



Volume 21 Number 1

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) meeting was held in Bay County October 17, 2007. Updates were provided to members on the status of Training Task Force and State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) initiatives. Staff provided members with recommendations and comments as a result of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant facility outreach visits. In addition, presentations were given on pipeline safety and response to pipeline emergencies. A presentation was also conducted on the Chemical Facility Anti Terrorism Standards.

Staff also coordinated a meeting of the LEPC's Resource and Training Subcommittee which was held in conjunction with the quarterly LEPC meeting.

District 1 LEPC will be changing staff contacts since Debbie Thayer has accepted a position with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

The next District 1 LEPC meeting is scheduled to be held January 23, 2008, at the Walton County Emergency Operations Center. For more information, please contact John Gallagher at 850-332-7976 ext 206.

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) held its quarterly meeting October 25, 2007 at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom.

During the month of October the LEPC sponsored a 48-hour Fire Chemistry course in which 20 persons participated and four Hazardous Materials Awareness level courses with a total of 71 participants.

Staff has scheduled a 4-hour Awareness level course to be conducted December 17, 2007 at the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center. Staff continues to work with the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross and Gadsden County to schedule a 4-hour Awareness level course and a 16-hour Operations level course, respectively. All training courses are posted on the Apalachee Regional Planning Council's website: www.thearpc.com.

Staff submitted the closeout report for the District 2 LEPC's Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant planning project, *Community Workshops and Section 302 Facility Outreach*.

Staff submitted the first fifty percent of the 2007-08 hazards analyses for Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Liberty, Leon and Wakulla Counties to the Division of Emergency Management.

Staff attended the inaugural Environmental Protection Agency Annual Chemical Emergency Conference at the Tampa Convention Center November 15-16, 2007. The conference provided a good opportunity to learn how LEPCs from various States operate and to network with corresponding staff.

Staff is holding preliminary discussions with the City of Tallahassee about coordinating a hazardous materials related tabletop exercise to satisfy the biennial exercise requirement. The exercise may potentially involve CSX, the City of Tallahassee and Florida State University.

The next District 2 LEPC meeting is planned for January 23, 2008 at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom.

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) last met November 9, 2007 at Clariant LSM in Gainesville. Agenda items included a presentation by Florida Gas Transmission Company, outreach activities for 2008 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, the LEPC biennial exercise, selecting a Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant planning project, and reviewing the training results from the previous year. A tour of Clariant followed the LEPC meeting,

Riley Jackson and John Wilson from Florida Gas Transmission Company gave a presentation on gas pipeline safety in Florida. Emergency contact and response procedures in the event of a leak

were discussed. There was also a discussion of responder and Florida Gas coordination during the recent wildfires.

For the 2008 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, the LEPC and Alachua County Emergency Management are working together to put a public service announcement on the local government cable television channel. Local governments were encouraged to host a new Florida First Responder Awareness Level class in each county. In Columbia County, the water and wastewater plant operators will be presented with their State Emergency Response Commission Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of their efforts to increase community safety by replacing multiple ton containers of chlorine with a safer alternative.

The LEPC discussed the biennial table top exercise recently conducted at the Santa Fe Community College Gainesville campus. The exercise explored activities on the downwind side of a chemical spill rather than the technician efforts to stop a leak at the source. The scenario included a tanker truck of toluene which was involved in an accident with a Greyhound bus on Interstate 75 near the community college. The Situation Manual and After Action Report are based upon the new Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) methodology. A hot wash followed at which participants were encouraged to give their observations and priorities.

For the 2008 HMEP planning project, the LEPC selected Option 2: Community Workshops and Section 302 Outreach. Possible seminar topics discussed included a How-to-Comply Seminar, What Chemical Facilities Need to Know about the LEPC, Homeland Security Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards and a Table Top Exercise at Santa Fe Community College - Starke Campus

The results of the LEPC training program were reviewed for the fiscal year October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007. A total of 20 classes were conducted training 271 students for a total of 1624 hours. It was noted that this was the first time the Florida Operations level class had been registered with the Florida State Fire College (FSFC) and taught by an LEPC as a FSFC recognized training provider. The goal for the next year is to offer Technician refresher training and eventually the IAFF 160-hour Technician class with classes and instructors registered through the FSFC.

Staff activities, in addition to providing LEPC staff support, included scheduling training classes and updating hazards analyses for seven counties.

