



## Safety, Regulatory, and Training Section

### ● Environmental, Health, and Safety Report for the Third Quarter of 2024

#### Summary

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The Safety, Regulatory, and Training (SRT) Section in the Office of Safety, Security and Protection is responsible for overseeing Metropolitan’s compliance with environmental, health, and safety (EHS) regulations and procedures. This report provides an update on Metropolitan’s EHS program activities and key initiatives for the period from July through September 2024; the next quarterly EHS report will be issued in January 2025.

#### Purpose

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Informational

#### Detailed Report

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#### Implementing National Safety Council (NSC) Recommendations

The Executive Safety Committee held their inaugural meeting with the National Safety Council (NSC) in attendance. This committee will make appropriate executive-level decisions on safety priorities, resource allocation, and initiatives affecting Metropolitan business operations. In their first meeting, the committee finalized the Safety Vision and Guiding Principles based on feedback received from focused group sessions, reviewed EHS performance metrics and injury trending, and received training overview from NSC on Human and Organizational Performance.

**SAFETY VISION**  
Through high standards and leadership at all levels, we are committed to achieving zero harm to employees, partners, public, environment, and infrastructure.

**We are ONE. We are EMPOWERED. SAFETY starts with ME.**

**Safety Guiding Principles**

- Establish and maintain a clear focus on reducing risk to foster the safest work environment possible that will ensure all employees leave at the end of each day without injury.
- Advance safety culture through teamwork and collaboration, addressing safety challenges with mutual respect, civility, and professionalism.
- Create an atmosphere that invites employees to offer their experience and advice to improve safety by raising concerns and questions about work procedures without fear of retaliation, and in a forum that appreciates their contributions.
- Comply with applicable laws and regulations, while empowering work teams to resolve safety issues at the lowest practical level in the organization.
- Celebrate successes and recognize the contribution of employees, work teams and partners who advance safety performance.

#### Safety Vision and Guiding Principles

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## Indoor Heat Illness Prevention Program

The California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) put into effect the new indoor heat illness prevention regulations. The indoor regulations mirror the outdoor heat illness regulations requiring provisions of drinking water for employees, rest periods, and indoor cool-down or outdoor shaded rest areas. Health and Safety incorporated the indoor regulation requirements into the existing outdoor heat illness prevention program and trained employees on heat-related illness and preventive measures for both indoor and outdoor settings. Lastly, Heat Wave and High Heat Alert messages were sent to all employees during heat wave or high heat events of temperatures greater than 95°F.

## Hazardous Materials

The Environmental Team cleaned out the Mills Water Treatment Plant Sulfuric Acid tank. This project consisted of a job walk, multiple planning meetings, proper locking and tagging out of the tank, review of vendor safety plans and documentation, tank cleanout, and disposal of sulfuric acid, sludge, and rinse water. Also, staff inspected and verified the readiness of the new Intake Temporary Bleach Skid to accept its first delivery.

## Wastewater and Tanks

The Environmental Team completed the required vapor vent line modifications to the Weymouth Fuel Underground Storage Tank and testing. The City of La Verne Fire Marshal conducted the final site inspections. This project enabled a full return-to-service for both tank compartments.

## Air Quality Permitting

An application was submitted to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) to permit abrasive blasting operations at Gene, Iron, and Intake. Staff is working with MDAQMD on permit flexibility to cover varying blasting activities needed to maintain Metropolitan’s critical infrastructure at the Desert Pump Plants, including the Colorado River Aqueduct Rehabilitation Maintenance Project.



**Examples of Desert abrasive blast booth and equipment to be included in the MDAQMD permit**

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## Key EHS Performance Measures

Metropolitan has been tracking the success of the EHS program since 2010 using key performance indicators (KPIs) applied by many leading organizations. These KPIs fall into two categories: Leading Indicators, which are proactive efforts to improve EHS performance, and Lagging Indicators, which measure the effectiveness of preventive measures. The April through June 2024 KPIs for Metropolitan’s EHS program are shown below. Note, July through September 2024 KPI results are not yet available and will be included in the next quarter EHS report issued in January 2025.

EHS KPIs (April through June 2024)			
KPI	Type	Goal	Result <sup>1</sup>
Safety Inspection Completion Rate	Leading	90%	97%
Mandatory Safety Training Completion Rate	Leading	90%	91%
Toolbox Completion Rate (every 10 days)	Leading	90%	92%
Safety Committee Meeting Rate (once per quarter)	Leading	90%	100%
Recordable Injuries	Lagging	0	2
Inspections with Regulatory Violations	Lagging	0	0
Reportable Chemical Spills	Lagging	0	3

<sup>1</sup> Green shading denotes goal met and yellow shading denotes goal was not met.

For this quarter, all goals for leading KPIs were achieved with  $\geq 90\%$  completion rate. Metropolitan facilities recorded a total of 2 recordable injuries that are beyond first aid. There were 3 reportable spills: (1) a spilled chlorine solution from a broken injection line, which was cleaned up by staff; (2) a minor chlorine gas release from a partially ruptured isolation disc that was neutralized by the facility’s scrubber system; and (3) an emergency release of treated water to a local creek associated with a facility leak which was reported to local regulatory agencies.

## Regulatory Agency Inspections

During the April through June 2024 period, Metropolitan facilities underwent a total of 17 regulatory agency inspections, conducted by local air quality, sanitation, health, fire, safety departments. There were no inspections that resulted in a notice of violation. Note, July through September 2024 regulatory agency inspections will be included in the next quarter EHS report issued in January 2025.

## Cal/OSHA Inspections

During the April through June 2024 period, there were no Cal/OSHA inspections. Note, July through September 2024 Cal/OSHA Inspections will be included in the next quarter EHS report issued in January 2025.