



TAMPA BAY LEPC, DIST 8 HAZMATTERS

First Quarter - January - March, 2008

District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities this quarter. Staff attended the Quarterly SERC meetings in Cocoa Beach, January 3-4, 2008. Staff conducted two LEPC meetings: January 23rd at the new Manatee County Emergency Operations Center in Bradenton; and March 26, 2008 - where a special presentation was given on the Florida Gas Transmission Pipeline.

In recognition of Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, the LEPC and TBRPC both passed proclamations designating January 20-26, 2008 for this purpose, and sent letters to each city and county government in the District requesting similar proclamations. Twelve jurisdictions complied and passed proclamations and staff was present to receive 5 of them.

HMEP Training this quarter consisted CSX Safety Train instruction in the Tampa CSX rail yard, February 26, 27, and 28th. Additionally, Ethanol/Foam training was held at the Tampa Fire Academy on March 4, 5, and 6th. HSEEP Training consisted of the tag-team with Chuck Carter in District 7 for a class in Sebring on March 4-5, 2008. Preparations are underway for another class at Bartow on April 16-17 and one in Pinellas Park on April 29-30.

The Tampa Bay LEPC is continuing with the HMEP Planning Project with Facility Disaster Planning Workshops on Hazards/Risk Assessment, as a follow-on to the planning workshops held previously. While no workshops were held this quarter, facilities represented at previous workshops were invited to submit their disaster preparedness plans for judging by the Team and for inclusion at the TBRPC Future of the Regions Awards on Friday, March 28th at the Quorum Hotel in Tampa. This is the first year for these awards and a first, second, and honorable mention plaque were awarded.

As part of the HMEP Planning Project, Section 302 Outreach, staff conducted 12 How-to-Comply workshops for facilities needing assistance in Tier Two preparations. Additionally, the Shelter-in-Place video produced in conjunction with the Port of Tampa Siren Warning briefings is in the process of translation into Spanish.

Staff represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee on February 19, 2008 as well as the US Coast Guard Area Committee on the same dates following the Spill Control meeting. The Area Committee is meeting to the recent ammonia pipeline release as well as an industry-led PREP exercise for 2008.

Staff is on the planning committee for the US Coast Guard Port Reconstitution TTX to be held in March 19, 2008 at the Tampa Port Authority Board Room. Prior to the exercise, a Port Reconstitution Workshop and Training will be held at the Hillsborough County EOC on March 5, 2008.

Tampa Bay LEPC is planning its Biennial Exercise to be conducted in May 2008 as a full-scale exercise with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the FBI. The exercise will involve the explosion of a city bus so that the PCSO and FBI can conduct evidence collection - on the first day - and on the day, law enforcement and hazmat team will enter the house used to manufacture the chemical explosive bomb used on the bus and will decontaminate the house prior to evidence collection at that position. The Mid Planning Conference (MPC) was held on February 12th and the Final Planning Conference (FPC) is planned for April 28, 2008. There will be two interim conferences scheduled: One to refine scenario and the Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) and one to define all logistics requirements. It was originally proposed that lacking any other preferred scenario, that the Region 4 RDSTF's required Tabletop Exercise employ the same scenario as the LEPC Biennial. After much discussion with the state, it was determined that the RDSTF should collaborate with the LEPC and with this full-scale exercise literally accomplish both requirements with the same exercise. Plans are underway to broaden the scope of the exercise to include at least two county EOCS and to exercise the MAC.

The Pinellas Police Standards Council continues to meet at the TBRPC under LEPC sponsorship and staff assisted with the February 13th and March 12, 2008 meetings.

Staff attended the Annual Florida Emergency Preparedness Conference (FEPA) at St. Pete Beach on January 28 - February 1, 2008. Additionally, staff will attend the NASTTPO conference in Savannah, GA, April 7-11, 2008.

The next LEPC meeting will be May 28, 2008 and the LEPC will vote to reconfirm its current membership for the biennial membership recertification by the SERC in July. Biennial elections for Chair and Vice Chair are scheduled for the July 30th LEPC meeting.