



RECAP OF APRIL 24, 2012 STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING

The April 24, 2012 SERC meeting was held at the Tradewinds Resort in St. Pete Beach. Mr. Bryan Koon chaired the meeting and called it to order at 10:02 a.m. and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance and an introduction of all in attendance.

The items of business were:

- **Approval of January 6, 2012 SERC meeting *Minutes*.** The *Minutes* from the January 6, 2012 SERC meeting were approved unanimously on voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Approval of new/revised Local Emergency Planning Committee Appointments (Statewide).** The SERC unanimously approved all new LEPC appointments requested by each of the 11 LEPC Districts. As a subset of this approval, the following change(s) was/were recognized for the District 8 LEPC membership:
 - Mr. Michael Guincho replaced Chief Robert Stokes as the “Primary” LEPC appointment for Hillsborough County Fire Rescue (HCFR). Mr. Richard Markart was designated as Mr. Guincho’s “Alternate.” As a result, Asst. Chief E. Craig Lynn has additionally been removed as the previously designated Alternate for HCFR.
 - Mr. Richard Walker replaced Paul Keller as the “Primary” LEPC appointment for Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM). Mr. Paul Keller was re-designated to the LEPC but as the “Alternate” to Mr. Walker. As a result, Mr. Doug Meyer has additionally been removed as the previously designated Alternate for PCEM.
 - Mr. Doug Wenger was removed from the LEPC membership due to his recent resignation and subsequent relocation to Texas.
 - Mr. Rick Vannan and Mr. Bill Boykin were removed from the LEPC membership due to their resignations since the Clorox Products Manufacturing Company (of Tampa) has recently closed operations at their Tampa facility after 50 years in operation.
- **Audit/Inspection Work Plan for the Risk Management Planning (RMP) Program for FY 2012-13.** The proposed RMP auditing schedule for FY 2012-13 was approved unanimously. The schedule includes 27 audits statewide of which three are located within LEPC District 8. The three Tampa Bay Region facilities will be audited/inspected in mid-February 2013 and consist of the Yuengling Brewery Company of Tampa, the Cosme Water Treatment Plant and the David L. Tippin Water Treatment Facility.

REPORTS

- **Report from SERC's Training Task Force (TTF).** Aside from some of the above recognized items, the following highlights of the April 23, 2012 TTF meeting were identified by Chief Mike Murphy, Acting TTF Chair:
 - Teleconferences. Teleconferences were held on February 22 and April 4, 2012, primarily to discuss: strategies associated with the potential integration of the Hazmat Teams with the Bomb Squads; status update of the SERC/EPA *Memorandum of Understanding*; and the proposed hazardous materials training symposium.
 - Discussion of Hazmat and Bomb/Forensic Team Integration. Perceive significant benefits of pre-establishing (or bolstering) relations or partnerships between Bomb Squads, Hazmat Teams, Forensics, SWAT Teams and other critical agencies in responding to incidents as may be appropriate. Motion was made and approved unanimously to forward the determined implementation strategies and recommendations to the State Working Group. **The SERC also unanimously agreed to accept and forward the proposed implementation strategies to the State Working Group for further comments and/or their consideration.**
 - Hazardous Materials Training Symposium. TTF members are contemplating the scheduling of a Hazardous Materials Training Symposium to be held in association with the 2013 Fire Rescue East Conference in Daytona Beach. Such offering would allow hazardous materials technicians to attend the Conference and participate in a training venue designed for their discipline. Hosting such an event would inevitably result in increased local participation by reducing the travel costs and time restraints that would otherwise be required for comparable, out-of-state, training. It would also provide a consolidated location to obtain such training. Matt Marshall is heading a Subcommittee to determine such issues as estimated instructor costs, who would pay for the instructors, and length of the hazmat training track (i.e. one-day, two-days...). Although LEPCs cannot commit to utilize any portion of their future HMEP budgets towards this endeavor since they do not presently exist, some type of cost-sharing of the LEPCs was discussed in order to offset the instructor costs. Mr. Doug Wolfe (Response Technologies) agreed to spearhead a survey designed to poll the various hazmat teams to determine the top five (or ten) training needs and attempt to meet these demands through the Symposium. Status updates regarding these initiatives will next be discussed during a May 23rd teleconference and again in association with the next TTF/SERC meeting.
 - Oil Spill Response Training. As an alternative to the requirement of a 40-hr. oil response training course necessary to potentially receive reimbursement for future oil spill response, the TTF requested consideration of significantly reducing the length of training necessary for the hazmat teams be granted considering the 160-hr. Hazardous Materials Technician certifications they already possess. It was identified that, with the exception of a "marine safety & awareness" component, most of the other topics are already covered under the 160-Hr. accreditation program. Discussion ensued about the availability of a web-based program to significantly reduce costs and travel demands. **The SERC unanimously agreed to craft another letter promoting the allowance of web-based program to supplement the Hazmat Tech certification in lieu of attendance at a 40-hr. course.** SERC member Richard Smith concluded the discussion by stating "*with 920 miles of coastline and over 1,000 hazmat trained individuals, that would/could be a tremendous loss of potential resources.*"

