

ALERT

March 2012 Volume 31

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2012 GOLDEN GUARDIAN Task Forces Workshop

CUEA MEMBERS Don Boland, Executive Director Emily Nourse, Editor

On Wednesday, February 22, Cal EMA and FEMA Region IX facilitated a Southern California Catastrophic Earthquake Response Plan Task Forces Workshop as part of the 2012 Golden Guardian Exercise Series. CUEA had a strong presence, with more than forty utility representatives participating. This event included representatives from local, Operational Area, state, and federal government as well as private and municipal utilities. Three task forces held workshops concurrently on Water Conveyance, Port Reconstruction, and Cajon Pass. LADWP and MWD, both members of CUEA's Board of Directors, facilitated the Water Conveyance meeting while, Executive Director Don Boland was at the head of the Cajon Pass meeting.

Each Task Force is intended to be a joint public-private sector collaborative, focusing on stabilizing and ultimately restoring critical infrastructure systems. The workshop connected Task Force members with their local, state, and federal counterparts to further explore and utilize plans developed for them as part of the Southern California Catastrophic Earthquake Response Plan. The Task Forces worked though a scenario to develop a briefing for the joint state and federal Unified Coordination Group (UCG) that will use that information during its own functional exercise to be held in May 2012. During the workshop, each Task Force addressed partnerships, roles, and responsibilities. Priorities were made clear and recommendations were set forth in stabilizing and restoring infrastructure based on a catastrophic earthquake scenario. Administration, resources, and funding needs were also identified.



NEW CAL EMA SECRETARY ANNOUNCED

CUEA welcomes Mark Ghilarducci, who has been appointed Secretary of the California Emergency Management Agency. Mike Dayton will serve as Under Secretary. Mr. Ghilarducci has been a partner and managing director at Diamante Partners LLC since 2011. He served as Vice President of Witt and Associates from 2003 to 2011. In the public sector Mark Ghilarducci was the deputy director for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services from 2000 to 2003, a Federal Coordinating Officer for the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency from 1997 to 2000 and deputy fire chief for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services from 1988 to 1997. Under Ghilarducci's leadership, Cal EMA will continue to have a strong working relationship with CUEA.



Secretary, Mark Ghilarducci and Under Secretary, Mike Dayton

2012 CUEA ANNUAL MEETING

Unifying Utilities and Emergency Management for Disaster Response June 5 & 6 2012 - Mather, CA

Please join us for the 2012 Annual Meeting. This year's event will be held at the California Emergency Management Agency Headquarters in Mather, on June 5 and 6. The membership meeting will take place on Tuesday June 5th and will feature the Board of Directors election and budget approval. Wednesday, speakers will include members of Cal EMA leadership and provide insight to working with state government during emergencies. Participants will get an inside look at the Sate Operations Center (SOC) located at Cal EMA Headquarters, as well as the Utility Operations Center within the SOC, which is staffed exclusively by CUEA. We hope that you will join us for this important opportunity to build stronger alliances.

Please contact the CUEA office to register.

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LADWP AND MWD HOST CAL EMA EXERCISE PLANNERS

CUEA members Metropolitan Water District and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power hosted Jim Woodword and Elaine Viray from CalEMA, and Dennis Coliten from FEMA on a tour of facilities and utility operations. This trip helped the representatives better understand the impact of a catastrophic earthquake on infrastructure in Southern California. LADWP began the meetings at their Truesdale Training Center. Enrique Hernandez of LADWP provided a presentation on the LA Aqueduct including information on expected damage after a 7.8 magnitude earthquake.

Once this portion of the meeting was completed, all headed to the Hokinson Heliport, Van Norman Reservoir Complex and were given a helicopter tour of the Aqueduct from Jawbone Siphon, following the Aqueduct back in to the Los Angeles basin. Included in the aerial tour were: Jawbone Siphon, Elizabeth Tunnel, Bouquet Reservoir, Castaic Power Plant, and Santa Susan Pump Station. At the conclusion of the helicopter tour, participants met with George Del Toro from MWD at their Emergency Control Center in Eagle Rock. There Mr. Del Toro provided a tour of the facility and also discussed the scenario developed by MWD for the workshop. This meeting also provided time to discuss the scenario developed by LADWP for the February 22nd workshop and the role that LADWP and MWD would play in heading the Water Conveyance Task Force meeting.



