erika Olsen will work on details of contracting out the regional plan.
- Water utilities had difficulty gaining access during the Eaton Fire. Kirby connected the bridge for Alix Stayton and Cal OES to come together and have meetings to prevent such happenings in the future.

4. CAL OES LEGISLATIVE STATUS REPORT (BRIAN MANCEBO, ERIKA OLSEN, IBRAHIM KOROMA)

- Ibrahim Koroma is traveling to Arkansas for a HazMat conference.
- Draft regulations have been returned from Cal EPA. The draft will be sent to OSPR's legal team and Cal OES executives after for review.
- Assembly bills of concern are AB 1285, AB 855, and SB 234.
- ERG requests can be made online at the bottom of the LEPC site.
- Continuing Challenge spots have all been filled and notified.
Cancellations will be filled with other LEPC Region 1 applicants on the waitlist until filled. Empty spots will be filled through other regions once the waitlist is exhausted.
- HMEP grant funding can be used to acquire a contractor to draft a Regional Plan. Staff are brainstorming how to work out the money side of things and what services different contractors provide.
- 2025-2026 grant came in late, and Cal OES internally decided to not issue subgrants due to time constraints. The grant monies will be reallocated to the next fiscal year.

5. PRESENTATION

Chinese Pesticides at Illegal Grows – Hasti Javid, Cal EPA, Enforcement Coordinator

- Slides are included in the meeting packet.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS (INFORMATION LOST DUE TO RECORDING ERROR.)

7. OLD & NEW BUSINESS

- Lee Kirby
 - LEPC has been contacted by a bay area chlorine facility to create an ongoing community-based emergency plan. Kirby has reached out to Houston LEPC to inquire if there are other community-based preparedness planning. Alix Stayton will be connecting Kirby to previous community preparedness planning members.
 - Jeremy Gates applied for the Public Utility Board position.
 - Motion to approve by Jerry Prado; seconded by Tom Haug.
Motion approved.
 - Dang Chiem will be changing his board position from Health to Fire.

- Motion to approve by Alvin Dong; seconded by Tom Haug.
Motion approved.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- LEPC board positions are vacant. Please reach out to lkirby@downeyca.org if you are interested in any positions.
- Andy Kendrick (DCOR LLC) requests to present at a future meeting on where their pipelines are, hazards associated with them, and strategies for emergency response, and to network so that fire agencies can have knowledge of where DCOR LLC's pipelines are located.
- Bob Dunivin will be teaching at the Continuing Challenge. He will be presenting on the LA fires with Chuck Tobias.

9. NEXT MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

- Date: Wednesday, November 12th, 2025
- Location: TBD
- Additional details pending

10. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:08 PM BY CHAIR LEE KIRBY.