



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Office of Safety, Security, and Protection

• **OSSP Monthly Activities November 2025**

Summary

This monthly report provides a summary of OSSP activities for November 2025 in the following key areas:

- Safety, Regulatory, and Training (SRT)
 - Health and Safety Programs
 - Environmental Programs
 - Apprenticeship Programs
 - Safety and Technical Training Programs
- Security and Emergency Management
 - Security Management
 - Emergency Management

Purpose

Informational

Attachments

Attachment 1: Detailed Report – OSSP Monthly Activities for November 2025

Office of Safety, Security & Protection

Monthly Activities Report for November 2025

Improve the Workplace and Promote START Values
Strengthen safety training

Safety, Regulatory, and Training

SRT Health and Safety Programs

In partnership with the National Safety Council, staff conducted Safety Culture Leadership Training sessions for Metropolitan managers, introducing key principles to help Metropolitan transition from a traditional safety model to a safety learning organization. The Executive Safety Committee convened this month to review key performance metrics, recent incidents and inspection outcomes, enterprise-wide safety suggestions, and the status of the employee recognition program.

Additionally, the team successfully facilitated an unannounced, routine Cal/OSHA site visit at the Weymouth Water Treatment Plant, focusing on Process Safety Management compliance, specifically related to the handling of chlorine.

To promote further safety awareness, the team released the Headquarters Safety Newsletter, Issue #3, and a Safety Matters video on portable fall protection.



William Corey
O&M Tech - Lake Matthews



New Safety Matters Video and Headquarters Safety Newsletter

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SRT Environmental Programs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued a temporary Hazardous Materials Permit that is valid for 180 days. It is anticipated that a final permit will be granted following a successful compliance inspection of Metropolitan’s equipment.

Staff attended the Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD) Industrial Advisory Council’s quarterly meeting, which covered updates on federal, state, and local legislative developments. A key takeaway was the mandate to eliminate rainwater entry into the sewer system by September 2026. SRT staff will continue quarterly walkthroughs at Water Treatment Plants with active Industrial Wastewater Permits, focusing on identifying potential stormwater discharge areas.

The team also distributed the new “Spare a Minute for Air” Electrical Team training poster to stakeholders, which highlights essential Air Quality requirements relevant to Electrical Team operations.

Spare a Minute for Air Electrical Team

This guide is intended to provide a high-level overview on the main Air Quality related requirements specific to this team.

ALL PERMITTED/REGISTERED ENGINES

- Always keep permits/registrations with equipment, and promptly post updated versions when provided.
- Engines need to be equipped with a non-resettable hour meter, if the meter is replaced notify AQ Program and document in logbook.
- Complete all logbook fields, replace books when full/damaged.

PORTABLE ENGINE USE

- Portable diesel generators cannot be used to power stationary sources except during emergencies or electrical upgrades/stationary generator repair (max 90 days).

STATIONARY ENGINE USE

- Hours per year for maintenance and testing runtime are restricted, check permits for exact limits.
- SCAQMD stationary engine permits also have strict annual limit of 200 hours for all runtime reasons, must request exemptions.
- Additional records to keep accessible for review: maintenance (e.g. oil analysis & changes) and documentation of utility outages.

LOW-USE ENGINES

CARE Registered units limited to <200 hours/year

Check Registration Conditions

PLACARD COLORS:

- Red: Brown, Green (not all units)

QUALIFYING EMERGENCY EVENT USAGE DOES NOT COUNT TOWARD LIMIT:

- Wildfires, Floods, etc.
- Governor's Proclamation of State of Emergency
- Contact AQ Program to verify eligibility

SOLVENT VOC CONTENT LIMITS

Requirements below do not apply to Gases, Brms, Intake and Roof Mounts.

- 25 g/L - General Cleaning** (general work areas, surfaces, parts and equipment)
- 100 g/L - Electrical Cleaning** (equipment that collectively performs functions essential to operation of an electronic device)

The use of liquid denatured alcohol or other solvents may be allowable for specific purposes. Consult IESG 204LKH and verify compliance with AQ Program.

Acetone is a compliant solvent and VOC exempt

AEROSOL SOLVENT USAGE

Use of aerosols at the field along the distribution line/station locations has no restrictions.

New per facility limit of 1,250 ounces/month applies to all products exceeding the 25 g/L and 100 g/L VOC content limits described above.

VOC < 25g/L
No monthly limit ✓

25g/L < VOC < 100g/L
No monthly limit for electrical cleaning ✓
General cleaning use is limited *

VOC > 100g/L
General and electrical cleaning use is limited *

Essential new products are approved through New Stock from Suppliers and check with AQ Program to verify compliance with VOC limits or alternative MIB values.

For a detailed overview of all requirements, visit the [Health, Safety & Environmental Manual](#) located on the Intranet.

For additional questions, contact Kerstin Mobley (x77187), Anna Truffe (x76746) or Josh Lopez (x71449), or email AQProgram@metrcb.com.

