

State of California  
Seismic Safety Commission

Memo

To: Commissioners

From: Richard McCarthy

Seismic Safety Commission  
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Date: 6/14/16

Subject: Earthquake Early Warning Implementation Framework

Background

Government Code Section 8587.8 states that the Cal OES will, in collaboration with the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), the California Geological Survey (CGS), the University of California, the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission (CSSC), and other stakeholders, develop a comprehensive statewide earthquake early warning system in California through a public private partnership.

This Implementation Framework describes how a California Earthquake Early Warning System (CEEWS) will be rolled-out for public use. The system will build upon the successes of the California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN) as well as the ShakeAlert demonstration and prototype systems and will offer a critical time window to implement life safety responses and trigger automated mitigation measures in many institutional sectors. The plan provides a flexible framework of information about the system description, governance structure outlining roles and responsibilities of public and private sector entities and the implementation strategy. This plan can be used as a foundation for developing agency-specific work plans.

The Implementation Framework describes the components of the CEEWS including field sensors to measure ground motion, improved field telemetry, construction of processing centers,

establishment of public notification paths, and efforts to raise awareness of the EEW system. The plan will outline the need for a governance board that has authority to administer funding, contracts and agreements, and provide program oversight. And it will describe the implementation strategy for system deployment and education and outreach program development. The plan outlines an initial five-year implementation schedule that provides a broad framework for the responsible parties. The schedule will require annual evaluation to address adjustments in priorities and available funding.

#### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission review the draft document and make recommendations/edits/modifications, if any, and instruct staff as how to respond to CalOES on the overall process recommended to "roll out" an earthquake early warning system for the State.