



RECAP OF JULY 10, 2009 STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING

The items of business were:

- Approval of April 3, 2009 SERC meeting Minutes
- Approval of new/revised Local Emergency Planning Committee Appointments. *The lone LEPC District 8 membership modification was the addition of Col. William Lofgren as a Primary member;*
- Provided a Legal Update on GA Food Case. *Lesley Anderson-Adams (DEM Legal Counsel) indicated that GA Foods, located in central Pinellas County, had a release of 1,200 pounds of anhydrous ammonia on August 24, 2006 which was not reported within a time period prescribed by Florida law. In lieu of paying a fine, the company has tentatively agreed to fund a supplemental project consisting of the conduct of three days of hazardous materials training at their facility for the Pinellas County hazmat team and others as space will permit. Air monitoring equipment will also be purchased for the Pinellas County Hazmat team if funding remains following the training. This training is currently being scheduled for late October;*
- Approval of Modifications to the LEPC Membership Categories. *Tim Date (DEM Staff) indicated that for the past year (or so), the LEPCs, in conjunction with SERC's Subcommittee on Training, have evaluated several proposed modifications to the LEPC memberships. In summary, the approved changes were as follows:*
 - ▶ *consolidate "Elected State Official" & "Elected Local Official" into one category;*
 - ▶ *consolidate "Broadcast Media" & "Print Media" into one category;*
 - ▶ *consolidate "Facility Owners" & "Facility Operators" into one category; and*
 - ▶ *add a Category entitled "Local Option" to be utilized and defined by each LEPC District.*

The SERC did not take a position on the issue of retired members as to whether they would remain in their formerly assigned category or be reassigned as "Interested Citizens." Much discussion ensued about their inability to maintain contacts and procedural changes that may follow in their former professions as time passes. SERC Legal Counsel agreed to research the issue. In the interim, it is up to each LEPC.

- Approval of Subcommittee on Training Membership Policies, consisting of Definitions, Membership, Quorum, Voting, Election and Term of Officers, Code of Conduct sections.
- Recognized Greg Lee for 25 years of service on the State Emergency Response Commission.
- Report provided on SERC's Subcommittee on Training current initiatives, which are characterized by the following highlights:
 - ▶ Chemistry in the High Schools. *Initiative to bolster chemistry and hazardous materials information into the science curriculum at the Public High Schools. One of the High Schools (i.e. Pinellas Park High School) will be offering a First Responders Program next year to selected students. The curriculum involves incorporating the chemistry theme into various subject courses (i.e. Science,*

Math, English, History...). Training to gain the support of the Department of Education to introduce similar programs at the high school level statewide.

- ▶ Hazardous Materials Medical Protocols. *Effort to refine the Medical Protocols of Hazardous Material responder qualifications. Final approval to be granted by the Medical Directors with input and review by Poison Control.*
- ▶ Hazardous Materials Sampling Model Procedure. *Procedures intended to foster better communications and identify which agency(ies) should take the lead in responding to hazardous material incident(s). The type, quantity, and vulnerability of the incident would dictate the lead agency. SERC authorized the Subcommittee of Training to research which agency is responsible for conducting air monitoring of a private dwelling. EPA staff indicated that they have the authority to conduct such monitoring, if necessary, in addition to any other agency which may be identified.*
- E-Plan Status Report. *All hazmat teams have now been signed up for E-Plan in addition to all but 19 of Florida's Counties. None of the 19 delinquent Counties are located within the Tampa Bay area (i.e. District 8). There will be a concerted effort to register these remaining Counties. In addition, DEM is hopeful that all Tier II submittals and their corresponding fees will be submitted electronically starting next year using a universal form. That way, information is available nearly instantaneously. Palm Beach is being utilized as a test site whereby calls placed into the 911 system will be immediately screened to determine if there are hazardous materials present. If applicable, the notation would not indicate the type or quantity of hazardous material(s).*
- Presentation of the Financial Status Report. *The SERC Agenda materials included a comparison of 2007-08 and 2008-09 EPCRA and Risk Management Plan (RMP) revenues by month, a breakdown of the FY 2008-09 Hazardous Materials Planning and RMP Programs Expenditures by Category. The presentation included recognition of a \$250,000 shortfall in Tier II fees in comparison with last year's collections. To overcome this shortfall, DEM staff is contemplating different scenarios for the conduct of the Hazards Analyses during 2009-10, including the possibility of contracting with the Regional Planning Councils to conduct all analyses at reduced rates. DEM staff has additionally established an ambitious goal of identifying 100 facilities per quarter that have failed to report. If successful, this effort could yield an estimated \$700,000 in additional funding, clearly offsetting the identified shortfall.*
- Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports. *While a formal Report was not provided, DEM staff did recognize that a listing of all Potential Section 304 Investigations conducted statewide was included in the SERC Agenda materials as well as a listing of Incidents requiring Evacuation or causing Injury and/or Death.*

