



RECAP OF THE APRIL 5, 2013 STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING

The April 5, 2013 SERC meeting was held at the Betty Easley Conference Center in Tallahassee. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mike DeLorenzo (FDEM Deputy Director) until the arrival of Mr. Bryan Koon (FDEM Director). The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance and an introduction of all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Approval of January 25, 2013 SERC meeting Minutes.** The *Minutes* from the January 25, 2013 SERC meeting were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Local Emergency Planning Committees Appointments.** Mr. Isabell Parker requested approval of membership modifications solicited by each LEPC. SERC unanimously approved all of these changes. In LEPC District 8, the following LEPC membership modifications were requested:
 - Dr. Alfred Aleguas was designated the “Primary” LEPC member for the Florida Poison Information Center within Tampa General Hospital. This designation was processed under the “Health” category. Dr. Aleguas re-designated Ms. JoAnn Chambers-Emerson of the same agency to be his “Alternate.”
- **Audit/Inspection Work Plan for the Risk Management Planning (RMP) Program for FYs 2012-13 & 2013-14.** Mr. G.W. Lupton identified that certain facilities are designated RMP facilities by EPA due to the chemicals on site as well as recent release(s), being a new facility, and/or recent accidents or injuries. Mr. Lupton summarized the 30+ RMP conducted across the State during 2012-13 and the finding that the State of Florida is always in “good standing” with EPA regarding the number of such audits conducted annually as well as the assistance they bring to each of the site visits. Within LEPC District 8, RMP audits were conducted at Yuengling Brewery, Cosme Water Treatment Plant and the David L. Tippin Water Treatment Plant.

The proposed FY 2013-14 schedule of RMP audits was approved unanimously. Within LEPC District 8, audits have been scheduled for the following facilities, all located in Pinellas County:

- Brenntag Mid-South
- Oberly Pumping Station
- Washington Terrace Pumping Station

REPORTS

- **Report from SERC’s Training Task Force (TTF).** The following highlights of the April 4, 2013 TTF meeting were identified by Lou Ritter:

- Conference Calls of February 20 and March 20, 2013. It was recognized that the majority of Conference Call discussion included: solicitation of volunteers to review and provide recommended updates for the FOG sections, identify status of the State's Supplemental Environmental Projects program options, and updates of various tasks included in the TTF Tracking Chart.
- January 2013 Hazmat Symposium Summary & Planning for the 2014 Symposium. Mr. Jonathan Lamm identified that overall the 2013 Hazmat Symposium, conducted in association with the Fire Rescue East Conference in Daytona Beach, was very popular with attendance greater than anticipated. However, the bulk of registration costs went to rental of two rooms (\$15,000). Mr. Lamm inquired whether it may be advantageous to host next year's Symposium separate from Fire Rescue East, although retaining a centralized location. The demand for more hands on training and competitions have already been requested for future Symposiums. Current Symposium Subcommittee members had considered locations like PTEC (now St. Pete College), in St. Petersburg, which would have sufficient classroom accommodations but not necessarily room for hands on and competitions since the facility is all parking lots and buildings.

Mr. Matt Marshall suggested that it may be tough to change at this point, already three months behind schedule. Will the State or LEPCs have the monies to enable more travel by potential attendees noting that more than hazmat techs attended the past Symposium? Mr. Gary Weiss & others recommended staying at current location this year due to time constraints. That would give 18 months to plan a new venue and will enable others to budget the money for travel. It was agreed that a Working Group be created for the purposes of discussing/considering alternative venues for the following year. Ms. Jennifer Hobbs agreed to potential Orlando or Seminole County locations as potential centralized sites for future Symposium(s). Mr. Lamm did identify that instructors will often travel and come to Florida to instruct for free since this is Florida.

Chief Richard Knoff did recognize that he did find it advantageous to combine Fire Rescue East & Hazmat Symposium BUT need to book rooms early for convenience and lack of additional expenses.

Tim Date suggested seeking sponsorships for prizes for the competition(s) if held in conjunction with Fire Rescue East and the need for better coordination with the Florida Fire Chiefs Association.

In conclusion, Mr. Lamm indicated a need for the newly-formulated Working Group to coordinate the desired number of classes, number of training rooms needed and days of training for the 2014 Hazmat Symposium within the next two weeks (~April 18±). Mr. Lou Ritter has agreed to coordinate these planning efforts and Mr. Paul Wotherspoon indicated that this may not be subject to Sunshine since their mission is PLANNING initiative.