Spare a Minute for Air Training Poster

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SRT Apprenticeship Programs

The Apprentice and Technical Training Unit has launched a pilot training program designed to support Operations employees in earning their Treatment (T2) and Distribution (D2) Operator certifications through the State Water Resources Control Board. This initiative promotes career advancement and helps ensure a skilled, certified workforce. It is a one-year pilot that includes 40 hours to complete the certification class, 20 hours for the test preparation course, and paid time to take the exam. The program is voluntary and open to all Operations employees, subject to approval by their manager. If successful, this may expand to offer training opportunities for additional certification levels, further strengthening professional development across the organization.

Operator Certification Training Program

What to Know

Metropolitan is piloting a voluntary new operator certification training program to help employees prepare for T2/D2 certifications by allowing participants to complete coursework, test preparation and take certification exams during work hours with manager's approval. This training will help prepare staff for career advancement and allow Metropolitan to meet future operational needs.

Study Options

Option 1: Independent Study
Forty hours are allotted for employees to complete the online training independently, with the flexibility to determine the best schedule with their manager. This option supports employees who prefer self-paced learning or have irregular schedules that make group sessions difficult to attend.

Option 2: Scheduled Study With Facilitator
Employees attend five, eight hour meetings in a computer lab setting. Employees will work at their own pace to complete the online training with a subject matter expert available to facilitate questions. This option is designed for employees who thrive in a structured environment with facilitator support.

Option 3: Team Study Group
Team members will work together on a local level in small study groups to complete the online training. This follows a similar structure as Option 2 and can be modified to fit the team needs within a forty-hour timeframe. This option combines peer learning with local access while maintaining schedule flexibility to accommodate operational needs.

Program Eligibility

This pilot program is open to everybody in the three operations groups. Those interested should ask for their manager's approval to complete the training. The work hour training program is offered once per eligible employee and will be scheduled to minimize operational impacts.

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Program Flyer for Pilot Operator Certification Program

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Improve the Workplace and Promote START Values

Expand security capabilities

Security Management

Metropolitan security staff provided the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Emergency Preparedness and Security Committee (EPSC) a special virtual briefing in November on Asylon's robotic quadruped, "Spot," currently conducting semi-autonomous security patrols at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant. The AWWA audience was very excited about the topic and asked staff technical questions regarding performance, reliability, cost, and capabilities of this emerging security technology. Topics discussed included:

- Robotic dog capabilities, limitations, and constraints
- Planning, implementation, and coordination
- Expectations for costs related to security activities
- Operational results, alarm responses and security event details
- Virtual dashboard views of the DroneIQ software's visual management platform
- Viewing of actual thermal and electro-optical video clips taken from the dog
- Questions and answers



Security staff briefed AWWA's Emergency Preparedness and Security Committee on Metropolitan's robotic patrol dog.

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Metropolitan security specialists and managers successfully completed both classroom and scenario-based dynamic “High-Risk De-Escalation and Decision-Making” certificated coursework conducted by the Center for Personal Protection and Safety (CPPS). CPPS is a third-party vendor that specializes in workplace violence prevention planning, travel risk management, threat assessment/management, and policy/compliance support.

Staff were each put through high-risk/high-stress scenarios, with a live role player, in which they were evaluated in their implementation of best security response practices and classroom de-escalation training. The training was conducted by two experts who were former law enforcement and security authorities in their respective fields.



Security staff engage in high-risk de-escalation and decision-making scenarios with live role players.

Security Guard Services Contract Award – Securitas

This month, Metropolitan finalized and awarded a new multi-year contract with Securitas for districtwide security guard services. The new five-year agreement strengthens our ability to protect critical infrastructure, employees, and assets through expanded staffing, enhanced patrol coverage, and modernized security technologies.

Key improvements incorporated into the contract include districtwide armed-officer capability, increased field patrols for unstaffed and remote facilities, integration of advanced patrol robotics and surveillance tools, and replacement of aging leased vehicles with more reliable assets.

The \$84 million contract also includes an 8 percent contingency to address predictable cost escalations such as California’s rising minimum wage, along with flexibility to respond to emerging, unforeseen security threats. This agreement positions Metropolitan to keep pace with the evolving risk landscape and maintain a proactive, resilient security posture across our service area.

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Emergency Management

Staff took delivery of a mobile command trailer which will be used to support field staff who respond to Fire Command Posts and other emergency sites. Vehicles like this are essential for supporting internal operations and member agencies during emergencies like the Eaton and Palisades Fires. Emergency Management staff is thankful to Fleet Services for making this possible.



Emergency Management's new mobile command trailer

Emergency Management staff attended the Southern California Critical Lifelines Workgroup meeting in El Segundo. This quarterly meeting included representatives from utilities in the greater Los Angeles area, including the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Southern California Edison, and Southern California Gas.

Representatives from the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the California Utilities Emergency Association (CUEA) gave presentations on the organizations and how they collaborate with local utilities.



Southern California Critical Lifelines Workgroup meeting

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On November 6, staff attended the opening of the Diemer Heli-Hydrant in Yorba Linda. This collaborative project between the Yorba Linda Water District, Metropolitan, and the Orange County Fire Authority will significantly enhance the rapid response to wildfires in the north Orange County area and is a shining example of cooperation.



Diemer Heli-Hydrant