



Volume 20 Number 3

DISTRICT 1

West Florida Regional Planning Council

Bay, Escambia, Holmes, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Washington Counties

The District 1 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) held its quarterly meeting January 17, 2007, at the Florida Department of Transportation District 3 Office in Chipley, Florida. Members engaged in discussion about a variety of issues most notably, parameters for the upcoming planning project under the 2006-2007 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant; Sunshine law exclusions for chemical locations contained in the hazards analyses documents; and the newly formed Escambia County Hazardous Materials Response Team.

The LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan update cycle has begun. Members have been engaged in reviewing the plan and providing any suggestions for revisions to staff. The plan is due to the State of Florida no later than June 30, 2007.

Training continued throughout this quarter with a range of atypical courses being organized by staff and offered to LEPC members and the response community. Courses included Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO fm), Field Operations Guide and Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program training. This is in addition to ongoing efforts to offer Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations level courses.

During the quarter, staff engaged in developing and planning the Regional Domestic Security Task Force's full-scale Radiological Response Exercise. Staff also began making preliminary arrangements to conduct the LEPC's Biennial Hazardous Materials Tabletop Exercise this coming June in Okaloosa County. Other exercise participation included the Department of Health's Radiation Tabletop Exercise.

The next District 1 LEPC meeting is planned for April 18, 2007, at 10:00am at the Okaloosa County Health Department in Crestview, Florida. For more information, please contact Debbie Thayer at 850-595-8910 ext 217.

DISTRICT 2

Apalachee Regional Planning Council

Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty and Wakulla Counties

The District 2 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met January 17, 2007 at the

Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom. The following is a summary of recent LEPC staff activities over the last quarter:

The LEPC will sponsor a 16-hour Awareness Level Clandestine Drug Lab Course at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom March 28-29, 2007 and an 8-hour Operations Level Clandestine Drug Lab Course March 30, 2007 also at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom.

In addition, the LEPC has coordinated with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to sponsor a 40-hour Law Enforcement Clandestine Drug Lab course. The course is scheduled for October 15-20, 2007 and participants will be required to become members of the Regional Response Team that responds during clandestine drug lab incidents.

Staff has tentatively scheduled a 3-day Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO*fm*) training course for July 31–August 2, 2007 at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom. The course will become official once a confirmation letter has been received from the Environmental Protection Agency. Staff has also coordinated with Wakulla County Emergency Management to schedule a 4-hour Awareness Level course and a 16-hour Operations Level course for fire departments within the county. All training courses are posted on the Apalachee Regional Planning Council's website: www.thearpc.com.

Staff submitted the 2006-2007 hazards analyses for Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Liberty and Leon counties. In addition, staff continued work on a district-wide CAMEO*fm* database that will contain hazards analysis information (e.g. – site pictures, vulnerable zone maps, site plans, etc.) for the nine counties in the district. The database will be distributed to fire departments within the district upon completion.

The LEPC selected "Community Workshops and Section 302 Facility Outreach" as its Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant planning project. Staff held a workshop in Leon County and Jackson County on February 21, 2007. The third and final workshop will be held in conjunction with the next LEPC meeting. The workshops are designed to raise the community's awareness of hazardous materials and related preparedness and planning programs.

The next meeting of the District 2 LEPC will be held May 2, 2007 at 10:00 am EDST at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom. As always, anyone interested in attending the meeting is welcome.

District 3

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties

The District 3 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met February 16, 2007 at Shands

Hospital in Gainesville. Agenda items included Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, reviewing the chemical releases reported during 2006 and the writing of a "Get a Shelter In-Place Plan" Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund competitive grant application. A behind the scenes tour of Shands followed the LEPC meeting.

For the 2007 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, local governments were encouraged to host a new Florida First Responder Awareness Level class in each county. A presentation was given to the Regional Planning Council on how local governments and the state are working together to increase the safety of our citizens from chemical releases. The LEPC asked 55 municipalities, 11 counties and 11 school boards to join the LEPC, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) in proclaiming the week of January 21 - 27, 2007 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week.