Staff gave a presentation on LEPC Outreach at the Inaugural Environmental Protection Agency Region IV Chemical Emergency Conference held in Tampa and accompanied DEM staff to a Florida - Alabama LEPC Sister Program meeting. Finally, staff attended the Current Issues in Emergency Management Conference held in Tallahassee.

The next LEPC meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 15, 2008, at PCS Phosphate in White Springs.

DISTRICT 4

Northeast Florida Regional Council

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

The District 4 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting was held November 14, 2007 at the offices of the Northeast Florida Regional Council, Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. Patrick Ross of Colomer USA, was named the winner of the 2008 Thomas Yatabe Award for outstanding performance in support of Florida's hazardous materials program. A Certificate of Appreciation is awarded to George McLatchey, St. Johns County School District. These individuals receiving recognition have made planning and execution of events seamless and successful and we thank them for their efforts.

Staff submitted the 2007-2008 hazardous analyses for St. Johns and Baker counties to the Division of Emergency Management and the remaining hazards analyses for Clay, Nassau and Putnam counties will be finished by late January.

Putnam County Emergency Management and partner organizations have developed policies and procedures to respond to a terrorism incident and have determined the need to conduct exercises testing these protocols.

The scope of play for the Putnam County 2008 Full-Scale Exercise requires the activation of the Emergency Operations Center, local law enforcement, fire and medical units, and various county, volunteer, and non-profit support agencies and organizations, in response to multiple terrorist events. These actions include all aspects of emergency management to support local, state, private, volunteer, and non-profit responders.

Following are variables used for the development of the scenario and the overall structuring of the exercise:

1. The potential for multiple terrorist events.
2. The potential for the presence of a Hazardous Material.
3. The potential for mass casualties and/or mass evacuation.

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant training funds supported the attendance of Clay and Duval County firefighters to the Incident Safety Officer's Forum in Orlando. This week long session included a 16-hour Fire Academy, 16-hour Health and Safety Academy, Incident Safety Officer Exam, Health and Safety Exam and a variety of fire safety seminars.

Utilizing HMEP grant planning funds, LEPC staff will perform a quality control of the Tier II forms that are being submitted by the Section 302 and 311/312 facilities within the district. Staff will contact facilities with four or more errors on their Tier II forms to educate the facility representative on the proper completion of Tier II forms and use of the State Emergency

Response Commission How-to-Comply Handbook. Staff will then prepare a report of the Tier II forms reviewed and corrections recommended to facilities. The results of this planning project will be incorporated into the annual update of the LEPC's hazardous materials emergency response plan.

The LEPC intends to hold its next meeting February 13, 2008 at the Flager County Emergency Operations Center.

DISTRICT 5

Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council

Citrus, Hernando, Levy, Marion and Sumter Counties

The District 5 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) held its regularly scheduled meeting October 17, 2007. The LEPC Training Subcommittee meeting was held prior to the LEPC meeting and training requests from the previous meeting were discussed.

LEPC staff completed the hazards analyses for Levy County. Staff has also completed the 2006-2007 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant planning project "Quality Control of Submitted Tier II Information". For the planning project, staff collected approximately two-hundred fifty Tier II submissions from local businesses within the five county region and examined these for errors and inconsistencies.

Currently, District 5 LEPC is planning for a series of Class "A" Foam courses, a Radiation class given by the Bureau of Radiation Control from Orlando, an 8-hour HazMedic Refresher course and a Highway Safety Course. Course dates and locations have yet to be determined.

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) meeting was held October 19, 2007 at the Regional Planning Council office in Maitland.

The Training sub-committee met before the LEPC meeting in October and outlined priorities for the new fiscal year. Some of the training priorities include two HazMat IQ classes in the coming months and propane gas training during Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in late January. The LEPC is also putting together a Hazardous Materials Awareness handout for Hazardous Materials Awareness Week.

The Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant planning project selected for this fiscal year is the How-to-Comply Workshops. The first workshop is scheduled to take place during

Hazardous Materials Awareness Week.

The LEPC staff and chair attended the inaugural Environmental Protection Agency Region IV Chemical Emergency Conference at the Tampa Convention Center November 14-16, 2007.

The LEPC plans on holding the next meeting January 25, 2008 at the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council Office in Maitland.

DISTRICT 7

Central Florida Regional Planning Council

DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee and Polk Counties

The District 7 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting was conducted September 12, 2007 in Okeechobee. The meeting focused on final coordination for the upcoming HAZMAT IQ class and organizing a railcar accident class to be held in October 2007.