- Report of DOH Suspicious Package Protocol. Mr. Tom Belcore of the FDOH provided a brief presentation on this topic. The protocols have been a two-year effort which is nearing completion. Partners included: FDLE, FBI, TTF, FDOH... Could not build universal model since personnel and concepts change regionally or County wide. The following procedures universally go into suspicious powder responses:

1. Call to 911.
2. Start notification
3. Scene Assessment
4. Public Information/Notification

Prior to finalization of protocols, a conference call will be held with the corp group to solicit input from Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) regarding these sections.

Following each incident, it is imperative that any/all response actions need to be assessed and evaluated in order to determine whether all appropriate actions were initiated and taken. Such measure could bolster or fortify future response planning initiatives.

Mr. John Koenke did identify that it is difficult to disseminate or share such protocols “downward” due to sensitivity of the issue but it must be done.

- Hazmat Technician Credentialing. Mr. Matt Marshall identified that the SERC’s required credentials for a Hazardous Materials Technician identified in the “Task Book” may need to be evaluated and updated. Perhaps it should mirror federal credentialing. As an example, the Hazmat Type 2 Team is equivalent to FEMA Type 1 team. Many agreed that this is worthy of research and effort and has been assigned a “box” under the tasks identified in the Project Tracking Chart.
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Doug White identified that FDEP is currently doing a lot of internal training. Working to update MOAs, MOUs, SOPs...
- Next Training Task Force teleconferences. The next series of TTF teleconferences were announced to be May 22 & June 19, both of 1:30 p.m.
- **Report on Use of E-Plan as a Tier II Reporting Tool.** Mr. Paul Wotherspoon (FDEM staff) provided the following highlights regarding promotion of the E-Plan system as a means for electronic reporting:
 - The State’s prior electronic Tier II reporting program (FloridaHMIS.org) was difficult for industry to enter their data and for FDEM staff to manipulate and/or print desired reports, hence only 46 percent of all facilities filed electronically last year, after three years of promotion and effort.
 - The State started the promotion of E-Plan as the preferred option for reporting through the conduct of several E-Plan notification/training workshops held across the State. These efforts were combined with the Tampa Bay LEPC’s How-to-Comply workshops held on February 4 & 5, 2013 at the TBRPC/LEPC offices. More than 50 attended over the two-day period.
 - The State’s current electronic filing option (E-Plan) was opened on January 18th and has yielded an outstanding participatory rate of 78% in the first year!
 - The State optimistically anticipates electronic filing rates of 90%+ for all Tier II facilities in the coming years.
 - Some of the benefits derived from filing electronically through E-Plan include: the fact the data is available instantaneously by the first responders; the facility would not be required to submit their Tier II reports to the SERC and additionally may no longer be required to submit their Tier II data to the LEPC and local fire departments; database will soon be able to be sorted by the SERC, the LEPCs, and by first responders; much easier for facilities to update their reporting annually; there

is a corresponding link to electronic payment of filing fees; and enhancements are ongoing within the E-Plan program for such capabilities as plume modeling...

- SERC Member Gary Weiss made motion for Subcommittee to discuss E-Plan enhancements at the next SERC meeting. Motion was approved unanimously.

- **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. The numbers are nearly the same. Graphics were provided in the Agenda materials to quantify and illustrate:

- Revenues received by Month for RMP & EPCRA programs since mid-FY 2010-11;
- Breakdown of General Appropriations and Expenditures by Category for the Hazardous Materials Planning Program for FYs 2011-12 & 2012-13; and
- Breakdown of General Appropriations and Expenditures by Category for the Risk Management Planning Program for FYs 2011-12 & 2012-13

- **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports.** Mr. Chris Stevens advised that detailed listings of Section 304 investigation, as well as 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, 2012 - February 28, 2013. 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.

SERC Member Taylor Abel recognized that the number of incidents appear to be trending downward, however, there was a recent uptick. Attendees partially attributed these results to a favorable change in the economy.