The LEPC conducted a review of chemical releases reported during calendar year 2006. This review has become an annual event for the February meeting. Other items discussed included the SERC Awards and the kick-off of the Regional Evacuation Study. The group also discussed the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant planning project of preparing a hazards analyses summary that would offer responders a variety of detail levels on chemical inventory, risks and vulnerabilities.

During its last meeting, the LEPC split into three break-out groups to identify key emergency management issues in the development of a "Get a Shelter In-Place Plan."

Staff activities included teaching Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO*fm*) and Areal Locations of Hazardous Atmospheres (ALOHA) for hazardous materials technicians in Jacksonville and updating hazards analyses for six counties. Staff attended the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference and accompanied Division of Emergency Management staff on a Risk Management Planning Program audit.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., May 11, 2007 at the Bradford County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Starke. This continues the LEPC's multi-year goal of visiting all eleven EOCs in the District.

DISTRICT 4

Northeast Florida Regional Council

Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties

The District 4 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met February 14, 2007 at the St. Johns County Emergency Operations Center.

Staff completed and submitted the 2006/2007 hazards analyses for Baker, Clay, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns counties.

The LEPC is sponsoring a 160-hour Hazardous Materials Technician class from April 9 to May 4, 2007 at First Coast Technical Institute for the Fernandina Beach Fire Rescue Department. This course is scheduled each day from 9:00AM until 6:00PM and consists of both lecture and outside practical evolutions challenging the skills of those personnel attending. There will be one late afternoon/evening scenario during the Hazmat III session. The equipment used to conduct these sessions will be from the Fernandina Beach Fire-Rescue Department and student books will be administered at the beginning of class.

The LEPC chose "Commodity Flow Study" as the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant planning project. The 2007 update for the LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan is underway with an upcoming committee meeting May 23, 2007. Once the Committee has reviewed the current plan, staff will begin criteria checklist and information update.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled to take place May 23, 2007 at the offices of the Northeast Florida Regional Council.

District 5

Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council

Citrus, Hernando, Levy, Marion and Sumter Counties

The District 5 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met January 17, 2007. The LEPC Training Committee met prior to the regular LEPC meeting and training requests identified at previous meetings were discussed, voted on and approved for the dedication of training funds. Courses planned include a 40-hour HazMedic course, a Clandestine Drug Lab Awareness course and a National Incident Management System course for executives. All training courses are scheduled for the months of April and May.

Staff has fulfilled the Hazards Analysis Update contract requirements by submitting the analyses for both Levy and Sumter counties to the Division of Emergency Management. The Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council has contracted with Levy and Sumter counties for the completion of the 2006-2007 Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generator program. This program will be conducted and delivered by July 1, 2007 as required by the contract.

The LEPC chose "Quality Control of Submitted Tier II Information" as the 2006-2007 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant planning project.

The next LEPC meeting is planned for April 18, 2007. Questions regarding the above may be directed to Michael Arnold at (352) 732-1315, extension 228 or via email at MArnold@wrpc.cc.

DISTRICT 6

East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Brevard, Lake Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia Counties

The District 6 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met February 9, 2007 at the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council offices.

The LEPC approved the Training Subcommittee's proposed Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant training agenda. The prioritized items are: Hazardous Materials Incident Command Training, Propane Release Response Training, Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO*fm*) class potentially including an administration component, converting the LEPC District 6 informational video, and a Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) course.

For Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in January, the LEPC informational video was played on Orange TV throughout the week.

In accordance with the Regional Planning Council Scope of Work, an informational notification pursuant to Section 324(b) of EPCRA was published in newspapers of general circulation in the district.

The LEPC is continuing to prepare for an exercise that will meet the requirements of both the LEPC biennial exercise and the HMEP planning project. The LEPC will contract with Emergency Response Educators and Consultants to conduct the exercise in Lake County, which will be multi-disciplinary and meet Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) requirements.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled to be held April 27, 2007.

