

**2011-2012 BOARD MEMBERS**

**Ken Fussell**, Chair  
Sempra Energy Utilities  
**George Del Toro**, Vice Chair  
Metropolitan Water District  
**Angie Robinson**, Sect./Tres.  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
**Shane Chapman**, Director  
Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD  
**Patrick Findley**, Director  
Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power  
**Chris Salkeld**, Director  
AT&T  
**John Spittler**, Director  
Golden State Water Company  
**Steve Frew**, Director  
East Bay Municipal Water District  
**Lowell Handy**, Director  
Verizon Wireless  
**Jana Monroe**, Director  
Southern California Edison  
**Sonny Fong**, Director  
California Dept. of Water Resources  
**Terry Beaudoin**, Director  
Sprint-Nextel  
**Mike Peterson**, Director  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company

**CUEA MEMBERS**

*Don Boland*, Executive Director  
*Emily Nourse*, Editor

## 2012 CUEA 60TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL MEETING

This year's Annual Meeting celebrated CUEA's 60th Anniversary. The four founding members; Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Metropolitan Water District, and East Bay Municipal Utility District, were recognized for their committed leadership and continues, outstanding service.

The conference was held on June 6, 2012 at the California Emergency Management Agency Headquarters in Mather, California. Subject matter experts from Cal EMA, FEMA, Cal Fire, CA National Guard, CA Energy Commission, and Sempra Energy contributed their knowledge to the theme of the meeting, "Unifying Utilities and Emergency Management for Disaster Response."



**IN THIS ISSUE**

CUEA ANNUAL MTNG	P1
SD EXERCISE	P3
CDPH WORKSHOP	P3
DHS SAFECOM	P3
LIBERTY UTIL. EX.	P4

Both Cal EMA Secretary, Mark Ghilarducci, and Cal EMA Under Secretary, Mike Dayton, addressed where Cal EMA is today in the changing political climate and how changes in the government and the State's economy will affect Cal EMA in the future. Steve Sellers from Cal EMA then presented on the State's Operations Center and the development of the new web based Emergency Operations Center (WebEOC). Participants then had an opportunity to tour the impressive State Operations Center as well as the adjoining Utility Operations Center, which CUEA staffs during activation.

Mark Armstrong from FEMA provided an overview of the Unified Coordination Group concept. Lt. Col. Noll from the California National Guard spoke on Title X /Title XXXII and dual status command. Next, Jim Ayre from Cal EMA provided information on emergency management training programs and the California State Training Institute (CSTI). Andy McMurry and Clare Frank from Cal Fire introduced their new technology platform which enables a more efficient response and coordination during emergencies. Cal EMA Law Enforcement Chief Robert Gerber spoke to the group about Mutual Assistance support between Law Enforcement and utilities through CUEA. Information on the Fuel Set Aside program was provided by Gordon Schremp from the California Energy Commission. Ken Fussell from Sempra Energy closed out the program with an inside look on the September 8, 2011 San Diego Power Outage.

Attendees of the 2012 CUEA Annual Meeting benefitted greatly from the information shared and the relationships built, thus strengthening California's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and other serious events. Thank you to those who participated in celebrating this milestone. With your continued support of the organization and its initiatives, CUEA continues to lead the way in statewide utility emergency response and planning.



Charter Members of CUEA: Steve Frew (East Bay MUD), George Del Toro (Metropolitan Water District), Patrick Findley (Los Angeles Department of Water and Power), and Elizabeth Brinton (Sacramento Municipal Utility District)

## **SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY DRINKING WATER TABLETOP EXERCISE**

On June 25th, California Utilities Emergency Association Executive Director, Don Boland, participated in the California Emergency Management Agency along with the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services Tabletop Exercise to discuss the issue of providing drinking water in San Diego County during a catastrophic event. The following topics were discussed in detail:

- Notification process between San Diego County water utilities through San Diego OES to Cal EMA and CUEA.
- Resources required from State and Federal partners to support this catastrophic event
- When, where, and how requested resources would arrive in San Diego County
- San Diego County's draft Point of Distribution (POD) Plan

The exercise stressed a free learning environment directed towards discussing the following plans and making improvements through lessons learned. Exercise designers included San Diego Water Agencies Emergency Operations Plan, San Diego County's EOP Annex J, Appendix W, San Diego County's draft POD Plan, and Cal EMA's Multi-Agency Response Guidance for Emergency Drinking Water Procurement & Distribution co-authored by CUEA.

## **CDPH PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP**

On June 28, 2012 Don Boland Executive Director of California Utilities Emergency Association addressed the California Department of Public Health's 2012 Preparedness Workshop. He addressed Utility Infrastructure, Interdependencies and Integration with Government and Critical Lifelines in Emergency's.

This presentation was directed to local public health preparedness and local hospital preparedness program staff about utilities and the challenges that the public health and medical sector could be faced with, as most of the audience of about 250 participants were from local health departments.