LEPC staff conducted a How-to-Comply Seminar with Treatt USA. The company, located in Polk County, has expanded their business to the point that they now exceed the threshold planning quantity for anhydrous ammonia and required assistance in preparing their paperwork to return to compliance.

The LEPC sponsored three HAZMAT IQ classes September 14-16, 2007. Classes were presented in Bartow, Wauchula and Sebring. There were a total of over 50 students in attendance over the three day period. The LEPC sponsored three days of railcar disasters training in Sebring in conjunction with CSX and Gulfstream Natural Gas. One of the critical issues addressed is that many of our utilities, including gas pipelines, use the same right-of-way as railroads and that any accident along a rail line may have the potential of damaging any number of utilities.

Mr. Carter along with several members of the LEPC attended several planning meetings and assisted in the evaluation of the Polk County TEAM PLAY Exercise.

The LEPC completed the "When a Hazardous Materials Disaster Strikes" pamphlet. The pamphlet contains basic information on what the LEPC is and how it can help with information and planning for hazardous materials. Additionally, it provides telephonic contacts for each local community, county and state emergency responder. The pamphlet is designed to make it easy for someone to quickly identify the proper contacts to report most types of emergencies.

LEPC staff completed the hazards analyses reports for Okeechobee County and submitted them to the Division of Emergency Management.

Another LEPC meeting was held November 6, 2007 in Sebring. The LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan was adopted by unanimous vote now that it has been approved by State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). Discussions on training needs and exercise

planning for the upcoming year also took place.

Mr. Gary Weiss has been appointed by Governor Christ to serve on the SERC in the Environmental category. Mr. Tom Moran from Highlands County Emergency Management will assume the duties, formerly held by Mr. Weiss, as the LEPC Training Committee Chairman and Training Task Force representative.

LEPC staff conducted a follow up inspection at the request of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on a site in DeSoto County. An individual alleged that a neighbor was dumping hazardous materials in his pasture that was making his livestock sick. Mr. Carter reported to DEP that he was unable to find any evidence to support the allegation.

The next LEPC meeting is planned for January 16, 2008 at American Compliance Technologies, Inc. in Bartow.

DISTRCT 8

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties

The regularly scheduled Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting was held November 28, 2007. Staff also conducted a special LEPC meeting October 10, 2007 at which Mr. Mike Lunsford, Hazardous Materials Coordinator for CSX Railroad gave a presentation.

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant training consisted of preparations for three one-day methanol (foam) training courses in two counties.

As a follow up to 2006-2007, the LEPC is continuing the HMEP planning project with Facility Disaster Planning Workshops on Hazards/Risk Assessment for 2007-2008. Preparations were made to conduct a workshop January 15, 2008 at the Pasco County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility in Land O' Lakes. The Team continues to meet prior to LEPC meetings and via teleconferences. Also as part of the HMEP Planning Project, staff participated in three Port of Tampa Ammonia Siren Warning briefings: the first was held November 6, 2007 and conducted simultaneously in English and Spanish at the DeSoto Elementary School on McKay Bay and two briefings were held at Port America November 8, 2008.

Staff represented the LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee October 16, 2007 and December 11, 2007 as well as the US Coast Guard Area Committee on the same dates following the Spill Control meetings. The Area Committee is meeting to discuss revision of the Area Contingency Plan. Staff represented the LEPC at the RDSTF General Assembly Meeting October 23, 2007 at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Headquarters in Tampa.

Staff is on the planning committee for the US Coast Guard Port Reconstitution TTX to be held in March 2008 and attended the Initial Planning Conference (IPC) on October 17, 2007 and the

Mid-Planning Conference on December 4, 2007.

To meet its biennial exercise requirement, the LEPC is planning a full-scale exercise for May 2008 in cooperation with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The exercise will involve a chemical bomb explosion on a city bus so that the PCSO and FBI can conduct evidence collection. Also, law enforcement and a hazardous materials team will enter the house used to manufacture the bomb to decontaminate the house prior to evidence collection at that site. The Concepts and Objectives Development meeting was held November 7, 2007 and the Initial Planning Conference (IPC) was conducted December 11, 2007. PCSO Captain Scott Stiner will be the exercise director.

Staff participated on the planning committee for 17th Annual Clean Gulf Conference and chaired a session at the Inaugural Environmental Protection Agency Region IV Chemical Emergency Conference held jointly with the Clean Gulf Conference. A panel of LEPC members addressed the subject: Public Outreach: One Key to Successful LEPCs. Panelists included Ron Crabtree, Chairman of the Deer Park, Texas LEPC; Don Pugh, past president of the Tuscaloosa County Alabama LEPC; and Dwayne Mundy, North Central Florida LEPC. The Powerpoint presentations for this session are available upon request.