DISTRICT 7

Central Florida Regional Planning Council

DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee and Polk Counties

The District 7 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met January 10, 2007.

Mr. Gordon Norris from the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners was welcomed as a new member in the elected local official category. Other business included reports from the new membership chairman; the training chairman and the establishment of a LEPC plan rewrite committee to work with staff on the LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan update.

Work has begun to prepare for the internal review of all Tier II reports as the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant planning project for this year. This included

establishing a filing system broken down by county versus one single set of files. This will enable the LEPC to be much more responsive to any questions posted by members or the general public.

LEPC staff, Mr. Carter, attended Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO*fm*) training in West Palm Beach sponsored by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. This training was needed and worth the time and travel to attend. The highlight of the training was an extra day of instruction, by Mr. Tim Date of the Division of Emergency Management, pertaining to the preparation and submission of the hazards analysis reports.

Mr. Carter, along with members from all of the other 10 Regional Planning Councils, attended a kick-off meeting relating to the new Statewide Evacuation Study. Mr. Carter completed the Logistical Staging Area (LSA) Survey of the Bartow Municipal Airport and Industrial Park. Regional planning council staff finalized and delivered an After Action Report for the Polk County Pandemic Flu Full-Scale Exercise.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2007 in Bartow where the highlight will be the presentation of the "Thomas Yatabe" State Emergency Response Commission Awards.

DISTRCT 8

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties

The District 8 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met January 24, 2007.

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant training this quarter consisted of collaborating with Manatee County to conduct a 24-hour Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Instructor Train-the-Trainer course, January 8-10, 2007 and an 8-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Refresher course on January 18, 2007. Scheduled for the next quarter are the Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO*fm*) tactical courses consisting of 3 one-day courses April 17-19, 2007, taught by Dwayne Mundy, for the Manatee County Hazardous Materials Team. A basic CAMEO*fm* course is planned for April 24-26, 2007 at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) and Clandestine Drug Lab Training in collaboration with Pinellas County Fire & EMS Administration at the Star Center on June 26-28, 2007.

While not a part of the HMEP effort, Tampa Bay will host the first Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Mobile Training Module in Pinellas Park on June 18-22, 2007. The course will update those wanting HSEEP Exercise Planning and Evaluator Training and the Train-the-Trainer course.

The LEPC continued the HMEP Grant planning project with the second Facility Disaster Planning Workshop January 23, 2007. Several planning meetings were held attendant to the

workshops and follow-up plans for additional workshops will take the planning process beyond to include recovery efforts for future workshops. A Hazard Assessment Workshop is currently scheduled for mid-May.

The LEPC and the TBRPC participated in Hazardous Materials Awareness Week January 21-27, 2007 with proclamations recognizing Hazardous Materials Awareness Week and a copy was sent to each city/county government in the region to also request proclamations. Additionally, the third Disaster Planning Workshop was specifically planned for that week to heighten Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act awareness. LEPC staff conducted a total of 25 How-to-Comply workshops in January and February.

Staff represented the LEPC at meetings of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee and the U.S. Coast Guard Area Committee both on February 13, 2007. Staff attended the Regional Response Team meeting in Cocoa Beach February 6-8, 2007 and the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference in Daytona Beach January 29 - February 2, 2007. Staff attended the initial planning session, as a member of the planning committee, for Clean Gulf 07 to be held at the Tampa Convention Center November 15-16, 2007.

The next two LEPC meetings are scheduled for March 28, 2007 and May 30, 2007.

DISTRICT 9

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Sarasota Counties

The District 9 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met February 22, 2007, at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. The first order of business was the recognition of Ms. Angie Osceola, formerly of Glades County Emergency Management and Mr. Tom Kochheiser, formerly of Hendry County Emergency Management with certificates of appreciation for their work and support of the LEPC. In another matter, Mr. Rick Zyvoloski of Collier County Emergency Management was elected Exercise Chairman of the LEPC.

