

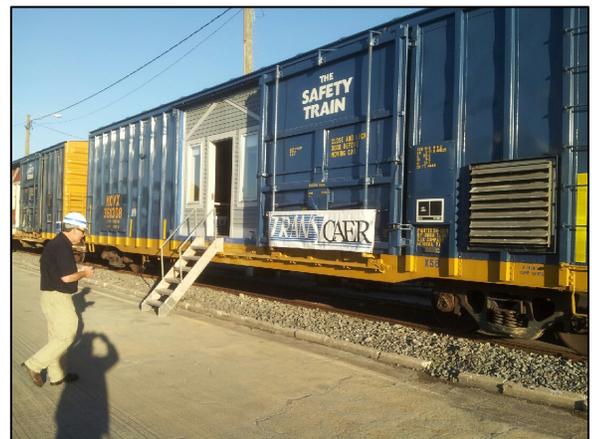


## Tampa Bay LEPC (District 8) *HazMatters* December – February 2014

District 8 LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the Hilton Daytona Beach Resort/Ocean Walk Village in Daytona Beach on January 21-22, 2014. Staff and/or members of the LEPC attended the joint FDEM Regions 4 & 6 quarterly meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Manatee County Emergency Operations Center under the leadership of FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Paul Siddall. The quarterly LEPC District 8 meeting was held on February 26<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting, Chief Jeff Patterson (Hillsborough County Fire Rescue) was named LEPC Chair for District 8 to complete the term previously identified for the now-retired Chief Scott Ehlers, at minimum. Jeff Tobergte (Florida Department of Environmental Protection/Office of Emergency Response) agreed to remain the Vice-Chair for the identical term.

The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on January 15<sup>th</sup>. The primary topics included: announcement of new Subcommittee Chair (Patricia Krajnyak of HRP Associates), identification of FDEM's implemented strategies for transmitting Tier II reporting reminders to all applicable facilities statewide, as well as discussion of the LEPC's upcoming How-to-Comply/E-Plan filing and TRANSCAER Workshops. The meeting concluded with discussion of an initiative to compile a single list of various resources and links that could/would assist facilities in planning for a variety of hazards (e.g. hazardous materials, storm surge, hurricane, flooding, tornados...).

The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee met on February 26<sup>th</sup>. As would be/is appropriate, discussion revolved around identifying the training needs and opportunities of public-sector first responders for the remaining ~\$2,200 in training funds prior to the June 30, 2014 Contract expiration. During the quarter, HMEP training funds were utilized to assist in the attendance of Pinellas County Hazmat Team members at the 2014 *Hazardous Materials Symposium* and to assist with the *TRANSCAER CSX Safety Train Workshops* held at the TRANSFLO facility in Tampa. A total of 160 attended the TRANSCAER event held in Tampa over the two day period of February 18-19, 2014. Coordination of an *Air Monitoring for Hazardous Materials Technicians* course was additionally coordinated for conduct next quarter as well as the funding of two Pinellas County Hazmat Team members to receive 160-Hr. Hazmat Tech course. As is appropriate, the pre-requisites for all HMEP training is that the course: must be designed 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: attended the Tampa Cooperative Safety & Security Initiative holiday luncheon (December 5<sup>th</sup>); attended the (nearly) monthly Ammonia Handlers/Operators meeting (December 10<sup>th</sup> & February 25<sup>th</sup>); facilitated the monthly meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (December 11<sup>th</sup> & January 8<sup>th</sup>); participated in a Conference Call regarding the (then) upcoming TRANSCAER training workshops (numerous dates December - February); coordinated the conduct of future 24-hr. *Air Monitoring for Hazardous Materials Technician* course for Hillsborough/Tampa/Pasco First Responders (January 2<sup>nd</sup>); met with CSX Tampa TRANSCAER workshop site officials (January 8<sup>th</sup> & February 17<sup>th</sup>); attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (January 14<sup>th</sup>); coordinated the attendance of St. Petersburg Fire Rescue staff at annual *Hazmat Symposium* event (Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>); attended the regional exercise planning meetings for an exercise to be entitled "Hightide" (January 30<sup>th</sup> & February 25<sup>th</sup>); hosted the annual EPCRA How-to-Comply Workshops (February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>); attended the Initial Planning Meeting for U.S. Coast Guard lead-exercise to be named "Old Port Tampa"; and assisted with registration and other duties associated with the conduct of the TRANSCAER Workshops @ CSX TRANSFLO in Tampa [160 attended from the Region and surrounding areas] (February 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>).