Enrique Hernandez (LADWP) guides Exercise Planners

FIRST CUEA WEB BASED TRAINING

The Training, Education, and Exercise Committee has developed a short web based training module on how to test GETS Cards. You can find the training presentation on the CUEA website. Please share this important training tool within your organization .This new venture opens new horizons for CUEA and its members to share training and relevant information in a timely and cost effective manner. In the future, other CUEA sponsored web based training will be posted to the web site as well.

CUEA MEMBER NAMED CA-NV AWWA CHAIR

CUEA is pleased to recognize long time member Alameda County Water District's Steve Dennis. He has recently been named the Chair of the California-Nevada Section of American Water Works Association. AWWA has served to heighten awareness and encourage communication within the water industry for the last 92 years. Steve has been working in the water industry since 1979 and with AWWA for the last 17 years.

He has said that his primary focus throughout his year as the volunteer chair will be working "...to employ ways in which the networking among our membership is enhanced so that the opportunities for a transfer of knowledge between one another is increased." We appreciate Steve's continued support of and activity in CUEA and his commitment to building relationships within the water sector as well as with other utilities.

CUEA SPEAKS AT DELTA VISION FOUNDATION

The Delta Vision Foundation hosted a roundtable discussion on Delta levees Thursday, March 1, 2012 . The Delta Vision Strategic Plan identified 15 actions to address risks to Delta lands, water supplies, the ecosystem, and the economy from levee failures, natural disasters, and sea-level rise. The meeting convened key managers and interest groups to review the status and progress of Delta security and preparedness programs and activities. There were three discussion sessions planned with brief presentations from panel members including CUEA Executive Director Don Boland.

Session 1 – Delta Risks and Consequences reviewed the current understanding of the risks and consequences of single and multiple levee failures resulting from flooding, earthquake, or other causes with panel members: Mike Mierswa, Department of Water Resources; Bob Pyke, Consultant to the Delta Protection Commission; Greg Gartrell, Contra Costa Water District; Jay Lund, UC Davis. Session 2 addressed Protecting Lives, Property, and Critical Infrastructure including the status of efforts to protect people, Delta economic resources, and critical infrastructure, including the Delta Emergency Response Plan, the status of efforts to improve the emergency response capacity in the Delta, and actions to secure emergency response materials. Panel Members included Jim Brown, California Emergency Management Agency; Bill Croyle, Department of Water Resources; Ron Baldwin, San Joaquin County (retired); Don Boland, California Utilities Emergency Association; and Paige Caldwell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Session 3 – Strategic Levee System: Advancing Near-term Levee Actions addressed levee rehabilitation priorities necessary to secure water supply reliability, enhance ecosystem restoration, and protect regional resources, including the actions needed and the institutional and funding structures necessary to support implementation, with a focus on near-term and mid-term actions. Panel Members included Gail Newton, Department of Water Resources; Randall Neudeck, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Jeff Michael, University of the Pacific (consultant for Delta Economic Sustainability Plan); Gilbert Cosio, Reclamation Districts Engineer; John Cain, American Rivers; Campbell Ingram, Delta Conservancy; and Dave Zezulak, Department of Fish and Game.

In early 2009, the Delta Vision Foundation was formed by members of the Governor's Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force. The DVF conducts ongoing analysis, issues public comment on the State's progress toward achieving the goals of the Delta Vision Strategic Plan, and presents information to policymakers, stakeholders, and the public. For more background information, please visit the Delta Vision Foundation website.

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NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING June 5, 2012 9:00 am - 12:00 pm GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

> June 5, 2012 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm *location:* Cal EMA Headquarters Mather, CA

SAVE THE DATE: CUEA 2012 ANNUAL MEETING Unifying Utilities and Emergency Management for Disaster Response June 6, 2012 8:00 am - 4:00 pm *location:* Cal EMA Headquarters Mather, CA

more information to follow