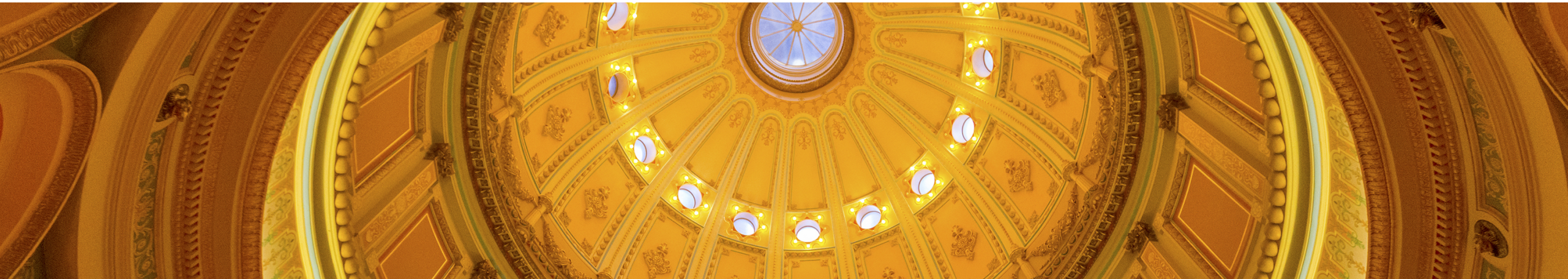




Board of Environmental Safety 2026 Priorities

SWATI SHARMA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER



1. Public Board Meetings/Workshops

- Conduct 6-7 hybrid Board meetings and workshops throughout the state
- Promote strong public attendance to foster transparency and accountability
- Serve as the primary forum for the public to engage with the Board and DTSC leadership

2. Ensure a Fair, Timely, and Transparent Permit Appeals Process

- Hear and decide appeals of hazardous waste facility permit decisions
- Administer new appeals in 2026, plus the existing docket of two past permitting decisions
- Ensure public accessibility of the appeals process and records
- Respond to Public Records Act requests and litigation

3. Hazardous Waste Fees

- Establish fee rates as required by regulation to fund DTSC and Board operations
 - Hold public hybrid workshops and meet with stakeholders to gather input
- Conduct a fee structure analysis in collaboration with DTSC
 - Ensure fees adequately fund programs and are fairly distributed

4. Performance Measurement & Strategic Planning

- Collaborate with DTSC to define and evaluate program performance metrics
- Develop 2026 metrics for Safer Consumer Products and Site Mitigation programs
- Track adopted metrics for the Hazardous Waste Management program

5. State Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) and Report

- Oversee DTSC implementation of the 2025 HWMP
- Assist DTSC in development of the 2028 HWMP
- Review documents and presentations related to DTSC's Hazardous Waste Management Plan, including the 2026 Report

6. DTSC Strategic Planning

- Develop a multiyear schedule for long-term DTSC goals
- Promote alignment across strategic goals, priorities, and performance metrics
- Review and consider approval of DTSC Director's 2026–2027 priorities
- Receive regular progress updates at Board meetings

7. Evaluation

- Prepare annual performance reviews of DTSC's programs against FY 2025-2026 objectives
 - Transmit reviews to the Secretary for Environmental Protection Agency
- Appear before legislative policy committees when requested

8. Advance Meaningful Public Engagement and Participation

- Ensure early, transparent, and inclusive engagement
- Continue Ombuds Program outreach and responsiveness
- Engage communities, organizations, and regulated entities
- Conduct site tours of facilities and cleanup sites

9. Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC)

- Hear regular updates on EJAC priorities and progress
- Engage with EJAC to finalize and implement its workplan
- Collaborate with EJAC on selected DTSC and BES priorities

10. Cleanups in Vulnerable Communities Initiative (CVCI) Annual Report

- Analyze CVCI expenditures against statutory objectives
- Assess continued support for DTSC's Orphan Site Program
- Evaluate CVCI performance
- Provide recommendations to the Legislature

11. Site-specific Engagement

- Maintain engagement on Exide, SSFL, and other priority sites
- Ensure transparency and progress toward cleanup goals
- Facilitate coordination between DTSC and affected communities

12. Strengthen BES Team Effectiveness, Collaboration, and Performance

- Foster accountability, mutual respect, and continuous improvement
- Promote clarity and consistency in BES roles and responsibilities
- Support collaboration and communication for informed Board decisions

Questions?

