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**American Public Power Association** 

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

To ensure a seamless transition from the current eSafety Tracker to the new and improved tracker, we complied answers to some frequently asked questions. If you have questions not addressed here, please contact Safety@PublicPower.org.

### 1. Why should my utility purchase an eST subscription?

The new eST provides the tools and resources utilities need for an effective safety management program in a one-stop shop platform – including briefings, meetings, incident-reporting, trends, analytical data, and compliance reporting. eST covers all bases and provides intuitive data for a successful safety-first operation.

### How does the new tracker differ from the current version of the tool?

In addition to the ability to record safety meetings, track incidents, and draft compliance reports, the new tracker allows utilities to:

- Assign and track completion of all utility training programs, including internal and external qualifications, and classroom, web-based on-the-job, and field trainings.
- Complete and track crew and compliance inspections.
- Upload organization-specific documents and training materials, including standards/specification documents, procedures, and inspection forms.
- Access a searchable, digital APPA Safety Manual without an additional fee.
- The new tracker is available via mobile app for IOS and Android devices so users can access key features like the searchable safety manual and utility-specific documents, remotely and off-line.

## How was the new version of eST developed?

The new tracker was developed with APPA members in mind. APPA sought feedback from members through listening sessions, partnered with a vendor that produces similar platforms for the Department of Defense, and solicited a safety onsultant with 20+ ÿ of public utility experience.

APPA conducted a current tracker pilot test with four APPA members - ElectriCities of North Carolina (ECNC), Kissimmee Utility Authority (KUA), Lafayette Utilities Systems (LUS), Minnesota Municipal Utility Authority (MMUA). The platform was refined during the pilot based on their feedback.

## Can the mobile app be used without internet connection?

Yes, the mobile app can be used while offline. Any data submitted will automatically upload once internet connection is restored.

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- 5. Is the 17th Edition Safety Manual included in the platform? Yes, the 17th Edition Safety Manual is included in the current tracker platform at no additional cost.
- 6. Who developed the training materials on the new tracker? The platform includes the APPA SafetySmart video series at no extra cost. Utilities can also upload their own specific training materials.
- 7. Can utilities upload their own utility-specific training materials to the new tracker? Yes, utilities can upload organization-specific documents and training materials, including standards/specification documents, procedures, and inspection forms. These documents will also be available via the mobile app.
- 8. Can this system help my utility produce OSHA 300 logs and other reporting documents? Yes, the new tracker has reporting capabilities that produces OSHA 300 logs, trending data reports, and other compliance or safety-related reports.
- 9. When will the new tracker be available? It is available for purchase now from the APPA online product store.
- 10. How much will the new tracker cost? The new tracker will cost \$55 per user/per year. A user is defined as any person that is tracked in the system.
- 11. Is the current tracker going away? Yes, APPA will shut down the current tracker on August 1, 2024.
- 12. What will happen to the data stored in the current tracker? APPA will capture and download all system data as of July 15, 2024. APPA will store and make the data accessible for utilities that need it in the future.
- 13. What if I paid for the current tracker into next year? APPA has identified the members who will receive a credit based on their current tracker subscription and will contact them to discuss their credit.

For more information on the new tracker, contact eSafetyTracker@PublicPower.org