



RECAP OF JANUARY 8, 2010 STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING

The items of business were:

- **Approval of October 2, 2009 SERC meeting Minutes**

NEW BUSINESS

- **Approval of new/revised Local Emergency Planning Committee Appointments (Statewide).** *The District 8 modifications approved this Quarter were the replacement of alternate members for Pasco County Emergency Management (Mr. Paul Latham), Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration (Ms. Sandra Brooking), and Pinellas County Emergency Management (Mr. Doug Meyer).*
- **Hazards Analysis Working Group Establishment.** *A Motion was approved unanimously by the SERC to modify future Hazards Analyses Contracts to exempt site inspection requirements for all telecommunications sites, facilities with battery operated Material Handling Equipment (forklifts, pallet jacks, etc.), battery suppliers, and businesses with large Uninterruptable Power Supply. The justification for this revision was that "it is highly unlikely that many separate batteries would release Sulfuric Acid simultaneously during an event and the impact of said release would remain on-site, the threat to the community is minimal. As first responders understand that such batteries are or could be on-site at such facilities, the exact number and placement should have little impact on their response actions." This revised provision does not affect the requirements of the 2009-10 HA Contracts.*
- **Biological Sampling Protocol.** *A Motion was approved unanimously by the SERC to accept the Subcommittee on Training's suggested revisions to SERC's Public Safety Sampling for Hazardous Materials/WMD Incidents. The document provides guidance to "standardize the training, procedures, and equipment used by Regional Hazardous Materials Teams to respond and mitigate a hazardous materials (HAZMAT) incident in which illicit or terrorist activity is thought to have taken place. It may also be used by other hazardous materials teams in responding to various HAZMAT incidents." For clarification, this document calls for the use of the FBI 12-Step Process for the management of sampling or evidence gathering and is not intended to replace existing forensics sampling procedures used by federal, state, or local forensics teams. For HAZMAT incidents involving criminal investigations, a close working relationship with law enforcement is encouraged.*
- **Thomas Yatabe/SERC Awards Presentations.** *The SERC awarded 11 recipients (one from each Local Emergency Planning Committee District) the Thomas Yatabe Award signifying outstanding contribution(s) made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act." The LEPC District 8 recipient for 2009 was Mr. Doug Meyer. As stated in his Nomination Form "Doug was one of the original members and part of the organization and implementation of the Pinellas County Hazardous Materials Team in the mid 1980s. He served in various capacities on the Team up to and including Team Commander. After his retirement from Seminole Fire Rescue, he continues his involvement*

while working for Pinellas County Emergency Management. He has additionally served as the ‘Primary’ or ‘Alternate’ LEPC member throughout. Doug is actively involved in the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and Metropolitan Medical Response System. He was charged with EPCRA reporting for Pinellas County between 2000 and 2006. He is a valued member and resource both locally and regionally.”

Certificates of Appreciation were also awarded for the other LEPC District 8 nominees: Chief Michael Gonzales (Tampa Fire Rescue), Mr. John Hess (U.S. Department of Transportation), and Chief Byron Teates (East Manatee Fire Rescue District) for their contributions. These individuals will be recognized and awarded their Certificates at the February 24, 2010 Local Emergency Planning Council meeting held in the TBRPC offices.

REPORTS

- **Subcommittee on Training (SOT) Meeting Highlights.** *The following highlights of the January 7, 2010 SOT meeting:*
 - ▶ Teleconferences. *Ms. Shanti Smith indicated that a teleconference was held with participating SOT members on November 5th to discuss final revisions to the Biological Sampling Protocols considered and approved as an earlier Agenda item. A short teleconference was conducted on December 3rd to advise participating SOT members on status of various tasks on the SOT “Project Tracking Chart,” including the demonstration of the preliminary electronic Tier 2 submittal program. Program refinements were requested by various participants and subsequently resolved and/or incorporated.*
 - ▶ Preventive Radiological Nuclear Detection (PRND) Implementation Strategy. *Mr. Charlie Boyd, SOT Vice-Chair, gave an overview of the PRND Program . The Program was formed under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in response to the potential use of a nuclear weapon within the United States. All nuclear detection research, development, testing, evaluation, acquisition, and operational support is administered under DHS’ Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. One of the primary objectives of the PRND Subcommittee is to support local law enforcement by utilizing effective screening and detection systems to prevent attempts to import or transport a nuclear device or fissile or radiological material intended for illicit use. Such detection equipment has been utilized extensively at all recent major Special Events. While resources and capabilities are being tracked locally, one of the goals of the PRND Program is to create a uniform concept of operations, purchasing and training.*
 - ▶ Hazardous Materials Medical Protocols. *Mr. Doug Wolfe advised that Dr. Nelson has been forwarded a copy of the Hazardous Materials Medical Protocols for review by the Medical Directors. It is anticipated that any/all of the revisions proposed by the Medical Directors, if applicable, will be incorporated into the final version of the document to be brought forward for SERC consideration and/or approval as early as the April SERC meeting.*
 - ▶ E-Plan Training Committee. *Ms. Shanti Smith indicated that a “contingency” of approximately ten E-Plan users from Florida attended the E-Plan Conference held in Dallas on November 12-13, 2009, including Mr. Ed Murphy of Hillsborough County Emergency Management. Necessary E-Plan refinements were discussed by all in attendance. It is envisioned that the Florida attendees*

can/will serve in the capacity of “train-the-trainers” at the local level. Recipients of such training could then train their own staff in the future. The SOT approved adding “E-Plan Training & Development” to the SOT Project Tracking Chart under the column entitled “Systems and Relationships.” Ms. Smith indicated that all 36 “SERC Recognized” Hazmat Teams have now registered for E-Plan as well as Emergency Management Directors from all but a couple of Florida’s 67 Counties. Her personal goal is 100% registration and use.

