



LEPC, DIST 8 HAZMATTERS

First Quarter - January- March, 2009

District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities this quarter. Staff attended the Quarterly SERC meetings in Tallahassee January 8-9, 2009. Staff conducted a LEPC Meeting on February 25, 2009.

The Tampa Bay LEPC is continuing with the HMEP Planning Project A-2 Section 302 Facility Outreach with Facility Disaster Planning Workshops as a follow-on to the planning workshops held previously. The Subcommittee Project Manager Robert Westly briefed the LEPC membership of the efforts to bolster the hazardous materials component of the *Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit (FBDSK)* and solicited ideas at the February 25th meeting. The FBDSK is interactive and available online at www.fldisasterkit.com. Once completed, it is anticipated that these efforts will assist the business community in writing all-hazards plans.

Also as part of the HMEP Outreach efforts, staff participated in a “Siren Awareness Program” presentation to 49 people at DeSoto Elementary School on January 13, 2009. The attendees were predominantly hispanic parents of students enrolled at the school. The School is located on McKay Bay, adjacent to the Port of Tampa and one of the four Ammonia sirens surrounding the Port. Two powerpoint presentations were given side-by-side, one in English (by Alan Pratt of CF Industries) and one in Spanish (by Erika Wiker of the Tampa Bay RDSTF). A question and answer session followed.

With the March 1st Tier II reporting deadline approaching, LEPC staff conducted their annual series of “How-to-Comply” workshops at the Tampa Port Authority and Council offices. In all, 20 people attended these workshops.

Staff continued participating in a series of teleconferences administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding such subjects as: LP & NG Gas Industry (January 5), Toxmedic (February 10), and Farm Animal Air Emissions (February 17). Additional teleconferences regarding these subjects are scheduled for February 27 and March 5.

Although no HMEP training classes are currently scheduled for the remainder of this Quarter although future training events are being planned for 2009. The anticipated training events include the conduct of Chlorine Safety course in Manatee County in May and potentially three “Hazmat IQ” classes in August. Other training courses, yet to be determined, will additionally be made available.

Staff represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee on February 10, 2009 as well as the US Coast Guard Area Committee on the same dates following the Spill Control meeting.

The Pinellas Police Standards Council continues to meet at the TBRPC under LEPC sponsorship. Staff assisted with the January 14 meeting and intends on assisting for the March 11, 2009 event.

The next LEPC meeting will be May 27, 2009.