District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities during the quarter. Staff attended the quarterly SERC meetings held in Tallahassee at the Betty Easley Conference Center on October 6-7 and conducted the District 8 LEPC meeting on November 30th. Staff attended a Hazards Analysis workshop conducted by FDEM staff on November 3rd at the Hillsborough County EOC and is scheduled to attend the FDEM Region 4 quarterly meeting on December 2nd at the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center under the leadership of FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Paul Siddall. The next Tampa Bay LEPC quarterly meeting has been scheduled for February 29, 2012.

The LEPC’s Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on October 20, 2011. Invigorated with new membership garnered from the prior Forums, Subcommittee members discussed: the highlights of the past meeting (i.e. August 18th); provided an overview of the second (of two) Facility Disaster Preparedness Forum conducted on September 7th; nominations for the Subcommittee Chair position; and future Subcommittee initiatives including potential 2010 Tier II quality control assessment, expansion of e-mail contact list, efforts to promote “Mercury Awareness & Dangers” theme during Hazardous Materials Awareness Week (i.e. January 22-28, 2012), documentation of appropriate improvements to the hazardous materials component of the Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit, and topics for future Subcommittee workshops and/or forums. The meeting concluded with an agreement of the 2012 Subcommittee quarterly meeting schedule.

LEPC staff and/or member(s) participated in a series of teleconferences administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding Training Task Force initiatives (September 14th and two on November 17th).

Several Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) program courses were conducted during the specified time period. HMEP Program funding was utilized for: a 40 Hr. Hazmat Technicians/IC course (Manatee County/August 29–Sept. 2); three 24 Hr. Life Safety & Command courses (Manatee County/dates ranged from August 31–Sept. 16); three 8 Hr. OSHA Hazwoper Refresher course (Hillsborough County/Sept. 13-15); three 8-Hr. Anhydrous Ammonia Refresher courses (Pinellas County/Sept. 18–20); and attendance of one (i.e. Mr. Greg Lindgren/Pasco County Emergency Management) at the E-Plan Users Conference in Charlotte, NC (October 26-27).

Staff and/or LEPC member(s) represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the September 13th & November 8th meetings of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee, as well as the September 27th (@ Hillsborough County EOC) & October 27th (@ Mosaic) meetings of the Ammonia Handlers/Operators. The November Ammonia Handlers/Operators meeting, initially scheduled at Kinder Morgan, has been re-scheduled for December 6th at the Tampa Port Authority. The meeting locations are typically rotated and themed around discussion of initiatives and activities concerning the ammonia industries in proximity of the Port of Tampa.

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: attended an “After Action” meeting regarding the July 2011 Central Florida Pipeline jet fuel release (September 8th); assisted with the September 14th, October 12th and November 9th meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (PPSC); provided updates regarding the LEPC program to the TBPRC in conjunction with their September 12th, October 10th and November 14th meetings; facilitated the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee’s quarterly meeting (October 5th); and attended a “voluntary” site inspection of the Americold facility in the City of Plant City (October 19th).