

ACWA JPIA 2021/2022 Risk Control Grant Program Recipients



Members agree to update ACWA JPIA to review project progress and results, and share lessons learned and observations about the implementation and outcomes. Upon completion of the project, members shall provide a report to the Risk Management Committee and Executive Committee, summarizing the project goals and results achieved.

Centerville Community Services District (CCSD) – Generac Generator

Located within a high wildland fire risk area, CCSD endured the Carr Fire (2018), and the Zogg Fire (2020), as well as multiple Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). The District receives most of its power from PG&E, and as a result, CCSD is often subject to frequent power outages during times when power is most critical. The District has installed a power generator to replace existing temporary portable gas power at the Diggins Repeater Station. The District's Resource and Planning Committee approved this enhancement. The installation of this propane generator, contained within its own security shell, will provide residents and firefighters with access to a source of water. This installation can also reduce potential losses by providing a reliable water system, and may **eliminate** the need for employees to visit this location during an active wildland fire. This improvement is also in line with the JPIA's Commitment of Excellence (C2E) *best practice – Wildfire Prevention*.

Calaveras Public Utility District (CPUD) – Cybersecurity Upgrade

CPUD can upgrade its network allowing the District to monitor new connections to its system. The District plans to secure assets against interference by upgrading multiple systems and remote terminal units to reduce potential *equipment failure*, which is a JPIA C2E *Infrastructure* best practice. With this network upgrade, operators will have the ability to control pumps remotely and potentially decrease the District's exposure to malicious interference and **eliminate** the need to be on-site. The installation and upgrade of a cybersecurity system minimizes the potential for a cyberattack that may compromise customer information and threaten water security.

Mid-Peninsula Water District (MPWD) – Risk Resiliency Assessment

MPWD conducted a Risk and Resiliency Assessment (RRA) in response to America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA). The RRA benefits the District and the community it serves to address potential issues with malevolent acts within the water systems, which are **engineering controls**. Based on the recommendations, the District created a strategic plan to identify vulnerabilities and improve organizational management practices. The goal is to reduce risk and lost productivity due to *equipment failure* if systems were compromised, which is a JPIA C2E *Infrastructure* best practice. Mid-Peninsula Water District may develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), including security controls and password management which are **administrative controls**.

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Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD) – Pres Tech Valve Operator

With the purchase of a Pres Tech Valve Operator, VVCSD plans to automate exercising over 500 valves. Altering work operations from manual to automation is a **substitution control**. This process can help improve safety and health in the workplace by reducing employees' exposure to potential injuries. This new process can potentially **eliminate** the use of paper maps for locating valves, as the valve operator is integrated with Global Positioning System (GPS). The valve operator can catalog the exact location of valves allowing a rapid response which are best practices in the *C2E Infrastructure Waterline Failure* and *Ergonomics Operations Equipment* loss reduction focus menus.

Walnut Valley Water District (WVWD) – EchoShore Leak Detection

Aging infrastructure is a challenge faced by numerous water agencies including WVWD. To address this issue, the District seeks to utilize a leak detection system to identify underground water leaks. This prevention method is a *C2E Infrastructure Waterline Failure* best practice. The District hopes to deploy 30 EchoShore nodes, as a 90-day pilot and monitor sections of the water system for problematic areas. These leak sensors are integrated into a fire hydrant cap with zero impact on customers, fire services, and water operations staff. If this pilot is successful, WVWD can **eliminate** leak inspections and can identify precise locations needing repair, saving time and water.

San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) – Garmin inReach Satellite Communicators

The greatest risk when working alone is not having help readily available if an emergency occurs. With the assistance of satellite communication devices, SLDMWA may locate a lone worker quickly by GPS and can communicate with employees in areas with no cellular service. Having the ability to reach out in the event of an emergency and ensuring workers are quickly located is an **administrative control**. This lone worker program meets regulatory compliance with [Cal/OSHA Heat Illness Prevention \(8 CCR 3395\)](#) and improves response by aligning with *C2E Wildfire Prevention* best practices.

Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) – Air-Tow Drop Deck Trailer

Manually loading and unloading heavy equipment or supplies from ground level to a three foot high trailer has the potential for an employee to suffer a serious injury. To mitigate this potential hazard, YLWD purchased an Air-Tow Drop Deck trailer to support the District's ergonomic program, a C2E best practice and protect against property and workers' compensation losses. The trailer bed can be lowered with the push of a button to rest on the ground allowing lift-assisted equipment to help load/unload **eliminating** the need to manually handle the equipment and supplies.

ACWA JPIA 2021/2022 Risk Control Grant Program Recipients

Santa Clarita Valley Water Authority (SCVWA) – Kenwood Emergency Radios

Based on SCVWA emergency preparedness planning, if cellular communications are disrupted the District could lose 70 percent of its communication capabilities. With the purchase and installation of mobile radios into all District vehicles, SCVWA could improve communications with essential personnel by implementing this **engineering control**. The District can improve its response and recovery plan, a *C2E Wildfire Prevention* best practice, and continue protecting assets while potentially reducing claims.

Carmichael Water District (CWD) – Backup Power Generator

Over the last two years, CWD had four long-term power outages resulting in pressure loss at multiple locations impacting water distribution to thousands of customers. CWD plans to improve their facilities protection and readiness, consistent with the *C2E Wildfire Prevention* best practice, by equipping five well locations with standby power sources to maintain water distribution to all customers, **eliminating** the need for an outside power source. These generators have the potential to reduce losses and **eliminate** potential claims.

North Coast County Water District (NCCWD) – Security System

NCCWD houses multiple water tanks and continues to be affected by losses caused to tanks from rock pelting. Adding a camera monitoring system to the site would provide an additional layer of security that is necessary to protect the District's infrastructure and water supply. This system has the potential to **eliminate** the occurrences of vandalism at the site and allow staff to easily monitor the area after hours and report any incidences. The implementation of a video surveillance system is a *C2E Infrastructure* best practice.

South Coast Water District (SCWD) – Heavy Equipment Operator Certification Program

Two of the top four hazards construction workers face are classified as caught-in/between and struck-by accidents, caused by failure to properly operate heavy machinery. SCWD plans to create classroom activities and field exercises that are linked specifically to vehicle operations and injury reduction in a five-day certification program. The District is applying **administrative controls** to train and certify staff on properly operating heavy equipment and may incorporate specific SOPs into this program. Promoting staff development through job-specific training is a *C2E Employment Practices* best practice, and ensures the safety of those around a worksite. This program may assist other agencies with a benchmark for risk management and loss control techniques.