

CEI Hub Interagency Meeting Notes

June 2026

This meeting was held by DEQ and Portland State's University Institute of Sustainable Solutions in cooperation with outside agencies involved in the CEI Hub, in order to coordinate outside agency communication and prioritization of mitigation actions to address their needs.

Meeting minutes

June 23rd, 2026

10:35 a.m. FTSS Program Update

Presenter Summary (DEQ staff):

- Provided an overview of program status and facility participation.
- Confirmed the only statutory deadline was the June 2024 submission of seismic vulnerability assessments; all facilities met this.
- Work is now in an iterative review stage between DEQ and facilities.
- Highlighted challenges encountered early in implementation, including:
 - Need to clarify expectations for submittals
 - Consultant hiring and turnover among facilities
 - Delays in geotechnical laboratory testing
- Shared that legislative interest focused on program timing, clarity of requirements, and new technologies potentially relevant to seismic safety.
- Reiterated that the long-term objective is seismically stable and safer fuel terminals, preventing spills during major seismic events.

Participant Discussion:

- Sought clarification on the total number of facilities in the program and how different categories (active, decommissioning, approved) fit together.
- Asked whether the program is on track relative to expectations or targets.
- Asked about goals of the 10-year implementation timeline and whether outcomes relate specifically to mitigation versus broader safety improvements.
- Requested more information about legislative questions and implementation challenges.

10:50 a.m. COFR Rulemaking Update

Presenter Summary (DEQ staff):

- Reviewed the new statutory requirement for Certificates of Financial Responsibility (COFR) applying to CEI Hub-regulated facilities.
- Explained that COFR will cover spill-related liabilities, not limited to seismic events.
- Outlined basic financial assurance mechanisms under consideration (insurance, self-insurance, bonds, etc.) and noted alignment with Washington's program.
- Discussed the statutory financial coverage range, including the maximum coverage requirement in place through 2030.

- Noted the compressed rulemaking timeline needed to meet the March 2027 application deadline.

Participant Discussion:

- Provided federal context: some national agencies do not require financial assurance for fixed facilities, though liability caps exist under federal law.
- Shared that some local response agencies do not traditionally bill for incident-related losses, while others recoup costs in cases with clear responsible parties.
- Described results of recent spill drills showing response costs of roughly \$1.2 million per day, covering contractors and multiple agencies.
- Requested clarification about what spill-related liability encompasses and how quickly a coverage cap could be reached during a major response.
- Noted that updated drill cost reports will be shared once available.

11:00 a.m. PSU Seismic Readiness Assessment Report Sharing

Presenter Summary (DEQ staff):

- Explained that the assessment identifies significant vulnerabilities in infrastructure systems supporting the CEI Hub, including transportation, water supply, communications, and emergency response capabilities.
- Emphasized that many municipal and regional systems may be nonfunctional after a major earthquake, affecting response feasibility.
- Noted that the report compiles roles and responsibilities across agencies and reveals coordination gaps.
- Stated that DEQ will share the report with consulting teams to ensure facility mitigation plans account for realistic infrastructure constraints rather than assuming full external support.

Participant Discussion:

- Local response agencies described limited ability to add new CEI-specific capabilities due to budget constraints and staffing reductions.
- Identified the report as a valuable gap analysis tool for internal planning.
- Emphasized need for better long-term cross-sector governance and coordination for CEI Hub recovery.
- Cited comparative examples from other states where infrastructure assessments are ranked to prioritize upgrades.

11:30 a.m. Mitigation Opportunity Brainstorming

Presenter Summary (DEQ staff):

- Invited discussion of funding pathways and ongoing mitigation activities.
- Noted interest in strengthening facility-level and public-sector coordination.
- Encouraged participants to identify feasible short-term and long-term mitigation actions.

Participant Discussion:

- Asked whether an incremental increase to a statewide hazardous materials fee could be directed toward CEI Hub resilience needs.
- Discussed FEMA BRIC as a key opportunity for design-ready and infrastructure-focused projects.
- Raised the possibility of statewide resilience-focused funding mechanisms, including voter-approved measures.
- Described upcoming local policy proposals intended to limit fuel terminal expansion and reduce overall tank capacity by 2036, in alignment with seismic mitigation requirements.

- Identified major regional infrastructure needs important to CEI Hub operations, such as replacement of a key river crossing and mitigation of liquefaction risk at a major airport runway.
- Noted ongoing work to integrate ShakeAlert into both city-owned and community-owned infrastructure near the CEI Hub.
- Shared information on county-level resolutions related to CEI Hub coordination.
- Provided comparison to another state's work on seismic review of storage tanks and piping systems, including coordination on firefighting foam supplies.

11:50 a.m. Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Presenter Summary (DEQ staff):

- Thanked attendees for participation and cross-agency support.
- Explained that interagency meetings will continue at a somewhat smaller scale, focusing on progress updates and advancement of specific mitigation items.
- Encouraged agencies to share information about grant pursuits, mitigation projects, and other CEI-related initiatives.

Participant Discussion:

- Expressed appreciation for continued coordination and affirmed the importance of regular communication across agencies.

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