- **Financial Status Report Update.** Ms. Shanti Smith advised that Mr. Sam Brackett has brought 350 new facilities into compliance, resulting in approximately \$350,000 to the Program.

Acknowledging that the Florida Division of Emergency Management is being considered for “sunsetting,” similar to the Florida Department of Community Affairs, the State Emergency Response Commission members voted unanimously in favor of submitting a letter of support of the agency to be submitted to the Chair or group making this decision. The correspondence shall outline the mission and vital roles this agency plays in terms of Emergency Management in the State and, perhaps, nationally.

- **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports.** Mr. Michael Younger acknowledged that a detailed Hazardous Materials Incidents Report was included in the SERC Agenda materials. The listing of Incidents requiring Evacuation and/or causing Injury or Death was included within the SERC Agenda materials. The following constitute the Hazardous Materials incidents recorded for District 8 between December 1, 2008 - November 30, 2009:

County	Date of Release	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	Evacuations	# Injured	# Killed
Hills	1/05/09	Sulfuric Acid (Non-Aerosol Forms)	153	Chemicals & Allied Products	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
Manatee	NONE LISTED						
Pasco	1/01/09	Hydrochloric Acid/ Sodium Hypochlorite	Unknown	Restaurant	6	6	0
	5/26/09	Natural Gas	Unknown	Pipeline/Traffic Accident	200	0	0
Pinellas	6/01/09	Ammonia	3,500	Food Preparations	0	3	0
	6/08/09	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Residence	3	0	0
	6/15/09	Hydraulic Oil	225	Marinas	0	0	1
	7/30/09	Hydrogen Sulfide	Unknown	N/A	0	1	0
	9/27/09	Carbon Monoxide	0	Apartment Complex	0	3	0
	10/02/09	Sodium Hydroxide	0	Condos/Plumbers	20	20	0

Supplemental information also contained in the SERC Agenda included annual comparisons of: Petroleum vs. Non-Petroleum Hazardous Material incidents by LEPC District and Fixed Facility vs. Transportation Related Incidents by LEPC District. Annual comparisons of Section 311 & 312 Chemical Inventory Reports, Hazardous Material Incident Reports, and Section 313 Toxic Release Inventory Reports Statewide were also provided.

- **Update on LEPC Activities.** SERC Member George Danz indicated that a listing of quarterly

accomplishments of each of the LEPC Districts has been provided within the SERC Agenda under the “Hazmatters” section. The identified accomplishments of District 8 were:

- ▶ *attended the October 1-2, 2009 SERC meetings and conducted a LEPC meeting on November 17th;*
- ▶ *Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee met on September 17th to further efforts designed to bolster the hazardous materials component of the Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit. Subcommittee members are currently polling recipients of prior training. Once complete, it is anticipated that the input to will guide future training endeavors;*
- ▶ *participation in a series of teleconferences administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding such subjects as Bio-Sampling Protocols, Hazards Analyses Scope of Work and Status update of the SOT initiatives;*
- ▶ *conducted a Ammonia Siren Briefing/Workshop for the DeSoto Elementary School on October 20, 2009. The newly-received Spanish-subtitled version of the “Shelter-in-Place” video was debuted;*
- ▶ *A Clandestine Drug Lab Awareness Course was conducted in Pasco County on September 29-30, 2009 to close out LEPC District 8’s 2008-09 HMEP fiscal year;*
- ▶ *a Foam/Ethanol course was conducted in Hillsborough County on December 14-16, 2009 to initiate the 2009-2010 Contract;*
- ▶ *attendance at the October 13th and December 8th Tampa Bay Spill Committee meetings as well as the U.S. Coast Guard Area Committee meetings immediately followed; and*
- ▶ *assisted in the preparation for the October 14th, November 4th and December 9th Pinellas Police Standards Council meetings held at the Council offices.*
- ▶ *The next scheduled meeting of LEPC District 8 is February 24, 2010.*

COMMENTS

Ms. Cindy Gennell acknowledged that this was her final meeting after 12 years of serving on the State Emergency Response Commission as a representative for the Florida League of Cities. In her remarks, Ms. Gennell thanked all those members that have contributed during her tenure to the vital role this Commission plays in protecting the public from hazardous materials. She further encouraged members to be patient when her successor has been named and appointed to the SERC. Various Committee members thanked Ms. Gennell for her various contributions and for always keeping the safety of the public in mind. SERC Member George Danz made a motion to invite Ms. Gennell to the next SERC meeting to receive a more formal thank you for her years of service. The Motion was approved unanimously and Ms. Gennell agreed to attend.