The LEPC plans to meet again January 23, 2008 at the newly opened Manatee County Emergency Operations Center in Bradenton. The meeting will be preceded by a tour of the facility.

DISTRICT 9

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

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

The District 9 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met December 7, 2007 at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. Special guest during the proceedings was Mr. John Long of Florida Gas Transmission. Mr. Long provided a synopsis of training programs and assistance Florida Gas Transmission could offer emergency responders and local governments of the region. Florida Gas Transmission operates an underground natural gas pipeline, compressor stations and other facilities in Lee and Charlotte Counties.

Following the LEPC meeting, seven of the Southwest Florida Hazardous Materials Teams met at the request of the Committee to focus attention on the issues and initiatives likely to impact Florida's hazardous materials programs and communities. LEPC Training Chair Doug Wolfe chaired the meeting and a special guest was Chief Mike Murphy of the Florida State Emergency Response Commission and the Marco Island Fire Department.

In another matter, the Committee is still sampling Logo shirts which the members could wear during official proceedings, training events and exercises.

The LEPC approved "LEPC Plan Exercise" as its 2007-2008 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant planning project and training courses receiving approval include Hazardous Materials Awareness level for public utilities, HAZWOPER Awareness level and Hazardous Materials Air Monitoring.

Under the Committee's Hazardous Materials Awareness Week initiatives, an LEPC proclamation was approved and information is to be submitted to the local media (print and broadcast) outlets of the region. Other activities planned for the week include distributing Hazardous Materials Awareness Week Proclamations to all the political subdivisions within the region, an Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act "How to Comply" workshop will be conducted, January 25, 2008, a Public Availability Notice will be included in a local newspaper of the region and hazardous materials awareness information will be posted on the LEPC's website during the week.

2008 meeting dates selected by the LEPC are February 28, 2008, May 22, 2008, August 28, 2008 and December 5, 2008

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2008. 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 November 1, 2007 at the Indian River Community College Chastain Campus, Stuart, Florida.

The LEPC is sponsoring the following Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant training classes in the second quarter: six 4-hour Hazardous Materials Awareness Level classes January 19-21, 2008 in the Town of Palm Beach; 2 Hazmat IQ classes scheduled for February 21-22, 2008 in Stuart; and two 8-hour HAZWOPER classes to be held in St. Lucie and Martin Counties. The LEPC will consider additional requests for training when submitted.

The LEPC completed the "Community Workshops and Section 302 Facility Outreach" planning project pursuant to the scope of work for the HMEP 2006-2007 grant. A summary of the project is available upon request. The LEPC selected "Shelter-in-Place Education Enhancement" as the HMEP planning project for 2007-2008. Tasks include workshops and seminars, creation of a website, and the construction of a scaled and portable shelter-in-place community model.

The District 10 LEPC Planning Sub-committee is currently reviewing the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan for a comprehensive update of information. The Marketing and Public Information Sub-committee will meet prior to the next scheduled LEPC meeting to discuss a regional training calendar.

The LEPC selected February 7, 2008 as the next meeting date. The meeting will be held at the Indian River Community College Chastain Campus, Stuart, Florida.

DISTRICT 11

South Florida Regional Planning Council

Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties

The District 11 LEPC Training Subcommittee met October 2, 2007 at the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center in Marathon. The subcommittee discussed training opportunities for the coming year and reviewed past details such as location, cost and attendance of the courses offered since 2002. The subcommittee decided to recommend the LEPC prepare a multi-year training calendar.

The District 11 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met October 24, 2007 at the Miami-Dade County Emergency Operations Center. The LEPC approved a recommendation by the Training Subcommittee to prepare a multi-year training calendar.

The Planning Subcommittee had a Shelter-In-Place (SIP) Community Model on hand for a presentation and a discussion on its SIP webpage. Several members volunteered to assist the LEPC in planning for the upcoming biennial exercise.

The LEPC Training Subcommittee met November 7, 2007 at the Islamorada Emergency Operations Center, located at the Village of Islamorada Fire Station. Numerous suggestions were made regarding which training courses to offer in the coming year, resulting in a course matrix of top vote getters. The final version will be presented to the LEPC for acceptance.

Upcoming meetings include a January 2008 Training Subcommittee Meeting (location and date TBD) and the LEPC plans to meet February 27, 2008 at South Florida Regional Planning Council.