

Questions and Answers

eAR Brown Bag Training #4 – Sections 9-18, Finalize

- 1. Question:** Is it possible to access the recordings of the webinars for review?
Answer: Yes, these are published on the [eAR website](#) under the eAR technical assistance resources.
- 2. Question:** Does a BSSP form need to be uploaded for a small well water treatment system with a recently adopted RTCR. If so, who do we submit it to?
Answer: Updated and/or new BBSPs are submitted to your District Office/LPA regulator.
- 3. Question:** Is there a place to indicate N/A if the water system does not have a treatment system?
Answer: No, this information is coming from SDWIS our database records.
- 4. Question:** Regarding section 14, if an agency purchases treated water would the section be completed by the purchasing agency, or from the source provider?
Answer: The agency selling the water would complete that section in their eAR. The eAR for the agency that is purchasing the treated wouldn't be able to answer the questions.
- 5. Question:** Regarding section 12, will any listed improvements lead to a violation for lacking a permit amendment?
Answer: This is up to your District Office/LPA regulator.
- 6. Question:** Do all water systems need to have a back-up generator?
Answer: No, not *all* systems are required to have a backup generator. Section 10609.62(c) of the California Water Code says, "Small water suppliers and non-transient non-community water systems that are schools shall implement, subject to funding availability, all of the following drought resiliency measures: (c) No later than January 1, 2024, to ensure continuous operations during power failures, provide adequate backup electrical supply."
- 7. Question:** On Section 10, how do you report inactive assemblies? Do we subtract the inactive backflow assemblies from the total number of assemblies in the system?
Answer: You can report inactive assemblies in section 10A. Don't include the inactive backflow assemblies in the table of backflow assemblies tested in 2023. Inactive assemblies are entered in the "No. of Inactive Backflow Prevention Assemblies in water system in 2023:" field.
- 8. Question:** How to submit the Emergency Response Plan document?
Answer: To upload your ENP, please follow the steps below:
1. Go to your portal homepage.

2. Click on "Document Upload".
3. Then, click on "Water Quality Emergency Notification Program (WQENP) uploads".
4. Click on "Upload" to upload your ENP.

If you are unable to see the option to upload your ENP, please contact your District Office/LPA regulator. They will be able to delete the document that is already uploaded and then you can upload the updated ENP.

- 9. Question:** Do ENPs need to obtain approval from the District Office/LPA regulator before they can be uploaded?

Answer: Contact your District Office/LPA regulator.

- 10. Question:** Can the entire eAR be exported or only the summary?

Answer: Yes, it can be exported, you can find a blank 2023 eAR template on the [eAR website](#), under *Log In & Reporting Information*. You can also export your submitted eAR. For instructions on exporting submitted eAR check out pages 14-15 of the [eAR User Guidance Document](#).

- 11. Question:** Why does the eAR give the option to prefill on each section however, it does not prefill anything?

Answer: Some sections have questions that are pre-filled from SDWIS (data base of record) or from the previous year's eAR.

- 12. Question:** What is the link for the eAR technical assistance resources and the eAR website?

Answer: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/ear.html

- 13. Question:** Regarding backup generators is there is an affordability element involved?

Answer: As stated in SB-552 legislation Water Code Section 10609.62(c) the systems needs to "provide adequate backup electrical supply." A backup generator is the most common means of doing such. Water Code Section 10609.62, says, "*Small water suppliers and nontransient noncommunity water systems that are schools shall implement, subject to funding availability,...*".

- 14. Question:** In section 10, our cross-connection/backflow management system and a lot of data was lost in the transition so the numbers may not be accurate. Will this be a violation?

Answer: We recommend reaching out to your regulator for an answer.

- 15. Question:** For ERP's, do we need to upload our plan? The EPA does not even want uploads of plans for security reasons so, should these plans be made available to the public and subject to increased risk of vulnerability of water systems?

Answer: You just need to validate that you have one, you don't need to have them publicly available. Regarding making them publicly available, if you are subject to the public records act requests, then we recommend reviewing with your attorney.

16. Question: Could you confirm that an Emergency Notification Plan required of all water systems is not the same as an Emergency Response Plan that is required for systems. Water systems serve more than 3000 people.

Answer: Yes, those are separate plans.

17. Question: Where can apply to receive a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) fee reduction?

Answer: DAC fee reduction only applies to community water systems, and it is found in section 1B of your eAR.

18. Question: Section 16 question B.3 asks for what is the date your water quality emergency notification plan (WQENP) was last exercised? Is this referring to ERP?

Answer: No, those are separate plans.

19. Question: The information about supply and delivery is not included in the eAR. Is it necessary to report this information in a different database?

Answer: Yes, it is still necessary to report this information. Section 6 Supply & Delivery was removed and added into the SAFER Clearinghouse. If you are unsure who needs to report this information read [DDW's Technical Reporting Order](#).

20. Question: Is there a way to view all data that is in the eAR in SAFER Clearinghouse site?

Answer: No, you can only view data that you input into your SAFER Clearinghouse account. You'll need a separate Clearinghouse account. You can't see data input into your eAR from your SAFER Clearinghouse account and you can't see SAFER Clearinghouse data from your eAR account.

21. Question: Do you anticipate changes in eAR reporting every year?

Answer: Yes, we usually have enhancements every year to improve the eAR. We don't know if we will have any large changes (i.e. removal sections that go to another database like the SAFER Clearinghouse) next year.