During the quarter, an Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act course was conducted by the LEPC in concert with Florida Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. Also, resolutions honoring Florida Hazardous Materials Awareness Week were received from local governments from across the region. Additionally, a Public Notice of Availability of Hazardous Materials Information was published in the Cape Coral Breeze Newspaper.

With respect to other training matters, the Committee approved the following courses for the remainder of the budget cycle:

- An 8-hour Clandestine Drug Lab Awareness Level course for emergency responders, public safety officials, and government official;
- An 8-hour Clandestine Drug Lab Operational Level course directed at emergency responders and government investigators;
- A 48-hour Chemistry for Hazardous Materials Response;
- An 8-hour Hazardous Materials Water Spill Emergency Response course.

The next quarterly meeting of the LEPC is scheduled May 24, 2007. Additional information regarding the programs and activities of the Committee can be obtained by viewing www.swfrpc.org.

DISTRICT 10

Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach and St. Lucie Counties

The District 10 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met February 15, 2007 at the Indian River Community College Chastain Campus, Stuart Florida.

The LEPC received requests to conduct National Incident Management System/National Response Plan training, Hazardous Materials Awareness Level and Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) refresher training in the coming months. Following are classes that will be offered in the region:

- Incident Command System (ICS) G-300 class is scheduled in Martin County at the Emergency Operations Center on March 22-23, 2007;
- Advanced Life Support for Hazardous Materials Incidents, 80-hour class is scheduled at the Martin County Professional Firefighters Local 2959 Union Hall. Two classes will run simultaneously to accommodate on duty shifts. The dates for this class are February 26-March 22, 2007.

The Planning Sub-committee met February 15, 2007, prior to the LEPC meeting, to continue development of the scenario objectives for the LEPC Biennial Tabletop Exercise. The sub-committee has changed the location of the exercise to St. Lucie County. The exercise will focus on identification, communication and notification processes outlined in the LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan.

The Public Information and Marketing Sub-committee reviewed the updated outreach presentation for District 10. The sub-committee approved the materials to be used by staff to

meet the requirements of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant planning project "Community Workshops and Section 302 Facility Outreach". The presentation will also be available on the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council/LEPC website. The sub-committee also discussed ongoing communications agendas for the district. The sub-committee suggested the LEPC prepare a calendar listing all LEPC events, training opportunities, workshops and seminars as well as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week and regional happenings. It was suggested that the calendar be provided as a handout to the LEPC and interested parties. The calendar could be also posted on the website.

The next LEPC meeting is planned for May 3, 2007 at the Indian River Community College Chastain Campus, Stuart Florida.

DISTRICT 11

South Florida Regional Planning Council
Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties

District 11 served as host Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for the January 2007 quarterly meetings of the Training Task Force, LEPC Chairs/Staffs and State Emergency Response Commission.

The LEPC held its February 28, 2007 meeting at the Miami-Dade Emergency Operations Center. The LEPC approved the Training Subcommittee concept of holding a Hazardous Materials Challenge Event and a custom-tailored Chemical Compatibility and Storage Course. The LEPC will pursue offering an Areal Locations of Hazardous Atmospheres (ALOHA) course later in the year. The Committee reaffirmed its choice of the "Shelter-In-Place Education Enhancement" as its Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant planning project for this Fiscal Year.

LEPC Member Craig Marston, City of Key West Fire Marshal, presented a Shelter-In-Place seminar to personnel of the Monroe County School District February 21, 2007.

A CSX Railroad-sponsored Table-Top Exercise will be held in the Fort Lauderdale area on March 20, 2007. This free event will offer 75 attendees the opportunity to respond to a simulated train derailment resulting in a hazardous materials incident. In addition, a three-tanker Safety Train will be available at the event.

The next meeting of Training Subcommittee is planned for March 21, 2007 at the South Florida Regional Planning Council and the LEPC is scheduled to meet April 25, 2007 at the Miami-Dade Emergency Operations Center.