## **DHS: SAFECOM CONFERENCE**

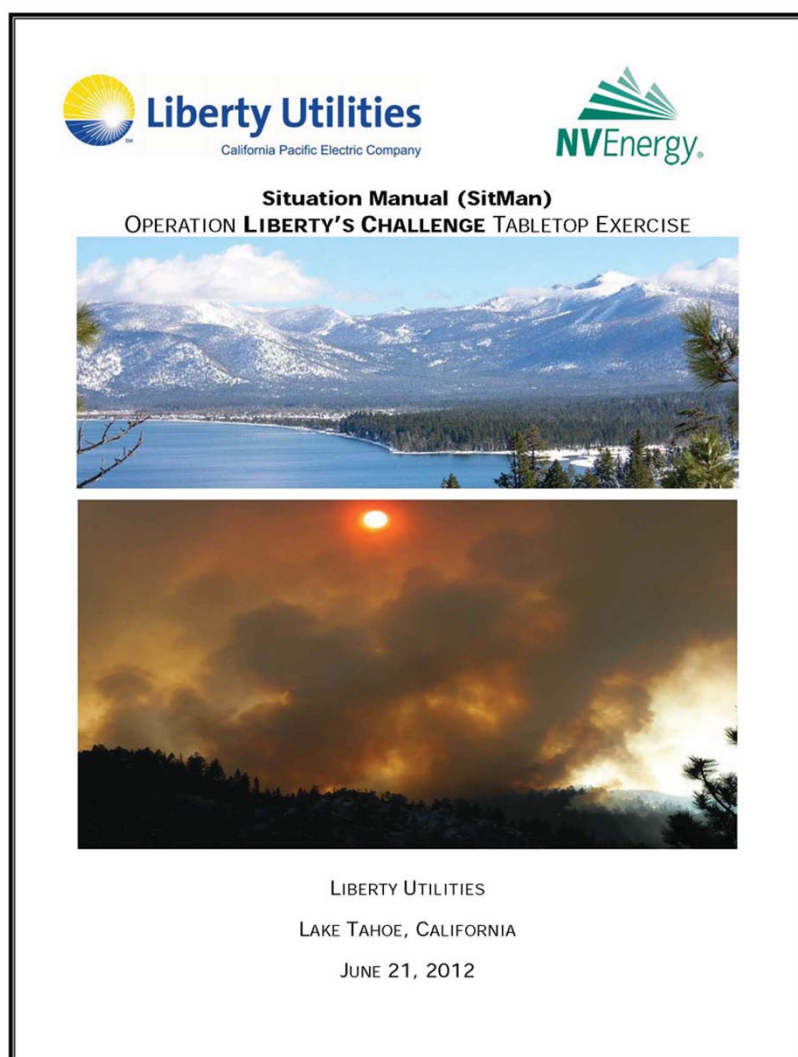
On June 12, 2012 in Los Angeles the DHS Office of Emergency Communications along with Cal EMA hosted a discussion panel at the SAFECOM conference on Intergovernmental Agencies and the role Utilities role in Public Safety.

Don Boland Executive Director of CUEA joined, John Penido, Disaster Management Area Coordinator, LA County Operational Area, James Frawley, Fire Chief of San Marino Fire Department and Don Wise, Executive Administrator, Verdugo Fire Communications Center on a panel addressing the Importance of Public/Private Partnerships in California and their significance in emergency management, specifically emergency communications regarding the State of California. This event set the stage for the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Conference that followed.

## LIBERTY UTILITIES TABLETOP EXERCISE

California Utilities Emergency Association participates in a progressive Tabletop Exercise hosted by member Liberty Energy.

Operation Liberty's Challenge was a Table Top Exercise designed to bring together utilities and infrastructure providers and the local jurisdictions they serve, in a scenario that integrates public safety agencies and state and local coordination. In January 2010, the California service territory of NV Energy was purchased by Liberty Energy which owns and operates the electric facilities in the Eastern California Region. As an assurance of continuity of service and reliability, Liberty Energy has ensured operating resource availability through automatic aid and Mutual Assistance with neighboring electric utilities. Ongoing coordination and planning for emergency incidents between utilities and local jurisdictions is essential.



Liberty's Challenge is derived from the varied terrain and hazards inherent to the service area, from Alpine forest and the pristine Lake Tahoe, to the rural grass and sage lands in the lower elevations, and the annual reoccurring threats of Wind and Snow in the winters and Wildland and Forest Fires in the summer months. All the utility providers in this region share these threats and have committed to respond effectively and jointly, and in coordination with public safety and state and local jurisdictions ensuring safety and service to customers and the communities at large.

This exercise focused achieving the following goals:

1. **Communications:** ensure effective communications within each agency and identify any shortfalls or areas of improvement
2. **Incident Management:** Identify Incident Management capabilities within each agency to address multiple incidents
3. **Public Safety Coordination:** Ensure effective communication between the multiple agencies and Incident Management Teams activated on multiple incidents

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES AND/OR PICTURES FOR  
NEXT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER DUE BY 9/20/12:

EMILY.NOURSE@CALEMA.CA.GOV

**NEXT BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS MEETING**

September 19, 2012  
9:30 am - 3:00 pm

*Location:*  
AT&T  
San Diego, CA