



TAMPA BAY LEPC, DIST 8 HAZMATTERS

Third Quarter - July - September, 2008

District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities this quarter. Staff attended the Quarterly SERC meetings in Tallahassee July 10-22, 2008. Staff conducted two LEPC Meetings on July 30, 2008 and September 24, 2008. At the July meeting, Asst Chief Scott Ehlers was reelected as Chairman of the LEPC and Jeff Tobergte, Florida DEP Bureau of Emergency Response was elected Vice-Chairman.

Most significant during this quarter was the Roundtable on Emergency Response to Anhydrous Ammonia Transportation Incidents, sponsored by the USDOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), and held at the University of South Florida Downtown Center in the Tampa Port Authority Building, Tampa on August 26, 2008. The LEPC was actively involved in the planning for this roundtable and staff served as coordinator for the Panel Discussion entitled Emergency Planning Partnerships. Speakers from CF Industries, Yara, North America, and Mosaic provided an excellent presentation on the anhydrous ammonia industry.

The Tampa Bay LEPC is continuing with the HMEP Planning Project with Facility Disaster Planning Workshops as a follow-on to the planning workshops held previously. Two workshops were held at the TBRPC on July 29, 2008 and September 11, 2008 at the Port of Tampa. Additionally, two Ammonia Siren Warning Briefings were held at the Tampa Port Authority on July 22nd and 23rd.

There were a number HMEP training classes conducted this quarter: Rail Safety for Public Responder, July 8-10, Manatee County; but two 3-day Foam/Ethanol Classes were held: 1) Pinellas County in Clearwater, August 26-28; and Pasco County in Brooksville, September 24-26, 2008. Hospital 24-Hour First Receivers Courses were conducted at South Florida Baptist Hospital July 30-31, 2008; and at Community Hospital, New Port Richey, September 22-23, 2008. A 24-Hour Chlorine Class for Chlorine Technicians was held at the Pinellas County Young-Rainey Star Center on September 17-19, 2008. Additionally, the Tampa Bay LEPC will be co-hosting the CSX Transportation Tabletop Exercise to be conducted at the St. Petersburg College Allstate Center on November 13, 2008.

Staff represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee on August 12, 2008 as well as the US Coast Guard Area Committee on the same dates following the Spill Control meeting. The Area Committee is assisted in the USCG PREP Exercise held September 17, 2008. Exercise was industry-led by Progress Energy and held at the Anclote Power Plant in Holiday.

The Pinellas Police Standards Council continues to meet at the TBRPC under LEPC sponsorship and staff assisted with the July 9th, August 13th and September 10th meetings.

The next LEPC meeting will be November 19, 2008. LEPC Staff Coordinator Bill Lofgren retires after 47 years of public service on December 1, 2008, and will be succeeded in this position by 23-year TBRPC veteran, John Meyer.