The Tampa Bay LEPC met on November 17, 2004 at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

District VIII served as drop point for USDOT 2004 Emergency Response Guides (ERGs) for both the Tampa Bay and Withlacoochee LEPCs. Over 400 boxes were distributed although USDOT did not provide as many books as requested. Supplemental orders have been placed. District VIII is in debt to the Florida Department of Transportation, Tampa field office, for providing warehouse space to house the books until distribution could be made.

Tampa Bay RPC/LEPC has been heavily involved in several Department of Homeland Security/Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) contracts which have flowed through the state DEM and in some cases, also through the Northeast Florida Regional Council. These involve contract to perform security assessments on some 250 Hillsborough County and City of Tampa facilities, using Digital Sandbox technology/methodologies. Additionally, TBRPC is responsible for conducting with local law enforcement, 18 of the 23 facility Buffer Zone Protection Plans within Region IV RDSTF. The plans will be done using HLS-CAM methodology/programming. The TBRPC is also under contract to the 9 counties of Region IV to deliver All-Discipline Training as provided by the ODP catalog and training will be sub-contracted out to General Physics unless counties have specific training/trainer requests. Finally, staff is in process of reviewing plans for the school districts of District VIII LEPC. Many of the meetings/activities listed below were performed in support of these ongoing efforts.

Staff attended and participated in the following:

- October 4: Attended RDSTF State Working Group (SWG) Executive Board Meeting as substitute for George Danz, who occupies the LEPC Staff and Chairs position on the board;

- October 6: Attended Hurricane after-action wrapup for fuel distributors on Port of Tampa at the Hillsborough County EOC to discuss difficulties faced during the recent four hurricanes and methods to be taken to ensure uninterrupted flow of fuel to the terminals and to mid-Florida.

- October 20: Attended Tampa Bay Harbor Safety and Security Committee meeting;

- October 21: Attended meeting with contract personnel on Digital Sandbox - which will be used in facilities assessment of Hillsborough County facilities; and city of Tampa Police Dept and Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Officer personnel at Hillsborough County EOC;

- November 9-10, December 7-8: Sponsored and attended Buffer Zone Protection Plan training for facilities to receive planning in Region IV RDSTF.
- November 15: Attended Area 4 DEM meeting at Hillsborough County EOC; discussed All Discipline Training
- November 17-18: Attended Clean Gulf Conference, Tampa Convention Center, and gave presentation on Florida’s RDSTF Exercise program at the Thursday Nov 18th afternoon breakout session;
- December 14: Attended Tampa Bay Spill Committee Meeting to address Port of Tampa problem areas.

HMEP Training continued with Chlorine Refresher Training provided to water and wastewater treatment operators by District Chief Frank DeFrancesco, Pinellas County HAZMAT Team, on October 28, 2004. On November 9, 10, 11, Chief DeFrancesco also conducted Counterdrug/Clandestine Laboratory training for first responders encountering meth labs. Bay Pines VA Hospital HAZMAT Team conducted Hospital Awareness/Operations training on November 16-19, 2004. On December 7, 8, and 9, 2004, the City of Bradenton first response community was given HAZWOPER Refresher training.