



Tampa Bay LEPC (District 8)

HazMatters

March 2012 – May 2012

District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held in St. Pete Beach at the Tradewinds Resort on April 23-24 and conducted the District 8 LEPC quarterly meeting on May 30th. In addition, staff and/or LEPC members attended the FDEM Region 4 quarterly meeting on March 2nd at the Polk County Emergency Operations Center under the leadership of FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Paul Siddall.

The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on April 19, 2012. Invigorated with new membership garnered from prior forums and/or workshops, discussion items included: highlights of last Subcommittee meeting (i.e. January 19th); discussion regarding the future conduct of a "Private Sector Preparedness Course" which would allow smaller facilities to "self certify" their hazardous materials plans; and the future scheduling of a workshop to be entitled "Fire Departments - Promoting Useful EPCRA Reporting." It is envisioned that the attendees will be apprised of useful reporting information that can be further disseminated to hazmat facilities during their routine inspections conducted by fire department personnel. This workshop has tentatively been scheduled for Thursday, September 20th.

The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee met on May 30th to strategize addressing FDEM's directive to plan, schedule and conduct \$10,000± in training for first responders during the first quarter of the next HMEP contract (i.e. between July 1- September 30). Based on the consensus and needs identified by the Subcommittee members present, it appears that the conduct of a Foam/Ethanol course(s) will be pursued. The HMEP Training pre-requisites were, once again, recognized to be destined for First Responders, must be "cost effective," and must include a transportation component or nexus.

LEPC staff and/or member(s) participated in a May 23rd teleconference administered by FDEM staff regarding the furthering of Training Task Force initiatives.

Three 4-hour "Hazcat Kit Training" courses were conducted for the Pinellas County Hazmat Team (April 24-26, 2012) and a 24-Hr. "Confined Space Rescue Operations for Industrial, Municipal and Transportation Hazardous Materials Environments" course (May 8-10, 2012) was conducted for members of the North River Fire District (Manatee County) with funding from the HMEP/Training Program. An additional 40-hour training event, entitled "Hazwoper/Clandestine Drug Lab Certification" has been approved and will be conducted.

Staff and/or LEPC member(s) represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the March 13th & May 8th meetings of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee, as well as the March 20th, April 26th & May 30th meetings of the Ammonia Handlers/Operators of Tampa.

With a special thanks extended to the Transportation Security Administration, the Hillsborough County Sheriffs Office, the Tampa Police Department, Tampa Fire Rescue, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Hillsborough County Emergency Management, Tampa Port Authority & C.F. Industries for assistance in scenario development and participation, LEPC staff conducted their biennial exercise on Friday, May 25th. The scenario of the "walk through" exercise involved the placement of a simulated bomb device on C.F. Industries' Anhydrous Ammonia pipeline by anarchist in association with the Republican National Convention and required their response actions. The secondary component of the exercise, added for the benefit of the LEPC, involved an acknowledgment of a slight rupture of the pipeline and associated release caused during the removal of the bomb and solicited the corresponding facility, emergency management & first responder actions and evacuations associated with the incident.

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: March 13th U.S. Coast Guard Area Contingency Plan meeting; assisted with the March 14th, March 21st & April 11th meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council; facilitated the quarterly meeting of the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee (April 4th & 24th); and provided updates regarding the LEPC program activities to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council in conjunction with their March 12th, April 9th & May 14th meetings.