



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Office of Safety, Security, and Protection (OSSP)

• OSSP Monthly Activities for November and December 2024

Summary

This monthly report provides a summary of OSSP activities for November and December 2024 in the following key areas:

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

Purpose

Informational

Attachments

Attachment 1: Detailed Report – OSSP Monthly Activities for November and December 2024

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Key Activities Report for November and December 2024

Project Highlights

Security and Emergency Management

Security and Emergency Response

Metropolitan Headquarters Security & Seismic Design Team Members host LADWP

Metropolitan hosted a variety of staff from Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) including architects, engineers, security staff, and operations managers to view its recently completed Metropolitan Headquarters Building seismic and security capital improvement project. Key Metropolitan staff members from various disciplines who had been involved in the project participated in the following:

- Comprehensive visual PowerPoint presentation on the project's layout and specific design features
- Question and answer session to address technical questions from LADWP counterparts
- Walking tour of Metropolitan Headquarters Building interior and exterior physical security measures

Attendees found the visit highly engaging and invaluable for insights into seismic design considerations, project management, construction challenges, material selection criteria, high-rise building standards, and other critical lessons learned. This visit provided an excellent opportunity for staff from both agencies to network professionally, fostering stronger working relationships between two essential utilities that frequently operate in proximity within the Los Angeles Basin. The partnership between our agencies has already begun producing mutual benefits, including shared training opportunities, joint threat mitigation strategy development, and collaborative risk evaluation efforts.



Metropolitan hosted LADWP delegation to share Metropolitan Headquarters Building security and seismic project upgrade design features

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Counter-Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Critical Infrastructure

The growing accessibility and advanced capabilities of consumer drones have heightened the risks they pose to critical infrastructure. In response, Metropolitan's Security and Emergency Management Unit has undertaken several initiatives, including a multi-agency workshop, to assess these threats and explore effective mitigation strategies. This ongoing effort will be addressed with the Board in upcoming engagements.

Emergency Management Program Update

On October 17, staff assigned to the Metropolitan Emergency Operations Center (EOC) participated in a functional exercise for the Great California ShakeOut. They practiced how they would manage the response to two magnitude 7+ earthquakes. The exercise included participants from the Calleguas and Foothill Municipal Water Districts, as well as the Long Beach Utilities Department, and radio tests for many of the other member agencies.



EOC staff participating in October 17 ShakeOut Exercise

On October 24, additional EOC staff participated in the second part of the ShakeOut Exercise, which focused on a virtual activation. They responded to a similar scenario as those on October 17 but coordinated and communicated through online applications and radios from various sites throughout the district.



Members of the Emergency Management Program team working out of a mobile command trailer during the October 24 ShakeOut Exercise

Staff participated in a joint Defense Support to Civil Authorities Tabletop Exercise at the Los Angeles City EOC on October 22. This exercise focused on how local cities, special districts, and others would coordinate with state National Guard and federal military units during a disaster.

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On November 6, staff prepared for potential civil unrest after the 2024 Presidential Elections, as well as a dangerous Santa Ana Wind event and wildfire threat. Metropolitan's EOC was prepared to activate to support employee safety and/or operations.

A large fire, the Mountain Fire, erupted in Ventura County and Metropolitan staff reached out to staff at the Calleguas Municipal Water District to offer support. Ultimately, the Metropolitan EOC did not need to activate, but we learned a great deal from our preparations.



Split screen shot of the election coverage and Mountain Fire in Ventura County

Safety, Regulatory, and Training

SRT Health and Safety Programs

Safety Talks and Training

A new Safety Talk was posted on Slips, Trips, and Falls, which are among the most common hazards in the workplace and result in missed workdays and put workers at risk of other injuries. It is important to understand how slips, trips, and falls happen, how to identify hazards, and how to eliminate or minimize the hazards.



New Safety Talk

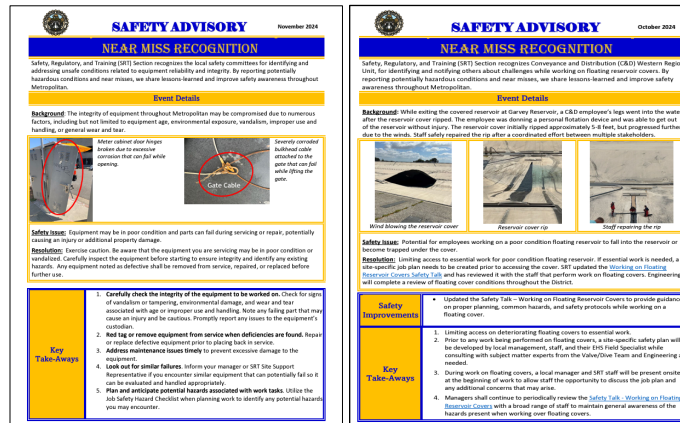
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Additionally, a series of asbestos abatement toolbox training was completed for the Engineering Services Group. The toolbox training provided an overview of asbestos abatement during capital investment construction projects. It focused on abatement methods and agency inspections by air quality management districts.

