



Tampa Bay LEPC (District 8)

HazMatters

March – May 2013

District 8 LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the Betty Easley Conference Center in Tallahassee on April 4-5, 2013, as well as a meeting to discuss the status of the Hazards Analyses program (April 3rd). The District 8 LEPC quarterly meeting was held on May 29th. Staff and members of the LEPC attended the FDEM Region 4 quarterly meeting on March 1st at the offices of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council under the leadership of FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Paul Siddall. In addition, LEPC staff and/or member(s) also participated in the March 20th teleconference administered by FDEM staff Lou Ritter regarding the TTF's update to the Hazmat FOG.

The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on April 17th. The primary discussion items included: an update on the SERC/EPA Supplemental Environmental Projects program; and the upcoming "Keeping Your Head above Water: Storm Surge Preparedness for Businesses with Hazardous Materials Workshop" scheduled for June 27th. Workshop topics will consist of: "Storm Surge 101" and identification of Meteorological Trends; Identification of Vulnerabilities & Chemical Storage; Have a Plan; Insurance & Financial Issues; and Lessons Learned. Being held in conjunction with the Tampa Port Authority, the workshop is designed to provide information to assist hazardous materials facility operators in determining the most appropriate course of action regarding their inventories when a significant storm event is approaching or imminent. This would/could include potentially "topping off" the storage tanks for stability and structural integrity or transporting the hazardous materials out of the more vulnerable areas. As learned from numerous past Hurricanes, facilities do not have to be located immediately adjacent to the coastline to be subject to storm surge and considerable damage. It is anticipated that, once conducted, the workshop will count towards the HMEP Planning project of Community Outreach/Workshops.

The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee met on May 29th. As would be/is appropriate, discussion revolved around desired training opportunities and needs across the Region as well as addressing the caveat that 25% of next year's HMEP Training funds will need to be spent in the first quarter alone (i.e. July 1 – Sept. 30). During the present quarter, three 8-Hr. Chlorine Refresher courses were conducted for the Pinellas County Hazmat Team (April 23-25) and ten members of Pasco County Fire Rescue and St. Petersburg Fire Rescue were sent to a 40-Hr. HazMedic course conducted by LEPC District 5 in Ocala (May 13-17). Following the conduct of three 8-Hr. Hazmat IQ courses (scheduled for June 23-25), the remaining 2012-13 HMEP Training funds will have been expended. The pre-requisites HMEP Training funds remain that the course: must be intended for public-sector First Responders; must be pre-approved and deemed "cost effective" by FDEM staff; and, at minimum, must include a transportation component or nexus.

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: hosted meetings of the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee (March 7th & April 18th); facilitated the monthly meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (March 13th, April 10th & May 8th); attended the bi-monthly of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee meeting (March 12th & May 14th); attended the U.S. Coast Guard's Area Contingency Planning meeting (March 12th); provided a presentation entitled "the Role of the LEPCs" to the Tampa Cooperative Safety Initiative

Committee (March 19th); attended the monthly meeting of the Ammonia Handlers/Operators (March 26th, April 23rd & May 21st); participated in planning scenario meetings associated with the future conduct of a “*Hazardous Materials Forum*” primarily for the business tenants within the Port of Tampa (March 26th & April 23rd); prepared and submitted LEPC & HMEP Quarterly Reports (April 29th); transmitted an “E-Plan Letter of Support” to FDEM staff as well as the entire Tampa Bay area legislative delegation and Florida contingency of federal representatives (May 29th); and submitted applicable LEPC Membership Nominations forms (June 3rd) & *Hazmatters* report (June 5th) in preparation for the July 12th SERC meeting.