- Radiological Emergency Response. Noting the commonality between the Training Task Force and the Radiological Emergency Response Program (REP) in terms of goals, objectives, personnel, equipment and training needs/requirements, there was a discussion about the possibility of seeking representation from the REP on the TTF and/or SERC. **SERC unanimously agreed to seek the membership of a REP representative.**
- 2012 E-Plan Conference. It was identified that the 2012 E-Plan Conference will be held in Atlanta, GA at the Marriott NW on October 23-25, 2012. Registration fees will be somewhere between \$125-\$150. The registration fees associated with the first 100 Florida LEPC members registering will be complimentary.
- Next Scheduled TTF Conference Call. The next quarterly TTF conference call has been scheduled for May 23rd at 1:30 p.m. and will primarily focus on updates to the proposed training symposium.

- **Report of Memorandum of Understanding with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).** Mr. Paul Wotherspoon (FDEM staff) announced that EPA recently executed and transmitted a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) to allow the potential utilization of up to 75% of all EPA levied fines to fund a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) local to the violating facility. **As SERC Chair, Mr. Bryan Koon proceeded to execute the MOU at the meeting on behalf of the SERC.** A similar MOU was in effect until it lapsed in 1999. Traditionally, violating industry had no alternative but to pay their fines to EPA. While 25% must remain as a fine, the remainder may now be spent to fund a SEP to be negotiated between personnel of the violating industry, EPA & FDEM that would benefit the local community. The Local Emergency Planning Committees shall develop a core of projects (or equipment) that could be funded in the event SEP funds were to be made available anywhere within their Districts.

- **Report on Updated Executive Order.** Mr. Wotherspoon recognized that Governor Rick Scott recently established Executive Order No. 12-23. The Executive Order changed various components of the SERC guidelines and membership. Other changes included naming the SERC Chair to be the Director of Emergency Management (formerly DCA Secretary) and Alternate Chair to be the Assistant FDEM Director, and desire to promote the participation of the 27 SERC membership entities/agencies. Acknowledging “a lot of contacts”, Chair Bryan Koon indicated that he will personally solicit membership from many of the agencies/entities that have not recently participated as part of the SERC. The 27 membership categories are:

FL Dept. of Environmental Protection	FL League of Cities	LEPC Chairperson
FL Dept. of Transportation	FL Regional Councils Association	Environ./Consumer Organizations (2)
FL Dept. of Hwy. Safety & MVs	FL Emergency Preparedness Assoc.	Phosphate Industry
FL Dept. of Law Enforcement	FL Dept. of Financial Services	Petroleum Industry
FL Dept. of Ag. & Consumer Services	FL Minerals & Chemistry Council	Liquified Petroleum Gas Industry
FL Dept. of Health	Associated Industries of Florida	Agriculture Industry
Executive Office of the Governor	FL Chamber of Commerce	Utility Industry
FL Fire Chiefs Association	FL Professional Firefighters	Transportation Industry
FL Association of Counties	Dept. Of Economic Opportunity	Space Florida

- **Financial Status Report.** Mr. Wotherspoon reported that the SERC Agenda materials contained numerous tables and graphs depicting a comparison of the various revenues and expenditures associated with FDEM's Hazardous Materials Planning and Risk Management Planning Programs over the past two years.
- **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports.** Mr. Sam Brackett (FDEM staff) advised that detailed listings of fixed facility and transportation-related hazardous materials incidents were prepared and included with the Agenda materials to describe incidents occurring between the period of December 1, 2011 and February 29, 2012. Such Reports included documentation of these incidents and portrayed the number of persons evacuated, injured or deceased down to LEPC District and ultimately County level.