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.	12/03/12	TR	Diesel Fuel	1,110	Traffic Accident	0	1	0
	1/13/13	FF	Propane	Unknown	Private Residence	Unknown	0	0
	2/02/13	304 (FDEP Case)	Perchloroethylene	270	Dry Cleaners	N/A	N/A	N/A
Manatee	1/08/13	TR	Gasoline	Unknown	Traffic Accident	0	4	2
	1/29/13	FF	Gasoline	Unknown	Resort	0	2	0
	2/19/13	304 (Open)	Anhydrous Ammonia	99	Frozen Juice Mfg.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pasco	12/11/12	TR	Diesel Fuel	592	Traffic Accident	0	1	0
	1/29/13	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Restaurant	Unknown	0	0
Pinellas	12/12/12	304 (Closed)	Toluene Diisocyanate	152	Rubber Mfg.	N/A	N/A	N/A
	1/18/13	304 (Closed)	Sulfuric Acid	8	Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL →						0	8	2

KEY: FF = Fixed Facility incident / TR - Transportation-related incident / 304 - Section 304 Investigation Launched (Status)

- **Update on Staff Activities and Reports by Section.** Mr. Tim Date identified that various graphics were provided within the SERC Agenda materials to depict various staff functions and initiatives. These included:
 - monthly enumeration of Hazardous Materials Incident Reports since 2003;
 - *Total Chemical Count* by LEPC (as of 3/01/13);
 - quantification of Notice of Violations issued statewide for over the past year; and
 - monthly quantification of Technical Assistance calls received from March 1, 2012 - February 28, 2013.

- **Update on LEPC Activities.** Subcommittee Chair Jennifer Hobbs provided a briefing of the items discussed at yesterday's LEPC Staff & Chairs meeting. The items included:
 - Jennifer Hobbs identified that a "Working Group" has been formulated to discuss the future of the Hazards Analyses program (HAs) although the current program will remain intact for at least one more year in its present form. FDEM wants to ensure that the \$450,000 spent annually to conduct the HAs statewide is a productive and worthwhile program and use of funds which, at minimum, should be streamlined to evaluated to ensure elimination of redundancy and increase efficiency. The findings and recommendations of the Working Group will be brought before the SERC, as specifically requested by SERC Member Ron Mills. SERC Member Gary Weiss reminded those in attendance that the goal of the program is to place accurate and timely information in the hands of the first responders. Tim Date concluded the discussion by advising that the program is presently 20-25 years old and that all programs need to be evaluated periodically.
 - Ms. Hobbs concluded her remarks by recognizing that the amount of training & activities going on across the State is incredible and identified that a summary of these activities is documented each quarter in the *Hazmatters* section of the SERC Agenda materials. SERC Member Taylor Abel commended all involved with the identified activities and the publication of such document which he finds as useful and informative.

The following serve as the documented tasks identified by LEPC District 8 staff for the period of December 2012 - February 2013:

- 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 Daytona Beach at the Ocean Center conference facility on January 24-25, 2013 and conducted the District 8 LEPC quarterly meeting on February 27th. In addition, staff and/or LEPC members attended the FDEM Region 4 quarterly meeting on March 1st at the offices of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council under the leadership of FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Paul Siddall. LEPC staff and/or member(s) also participated in December 5th & February 20th teleconferences administered by FDEM staff Lou Ritter to provide updates and further Training Task Force initiatives.
- The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on January 16th. The primary discussion topics included: expansion of the notification/distribution lists to promote the upcoming How-to-Comply Workshops to include e-mailing several different entities (i.e. Bay Area Manufacturers Association, Air & Waste Management Association, Florida Manufacturing Chemical Association, Tampa Bay Association of Environmental Professionals, Florida Water Quality Association, Tampa Bay Propeller Club and Tampa Bay

Spill Committee), postings of the Council & LEPC websites; and issuance of Press Releases to local media outlets; Tier II submittal options, including FDEM's recent promotion of E-Plan, and additional Tier II data that will be effective on January 1, 2014; update of Florida's desire for identification of "shelf-ready" Supplemental Environmental Projects of varying costs for potential quick implementation; and the potential conduct of a "Storm Surge Preparedness for Businesses" workshop, tentatively envisioned for April - June 2013.