The following District 8 Hazardous Materials incidents required Section 304 investigations:

County	Date of Release	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	Status/Reason for Closing Investigation/Sector
Hills-borough	6/11/08	Ammonia	66.66	Refrigerated Wrhse	Closed/Below RQ/Private
	7/02/08	Ammonia	9.76	Sausages & Other Prepared Meats	Closed/Below RQ/Private
	7/07/08	Ammonia	196	Chemicals & Allied Products	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private

County	Date of Release	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	Status/Reason for Closing Investigation/Sector
Hills-borough (Cont'd)	7/25/08	Sodium Fluoride	4305175	Phosphate Mining	Closed/No Notification Violation/Private
	8/13/08	Sodium Hypochlorite	34	Private Business	Closed/Below RQ/Private
	10/16/08	Phosphoric Acid	5600	Phosphatic Fertilizers	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private
	11/15/08	Sulfuric Acid (Non-Aerosol Forms)	1227	Chemicals & Allied Products	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private
	11/26/08	Butylamine	Unknown	College	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Public
	1/16/09	Sulfuric Acid (Non-Aerosol Forms)	77	Chemicals & Allied Products	Closed/Below RQ/Private
Pasco	1/01/09	Hydrochloric Acid/ Sodium	Unknown	Restaurant	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private
Pinellas	6/05/08	Sodium Hypochlorite	Unknown	Private Residence	Closed/Below RQ/Private
	6/07/08	Sulfuric Acid	Unknown	Private Residence	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private
	7/14/08	Formaldehyde	Unknown	Dialysis Center	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private
	8/09/08	Mercury	50-100	Search, Detection, Navigation	Closed/Release did not go Off-Site/Private
	10/11/08	Ammonia	2000	Fish & Seafood	ACTIVE
	2/08/09	Ammonia	25	Bread & Other Bakery Products	Closed/Below RQ/Private
	4/10/09	Acetonitrile	33	Unknown	Closed/Below RQ/Private
	4/17/09	Mercury	.02	School	Closed/Below RQ/Public

The following District 8 Hazardous Materials incidents involved Evacuation, Injury(ies) and/or Death(s):

County	Date of Release	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	Evacuations	# Injured	# Killed
Hills	11/10/08	Propane	Unknown	Church	70	0	0
	11/26/08	Butylamine	Unknown	College	0	1	0
	2/20/09	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Residence	2	0	0
	3/25/09	Natural Gas	Unknown	Traffic Accident/Apt. Complex	12	0	0
Pasco	1/01/09	Hydrochloric Acid/Sodium	Unknown	Restaurant	6	6	0
Pinellas	6/02/08	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Office Building	50	0	0
	6/07/08	Sulfuric Acid	Unknown	Private Residence	4	1	0
	7/04/08	Carbon Monoxide	Unknown	Private Residence	0	3	0
	7/14/08	Formaldehyde	Unknown	Dialysis Center	0	1	0
	8/09/08	Mercury	50-100	Search, Detection, Navigation	0	1	0
	11/09/08	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Business	12	0	0

- Report provided on Staff Activities by Section. *Supplementing information contained in the SERC Agenda, DEM staff highlighted their programmatic responsibilities. The SERC Agenda materials included annual comparisons of Section 311/312 Chemical Inventory Reports (1999-current), Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports by month (2000-current) and Notice of Violations Issued (2005-current).*

- Update on LEPC Activities. *SERC Member George Danz indicated that a listing of quarterly accomplishments of each of the LEPC Districts have been provided within the SERC Agenda under the “Hazmatters” section. The identified accomplishments of District 8 included:*
 - ▶ attendance at the April 2-3 SERC meetings and conduct of the May 27 LEPC meeting;
 - ▶ Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee continued with efforts designed to bolster the hazardous materials component of the *Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit*. Once complete, it is envisioned that the work product will assist the business community in preparing truly all-hazards Plans;
 - ▶ participation in a series of teleconferences administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding such subjects as Toxmedic and the Chemistry education initiative;
 - ▶ conduct of an Ammonia Siren Briefing/Workshop for the North Ybor Civic Association on May 27 with ammonia industry representatives who also serve on the LEPC.
 - ▶ conduct of a Chlorine Safety Training Course (May 5-7) and a Air Monitoring & Detection In Service Training Course (June 9-11). A “Hazmat IQ” course (August 18-20) and a “Confined Space Rescue Operations for Hazardous Materials Environments” (August 25-27) are planned;
 - ▶ attendance at the April 7 and June 9 Tampa Bay Spill Committee meetings as well as the U.S. Coast Guard Area Committee meetings immediately following;
 - ▶ assistance in the conduct of the April 8 and June 10 Pinellas Police Standards Council meetings; and
 - ▶ preparation of the 16th Revision to the *Tampa Bay Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan*.