



## Utility and Transportation Committee 2005 Charges



### (1) Continue working with Water Utilities:

The October 2004 Water Utilities Workshop was successful. We had many attendees from Bay Area water utilities, and appeared to have accomplished many of our objectives. The committee will meet to discuss follow-up activities. Activities being considered include helping EERI give similar workshops in other parts of the country, conducting additional workshops for Bay Area water utilities focusing on technical subjects and/or mitigation funding, and helping facilitate further interaction between Bay Area water utility technical and operations personnel.

### (2) Identify and discuss utility and transportation interdependencies:

In committee meetings, we have often discussed the interdependencies between utility and transportation systems, and the need to understand the post-earthquake performance of other lifeline systems for emergency response and restoration of services planning. For example, BART, water utilities and SBC are dependent on power from PG&E to restore/maintain operations. We plan to have meetings with various lifeline personnel to discuss interdependencies, and post-earthquake performance for various earthquake scenarios. We will try to recruit personnel from other lifelines including ports, refineries, airports, and owners of pipelines for participation in these meetings in addition to the existing committee members from PG&E, SBC, BART, several water utilities and USGS. Understanding interdependencies and likely performance, and interaction with personnel from other utilities/transportation system can lead to better and more cost effective emergency response planning and more focused pre-earthquake mitigation.

### (3) Communicating the likely post-earthquake performance of utilities and transportation systems to Bay Area Businesses:

Many Bay Area business and manufacturers want to understand the likely post-earthquake performance of utilities and transportation systems to make business decisions. Depending on the success of Item 2 above and the willingness of the utility and transportation personnel to openly discuss the likely performance of their systems, Workshops with Bay Area Businesses may be conducted.

(4) Develop a Fact Sheet about utility and transportation systems earthquake performance for use by the public. This Fact Sheet will provide the range of time individuals should prepare to be without water, power, natural gas, communications (land and cell lines, internet), transportation systems, etc. It will also provide actions that should be taken before and following earthquakes such as establishing out of area contacts for family members, when to shut off gas lines, whether to boil water for drinking, why it is important to hang up phone lines.

### (5) Publicize the accomplishments of Bay Area utilities and transportation agencies in mitigating the impact of future earthquakes:

Many of the Bay Area utility and transportation agencies have been very pro-active in understanding and mitigating seismic risks. Publicizing their programs and approaches will help other utilities and transportation agencies develop their programs. It will also help Bay Area businesses understand that vulnerabilities are being reduced, and help mitigate some of the concerns about potential business interruption.