



SUMMER

OUR 61st YEAR

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

October 2024

So Long My Friends . . .

It is with a great deal of mixed emotion that I convey my last communication as your Chapter Manager. Effective September 30th, Joey Reed became our third Chapter Manager since the Contra Costa Chapter, NECA began operation in January of 1964. The fact that the first two characters lasted a total of 60 years speaks volumes about what a wonderful organization this is, and what a privilege it is to work for you, our members.

Joey is about the same age I was when I started. He is quick on his feet and wise beyond his years. Please extend to him the same insights you have shared with me, because that is how we learn best.

So from the bottom of my heart, I must say thank you for everything. The future of the electrical industry is brighter today than it has ever been. I wish to each of you continued success in your individual businesses, and your collective business with NECA.

Michael Geller

Minimum Chapter Dues Increase

Last month, the Chapter Board of Directors voted to increase the minimum Chapter monthly dues from \$70/month to \$150/month. The \$70 figure has been in place since I came to work here in January of 1981, and probably some time before that.

There are several reasons for the increase, not just the passage of time and general inflation (which would amount to something in the \$230 range). Our National Dues structure has been changed. You don't see this, but the Chapter pays the National Annual Dues for each of our members, currently \$150/year. That will rise to \$450 beginning in January.

Annual or monthly dues should not be confused with Service Charge which is based on 1% of gross labor payroll. As long as your monthly service charge amounts to more than \$150, your monthly minimum dues will be satisfied. If it is between \$0 and \$150, NECAStar will make it part of your monthly transmittal obligation. This change will be effective October 1st, you will see it on your October transmittal in November.

POLITICO ALERT

www.PoliticoOnline.com "Connecting you to California"

1127 11th St., Suite 747 / Sacramento, CA 95814 / (916) 444-3770 / FAX (916) 442-6437

Governor Extends PAGA Waivers for Union Construction Industry!

Over the weekend Governor Gavin Newsom announced that he has signed **AB 1034**, our sponsored legislation extending the authority to waive the application of the Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) within construction industry Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs).

Under existing law, PAGA exempts, until January 1, 2028, from its applicability, an employee in the construction industry covered by a valid CBA in effect any time before January 1, 2025, if that CBA provides premium wage rates and expressly waives the requirements of PAGA in clear and unambiguous terms. **AB 1034 deletes the January 1, 2025, date and extends this important industry exemption until January 1, 2038.**

This result was achieved through a tremendous lobbying campaign by the union signatory contractor community and was emphasized by our NECA chapters and contractors through **grassroots advocacy efforts** that generated over 1000 emails to the Governor.

We want to thank all of the NECA contractors and Chapter Managers that took time to send their elected officials and the Governor an email voicing their support. Those efforts were key in securing the extension.

We would also like to thank Assemblymember Grayson, Senator Cortese, and their staff for all of their hard work in getting AB 1034 amended and passed into law. Without their efforts, we would not have obtained a legislative vehicle and passed it through all required policy, fiscal and floor votes over a 10-day period during the final days of the legislative session.

Finally, one last thank you to NECA District 9 VP, Greg Long, and NECA Western Region Representative, Ted Uppole, who both worked hard behind the scenes to get the IBEW leadership comfortable with the measure.



New DIR Website Glitches Causing Contractors Difficulty Submitting eCPR

This week NECA, and several other union signatory contractor association representatives, met with senior management at DIR to discuss the ongoing technical issues with the website. Below is a summary of the meeting.

DIR noted the following:

- DIR recognizes that the system has problems and they are continually making changes, e.g, classification issues, receipt issues, etc.
- With respect to XML submission difficulties, DIR determined that their system is rejecting XML submissions because their computer system is coding them as “drafts.” To address this in the near-term, DIR is manually combing through the system daily and eliminating the “draft” designation so the system will accept the submissions.

DIR stated that many of the issues are related to user errors:

- Many users have been inputting information incorrectly, which can cause submission difficulties. First and foremost, if licensees leave out the project identification number the submission will be rejected.
- Many licensees have been using their old credentials on the new system, which won't work. Users must register with the new system and not simply change their passwords.
- Many licensees haven't specified what type of license they are operating under, not recognizing that the system applies to non-construction licensees too. As a result, many are being classified as physicians.
- While the interface may be different, users need to print out the screen as a receipt.

Next steps, DIR is doing and/or considering the following:

- Considering initiating a stay of enforcement for all penalties due to a failure to submit eCPR.
- Hosting interactive workshops two times per week for the next several weeks to help licensees understand the system and answer any questions. (Schedule will be shared once we receive it)
- Providing guidance to public agencies noting that hard copy records, which must be kept pursuant to existing law, shall suffice in place of eCPR.

If a Contractor is Experiencing Issues:

Please refer them to the [online support center](#) before contacting the Public Works Unit.

If they need further assistance after consulting the support center, email Publicworks@dir.ca.gov. Their email inquiry will be addressed in the order received. There is no dedicated phone line to assist with the technical support of Public Works registration and payment through the system. DIR's goal is to respond to emails within five to ten business days.

Additional meetings with DIR will be held as needed to address unanswered concerns.

Remaining Holidays for 2024

Inside Wireman

Thanksgiving and Day After

11/28 & 11/29

Christmas Day

12/25

Sound and Communications

Thanksgiving and Day After

11/28 & 11/29

Christmas Eve

12/24

Christmas Day

12/25



SYNERGY eLinks

[Sweeney Mason - Workplace Violence Prevention Plan Template \(pdf\) \(Word Download\)](#)

[Cal/OSHA Model Workplace Violence Plan Template \(pdf\) \(Word Download\)](#)

[Workplace Violence Prevention in General Industry \(Non-Health Care Settings\) Information for Employers - Cal OSHA Fact Sheet](#)



October 2024

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

NECA 2024 SAN DIEGO
September 28 - October 1, 2024

6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Industry Trust
Training Center
Martinez
2:00 p.m.

13	14	15	16	17	18	19
----	----	----	----	----	----	----

JATC
Training Center
Martinez
2:00 p.m.

20	21	22	23	24	25	26
----	----	----	----	----	----	----

27	28	29	30
----	----	----	----

