



TAMPA BAY LEPC, DIST 8 HAZMATTERS

Second Quarter - April - June, 2006

District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities this quarter. Staff attended the Quarterly SERC meetings in Tallahassee April 6-7, and conducted one LEPC meeting on May 31, 2006. The annual revision of the LEPC plan was completed and approved by the LEPC on May 31st.

HMEP Training this quarter consisted of a 40-Hr HAZWOPER (q) course, Hazardous Materials Technician Course on May 15-19, 2006. Eighteen firefighters, mostly from Manatee County attended the course which was held at the TBRPC. The remainder of the year will be two hospital awareness/ops courses and a series of three one-day courses on basic CAMEO for Pasco County being taught by Dwayne Munday on August 22, 23, 24, 2006.

As reported last period, planning projects for HMEP continued with the Port of Tampa Siren Warning Briefings planning efforts to upgrade the briefing and the Shelter-in-Place DVD into Spanish. The briefing in Spanish has been completed and was given to the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross on April 5, 2006 with good reviews.

Also under HMEP Planning, an LEPC subcommittee has been formed for Facility Disaster Planning. This project is to produce several templates for disaster emergency planning and then to conduct half-day workshops to assist facilities with hazardous materials who have no plans for the protection and mitigation of a hazmat spill or release, or who wish assistance in upgrading their present plans. A brainstorming workshop was held on April 20, 2006 and many excellent ideas were obtained from facilities who participated. These will assist in the development of the follow-on workshops as discussed by the June 8th meeting. We are also seeking funding opportunities which will help to underwrite the costs of the workshop and the time of the speakers brought in to make the presentations.

This year the LEPC partnered with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office on Thursday, May 18, 2006, to complete a mass-casualty exercise at the County Jail in order for the medical unit to receive its annual accreditation. The scenario involved the release of a persistent hazardous chemical, hydrochloric acid (HCl) resulting from an truck accident in close proximity ("Plume" distance) of the exercise yard of the jail. The jail's Critical Incident Response Team were first responders on the scene, who after stabilizing the exercise yard by restraining prisoners, allowed the Pinellas Park and Largo Fire Departments to enter and perform gross decontamination of both prisoners and corrections deputies. Medical staff then exercised their emergency response plan to triage victims in the exercise yard. Security issues were important to be able to identify the inmate population from the correctional deputies which had undergone decontamination. The exercise went well and was indicative of the planning and hard work from the PCSO, especially, which preceded the exercise. The Hot Wash and lunch (provided by Trinity - the caterer for the jail) was held at 12:30 pm at the Bayside High School.

Staff represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee on April 11 and June 13, the US Coast Guard Area Committee on April 11 and June 13, which met to discuss revision of the

Area Contingency Plan; and participated in the CEMP Review of Hillsborough County on April 27. The Pinellas Police Standards Council now meets at the TBRPC under LEPC sponsorship and staff assisted with the April 12 and June 14 meetings. Finally staff participated in the Florida Pipeline Stakeholders Meeting on June 20 at the Tradewinds Hotel, St. Pete Beach.