Safety Advisories

Two new Safety Advisories were posted. The first Advisory was to help employees identify potential unsafe conditions related equipment reliability and integrity. The key takeaways are to carefully check the integrity of equipment to be worked on, removing equipment from service when deficiencies are found, and to address maintenance issues in a timely manner.

The second Safety Advisory was to address a near miss that occurred while the employee was walking on a floating reservoir cover. Moving forward, Metropolitan is limiting access to essential work for floating reservoir covers in poor condition, requiring a site-specific job plan, and conducting a pre-job toolbox to discuss potential hazards and safe work practices.



New Near Miss Safety Advisories

SRT Environmental Programs

Industrial Wastewater

Staff applied for dewatering permits or submitted plans associated with the San Diego Pipeline 5 shutdown, Santa Monica Feeder shutdown, and PV Reservoir/Second Lower Feeder Bypass and supported six regulatory inspections during this period.

Hazardous Materials

Staff submitted several California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) submittals, including Temescal, Hinds, and Eagle, and are preparing for approximately 21 more submittals due the first quarter of 2025. Also, staff coordinated the pump-out of approximately 12,000 gallons of sulfuric acid and removed residual sludge from tanks and associated lines at the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant. Lastly, staff conducted three hazardous waste landfill vendor audits (Phibro-Tech Inc. in Santa Fe Springs, Clean Harbors in Buttonwillow, and Waste Management in Kettleman Hills) as part of its Joint Utility Vendor Audit Consortium (JUVAC) commitment.

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Air Quality

Staff successfully obtained a SCAQMD Emergency Variance for the emergency back-up propane generator located at the remote Pleasants Peak Telecommunications site in Orange County. Although an extended SCE power outage resulted in the generator engine exceeding the 200 hour/year permitted limit, under the approved Variance allowed Metropolitan to keep the critical communications hub powered. The excess emissions fees for NOx, CO, and Hydrocarbons will be paid, and the engine runtime will reset to zero beginning of CY 2025. Cross-organizational efforts are underway to identify future alternative compliance options for the emergency generator (e.g., downsizing; alternative fuels).

Staff increased its knowledge base regarding Zero Emission Vehicles and Infrastructure by:

- Visiting the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts Transfer Facility to view their recent ZEV purchases, including a Class 8 cargo tanker truck and water truck
- Participating at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) EVs2Scale 2030 Meeting to preview interactive EV planning tools related to grid capacity and location
- Attending an Advanced Clean Tech event showcasing hydrogen technology for Nikola trucks and refueling stations at the Port of Long Beach

The gathered information supports Metropolitan's ZEV transition planning and regulatory efforts.

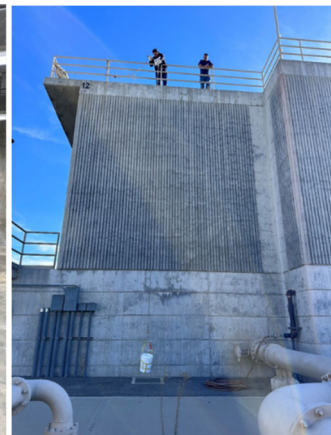


LACSD ZE Cargo Tanker Truck and Water Truck

Hydrogen Refueling Operation

SRT Apprenticeship Programs

SRT Apprenticeship Programs prepare apprentices to become certified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. Physical abilities testing was completed for the pre-apprentice recruitment at Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant. Candidates participated in simulated confined space, working overhead, shoveling, climbing with lifting, and wire color matching activities. This is the final step in the recruitment process. Candidates will be ranked by overall score onto an eligibility list and offered positions according to rank. New apprentices are expected to begin work in early 2025.



Physical abilities test for confined space, working overhead, and climbing with lifting

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SRT Safety and Technical Training Programs

Staff provided a series of hazardous material training to Los Angeles County Sanitation District and Napolitan Innovative Center (NIC) staff, including Department of Transportation (DOT) chemical safety and security, safe handling, and minor spill clean-up.

Staff is updating the SOOM High Voltage Switching, Advanced Mechanical Valving, and High Voltage Switching & Valving for C&D for 2025. This important process includes updates from the System Operating Review Committee as well as lessons learned from recent near misses and other incidents. The updates ensure that classroom exercises and site visits remain relevant, and they train staff to appropriate levels of competency in its respective fields.