The following constitute the hazardous material incidents recorded for District 8 during this period, including an enumeration of those evacuated, injured or deceased:

County	Date of Release	Type*	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	# Evacuated	# Injured	# Fatalities
Hills.	1/09/12	304	Sodium Hypochlorite	Unknown	Water Treatment Plant	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2/09/12	304	Denatured Ethanol	315,873	Warehousing	N/A	N/A	N/A
Manatee	1/05/12	TR	Diesel Fuel	Unknown	Traffic Accident	0	14	0
	1/23/12	TR	Diesel Fuel/Oil/ Hydraulic Oil	49/50/50	Traffic Accident	0	1	0
Pasco	12/20/11	304	Malathion	1	Private Residence	N/A	N/A	N/A
	1/09/12	304	Anhydrous Ammonia	34.9	Frozen Fruit, Juice	N/A	N/A	N/A
	1/20/12	TR	Ethylbenzene	29	Transportation	0	1	0
Pinellas	12/14/11	FF	Carbon Monoxide	Unknown	Ice Rink	16	23	0
	1/06/12	TR	Natural Gas	Unknown	Transportation/Construction	6	0	0
	1/16/12	TR	Natural Gas	Unknown	Pipeline/Construction	3	0	0
	1/26/12	TR	Natural Gas	Unknown	Pipeline/Private	2	0	0
	2/13/12	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Residence	15	0	0
	2/22/12	304	Sulfuric Acid/ Lead/Zinc	Unknown	Metal Recycling	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2/24/12	304	Unknown Solvent	Unknown	Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2/24/12	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Residence	6	0	0
	2/24/12	TR	Natural Gas	Unknown	Pipeline	9	0	0
TOTAL →						57	39	0

* - FF = Fixed Facility incident / TR - Transportation-related incident / 304 - Section 304 Investigation (Closed)

Supplemental information also contained in the SERC Agenda materials were annual comparisons of:

- annual revenues received monthly by the EPCRA & RMP programs from 2009-10 to current;
- detailed breakdown of appropriations for the Hazardous Materials Planning & Risk Management Planning Programs from FY 2010-11 to current;
- potential Section 304 Investigations for each District and County by date;
- comparison of hazardous materials incidents reports by District (from Dec. 1, 2011 - Feb. 29, 2012);
- annual comparison of the Statewide number of Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports since 2000;
- monthly enumeration of Hazardous Materials Incident Reports since 2001;
- *Total Chemical Inventory* by District;
- quarterly quantification of statewide *Notices of Violation/Second Notices* (since Sept. 2008);
- quantification of *EPCRA Outreach Activities*; and
- quantification of the number of Technical Assistance Calls received by month since December 2010.

Mr. Brackett reminded SERC members that the March 1st Tier II reporting deadline has recently passed. Of the Florida facilities required to report, it appears that approximately 57% filed their inventories electronically through the State's FloridaHMIS.org website. In addition, the State will make the uploading of Tier II inventories from the *Tier II Submit* or *Tier II Manager* software programs an option for next year. FDEM staff has long realized that allowing such an alternative would be beneficial and preferred by many since 40 of the State's allow their annual reporting to be done using these programs. It is anticipated that future electronic reporting of inventories will be much greater as a result.

- **Update on LEPC Activities.** Subcommittee Chair George Danz indicated that the majority of accomplishments achieved by each LEPC is captured in the *Hazmatters* section of the backup SERC Agenda materials.