- The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee met on February 27th. As would be/is appropriate, discussion revolved around desired training opportunities and needs across the Region. Approximately one-half of the training funds have been spent or accounted for with about four months remaining in the Contract period. Noting the abundance of hazardous materials that exist in the Tampa Bay Region, the popularity of rail as a transportation means for these materials, and the increasing interest and demand for mass transit, the notion of sending representatives from perhaps each County to a January 29-31, 2013 Consortium training event entitled "A WMD Event: Freight Rail Hazardous Materials Incident Response involving Mass Transit and Rail Systems" at West Virginia University was discussed for future reference. These trainees would/could become valuable assets when strategizing and conducting next year's biennial exercise. Pinellas County also expressed an interest in pursuit of the "Hazmat IQ" training course, even it involves some sort of cost sharing scenario. It is anticipated that the Subcommittee will next meet on May 29, 2013 with the hopes/expectations of tying up the loose ends of remaining funds. As noted for all HMEP training funding, the pre-requisites consist of: intended for public-sector First Responders; course being deemed "cost effective" by FDEM staff; and course/workshop must at least include a transportation component or nexus. The lone HMEP training course conducted during this time period was an Ethanol/Fuel Spill Management with Foam Agents course held on December 18-20, 2012 for the Pinellas County Hazmat team.
- In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: facilitated the monthly meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (December 12th & January 9th); facilitated the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee meeting (December 13th); attended a retirement luncheon for a longtime employee of Tampa Port Authority and staunch supporter of LEPC District 8, Mr. Larry Bagby (December 27th); attended the Tampa Bay Spill Committee meeting (January 8th); (January 16th); attended the monthly meeting of the Ammonia Handlers/Operators (January 22nd & February 19th); prepared and submitted the FDEM & HMEP Quarterly Reports (January 30th); hosted and co-presented the EPCRA How-to-Comply/E-Plan Electronic Filing Workshops along with FDEM staff Paul Wotherspoon, Sam Brackett and Mary Green (February 4th & 5th); accompanied SERC/FDEM staff G.W. Lupton and Robert Dietrich on Risk Management Planning audits of Hillsborough County facilities [Yuengling Brewery Company of Tampa, Cosme Water Treatment Plant, and David L. Tippin Water Treatment Plant (February 12-14, respectively)]; presented an EPCRA/E-Plan informational session at the Flexible Packaging Association's annual conference held in St. Pete Beach with the assistance of LEPC member/HCEM staff/E-Plan Enhancements Subcommittee Chair Jeff Patterson (February 14th); and participated in a planning meeting associated with the conduct of a "Hazardous Materials Forum" for the Port of Tampa facilities on April 18th (February 15th)

OTHER BUSINESS

- Function of LEPCs. Mr. Paul Wotherspoon identified that each State defines the roles and composition of LEPCs. In some States, each County has their own LEPC. Mr. Wotherspoon agreed to provide examples of how other LEPCs from other states are "dysfunctional."
- Supplemental Environmental Projects. Mr. Wotherspoon identified that he is currently working with the FDEM Web Master on the establishment of a Florida SEP site which will be linkable from the FDEM webpage. FDEM staff has been actively gathering information from other States' SEP websites. Mr. Wotherspoon reminded SERC Members and other attendees that:
 - SEPs must be proposed by the violating industry and agreed to/negotiated with the SERC/FDEM and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
 - SEP(s) can account for a maximum of 75% of the fine value. The remaining 25% (minimum) must remain as a fine.
 - SEPs must be pre-approved and "shelf ready"
 - LEPCs are encouraged to identify potential SEPs local to their community and of varying values.
 - SEPs can include equipment and resources for hazmat teams.

- A facility can actually update their own equipment as part of a SEP in order to better safeguard the community.

SERC Chair Bryan Koon inquired whether facilities can be pre-alerted to the SEP process prior to any infraction or violation. Mr. Wotherspoon indicated that perhaps such notification can be provided in conjunction with the fees/Tier II reminder correspondence.

- TRANSCAER - Mr. Paul Wotherspoon identified that an agreement with Florida Fire College has now been solidified for the conduct of TRANSCAER workshops on 9/10-9/13 at their venue. Vendors will be invited and the courses will be open to all, including LEPCs and Hazmat Responders. Tentative topics include discussion of the Ethanol train running between Jacksonville and Tampa, Anhydrous Ammonia & Chlorine. The workshops will be shift-friendly and repetitive for the benefit of all.
- SERC Member Nancy Stevens identified that one of the two primary objectives of the Governor is the promotion of Manufacturing. Anticipate an uptick in activity as a result. SERC Chair Koon emphasized the importance of encouraging growth, protection of citizens while not being an impediment to industry.
- Mr. Paul Wotherspoon advised that a Commodity Flow Study (rail) for Tampa Bay area for Port of Tampa is being coordinated through Tim Date. Need to provide Tim a viable CSX Contact. Mr. John Meyer agreed to provide a legitimate CSX contact for Mr. Tim Date.
- SERC Member Brian Teeple requested a Florida Intermodal System presentation at July SERC meeting. Bryan Koon said great idea and will oblige.

COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT.

- **Next Meeting.** It was announced that the next SERC meeting will be held in Singer Island (or an alternate venue) on July 12, 2013.
- **Adjournment.** The SERC meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.