The following serve as accomplishments documented by LEPC District 8 staff, primarily for the period of December 2011 - February 2012:

- District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held in Altamonte Springs at Embassy Suites on January 5-6 and conducted the District 8 LEPC quarterly meeting on February 29th. In addition, staff and/or LEPC members attended the FDEM Region 4 quarterly meeting on December 2nd at the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center under the leadership of FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Paul Siddall.
- The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on January 19, 2012. Invigorated with new membership garnered from the recent forums and/or workshops, discussion items included: highlights of last Subcommittee meeting (i.e. October 20th); request for previously generated recommendations regarding incorporation of relevant hazardous materials information into the *Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit* prior to posting Kit to FDEM's www.floridadisaster.org website; measures taken to promote Hazardous Materials Awareness Week and, in particular, the current theme of "Mercury Awareness & Dangers"; overview of the Tier 2 reporting requirements and identification of recent refinements to the State's www.floridahmis.org electronic filing program; status update on the potential of a *Memorandum of Understanding* between the SERC and EPA which, if approved, would allow the funding of Supplemental Environmental Project(s) in lieu of payment of potentially lucrative fines by violating industries; status update on the potential for "universal credentialing"; preparation and transmittal of a *Press Release* to the local media to serve as a reminder to facilities of the March 1st EPCRA reporting deadline, recognition of some of the more prevalent mistakes made in reporting as detected during the recently completed Tier 2 quality control assessment, and to advertise the (then) upcoming EPCRA How-to-Comply workshops scheduled by LEPC staff; Scarabeo 9 and consequence of potential oil spill; mutual benefit from soliciting better participation of fire departments; and appointment of Ms. Thea Dunmire as Subcommittee Chair through remaining 2012 meetings.
- The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee met on February 29th to strategize opportunities and details associated with LEPC District 8's FY 2011-12 HMEP Contract in which the funds must be expended on or before June 30, 2012. Staff emphasized the pre-requisites that such training must be designated for First Responders, must be "cost effective," and must include a transportation component or nexus.

- LEPC staff and/or member(s) participated in a December 14th teleconference administered by FDEM staff regarding Training Task Force initiatives.
- Three 8-hour “*Hazardous Material Leak/Spill Refresher*” courses were conducted for the Pinellas County Hazmat Team with funding from the HMEP/Training Program (February 21-23, 2012). An additional 24-hour training event, entitled “*Confined Space Rescue for Industrial, Municipal and Transportation Confined Spaces*”, was coordinated for the North River Fire District (Manatee County) and will be conducted next quarter in addition to other course(s) currently being contemplated.
- Staff and/or LEPC member(s) represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the January 10th meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee, as well as the December 6th, January 24th and February 21st meetings of the Ammonia Handlers/Operators of Tampa.
- In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: attended a December 13th U.S. Coast Guard Area Committee meeting involving a presentation related to oil drilling off the coast of Cuba and potential oil spill trajectories; conducted two EPCRA How-to-Comply workshops (February 15th & 16th); assisted with the December 14th and January 11th meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (PPSC); provided updates regarding the LEPC program activities to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council in conjunction with their December 14th and February 13th meetings; and transmitted a variety of Mercury awareness and characteristics information and resources through various channels in association with Hazardous Materials Awareness Week (January 23rd).

OTHER BUSINESS

- **U.S. DOT-funded Statewide Commodity Flow Study.** Mr. Wotherspoon advised SERC members that the Department of Transportation has recently contracted the conduct of a Statewide Commodity Flow Study for the State of Florida. The Study will entail: identification of all chemicals coming in and leaving ports; their storage location(s); the major highway and railways utilized for their transport; the various pipelines and chemicals they are transporting... The Study will start with a detailed analysis of Florida’s four seaports (i.e. Port Everglades, Miami, Tampa, Jacksonville). Following completion of the Study, the LEPCs will be encouraged to assist the Contractor in performing a Needs Assessment for their respective Districts in order to determine capabilities of hazmat teams, in terms of location, personnel and equipment to respond to a large hazardous materials incident. It is understood that any such Study would have highly sensitive data that will need to be protected. Noting that information contained in the Study could become outdated, the LEPCs may be given an opportunity to maintain/update data for their area as part of their HMEP projects in the future.
- **Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response (Transcaer).** Mr. Wotherspoon mentioned that Florida has not had a Transcaer representative “in quite some time.” Having recently received this designation personally, Mr. Wotherspoon indicated that he will be coordinating free training opportunities with industry and the LEPCs.

COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT.

- **Next Meeting.** It was announced that the next SERC meeting will be held in Jacksonville on July 12, 2012 although the particular venue has not been determined and/or finalized at this point. The following SERC meeting will return to Tallahassee on October 4, 2012.
- **Adjournment.** Following a motion and a second, the SERC meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.