



Volume 21 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) met January 23, 2008 in Washington County. Updates were provided to members on the status of Training Task Force and State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) initiatives. The LEPC approved a recommendation by the Planning Subcommittee to perform a Commodity Flow Study under the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness planning grant. Additionally, the committee approved supporting the Okaloosa County hazardous materials exercise scheduled for late March or early April, 2008.

The LEPC's Resource and Training and the Planning Subcommittee's meetings were held in conjunction with the LEPC meeting. The attendees discussed the results of the Facilities Survey conducted in the last quarter and decided to explore using the action items identified under the surveys as the basis for its grant request next fiscal year.

New applications for membership in the Law Enforcement category were received from Jay Etheridge and Debbie Thayer of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement as primary and alternate respectively. The LEPC approved the applications and will submit them to the SERC final approval.

Other associated endeavors during this period included an Art of Deterrence workshop held February 27-29, 2008 and planning for a Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program course March 11-12, 2008.

The LEPC intends to hold its next meeting April 16, 2008, at 10:00am at the Santa Rosa County Emergency Operations Center.

## **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 January 23, 2008 at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Division classroom. The following is a summary of LEPC staff activities over the last quarter.

Hazardous Materials Training sponsored by the District 2 LEPC included; Awareness level courses at the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center December 17, 2007 and January 23, 2008 with a total of 31 participants; an Awareness level course January 30, 2008 at Florida State University – Thagard

Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. The demonstration reviewed the actions and materials necessary to successfully shelter-in-place. A media interview and a tour of a Tallahassee Fire Department hazardous materials truck and equipment trailer was conducted after the demonstration.

Preliminary tasks began for this years Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant planning project "Section 302 Facility Outreach". Staff met with approximately 25 facility representatives and provided a briefing on the LEPC, reporting requirements and a copy of the most recent hazard analysis for their facility.

The required hazards analyses updates were submitted to the Division of Emergency Management for Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Liberty, Leon and Wakulla counties.

Staff held preliminary discussions with CSX Railroad and the City of Tallahassee with respect to coordinating a hazardous materials-related tabletop exercise to meet the LEPC's biennial exercise requirement. The exercise is scheduled for June 12, 2008 and will involve a train derailment with a hazardous materials release that impacts the City of Tallahassee and Florida State University.

The LEPC plans to hold its next meeting April 16, 2008 at 10:00 am 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 February 15, 2008 at PCS Phosphate in White Springs. Agenda items included a presentation by Mr. Mike Lunsford of CSX Railroad, scheduling training and approving comments to be forwarded to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A meeting of county emergency managers and state officials to discuss the ongoing Regional Evacuation Study followed the LEPC meeting.

Mr. Lunsford, Director of Hazardous Material Systems for CSX Railroads gave a presentation on hazardous materials transportation and safety. Emergency contact and response procedures in the event of a release and free CSX training materials available for download were discussed.

A Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) class was taught by LEPC staff from districts three and six February 12-13, 2008. An additional HSEEP class is being planned for Madison County.

The LEPC is preparing for the arrival of the 2008 Emergency Response Guidebooks. The LEPC wants to hold two Awareness level Train-the-Trainer classes. It is anticipated that one will be held in Gainesville and one in Lake City.

The LEPC voted to support a reporting exemption for releases of hazardous substances from animal waste. An egg-laying chicken farm reported an ammonia release which may have been above the Section 304 reportable quantity. The EPA's goal is to reduce the reporting burden where there would likely be no Federal, state or local emergency response to such release reports.

Staff activities include scheduling training classes, updating hazards analyses for seven counties and administrative support to the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. Staff is also helping plan and evaluate exercises being conducted at Florida A & M University, Cobb Middle School and at the University of Florida.

LEPC staff gave a How-to-Comply presentation in Region 6 during Hazardous Materials Awareness week and attended the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association annual conference. The LEPC is participating in a work group to develop a three-year training and exercise plan for Alachua County, as is required by HSEEP.

The next LEPC meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

#### **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 13, 2008 at the Flagler County Emergency Operations Center.

The LEPC Biennial/Putnam County Full-Scale Exercise was conducted January 23, 2008. The after-action conference was held February 14, 2008 at the Putnam County Emergency Operations Center. The exercise planning team discussed the major objectives for the exercise, the first of which focused on the activation and coordination ability of Putnam County Emergency Management in the new Putnam County Emergency Operations Center facility. Other major objectives included the successful activation and coordination with the emergency response personnel at the Georgia-Pacific Pulp and Paper Mill in Palatka, the successful activation of the Office of Greenways and Trails' Emergency Action Plan, the successful response to and mitigation of a hostage incident, the successful establishment of mass care facilities, and the successful triage and decontamination of incident victims. The exercise planning team developed the exercise over the course of four months in such a way as to challenge local and regional participants in a scenario that would force major coordination efforts to successfully resolve each incident. The exercise development also forced a close working relationship between agencies in the public, private, non-profit, and volunteer sectors.

The LEPC training subcommittee met February 7, 2008 to discuss training goals for this year. Some anticipated classes are a Chemistry Refresher, ToxMedic, Operations Refresher, and a Drug Lab Course. Scheduled training for this quarter is:

Norfolk Southern Advanced Rail Car Specialist Course- April 21-25, 2008 in Pueblo, Colorado. Norfolk is sponsoring two of our Duval County Fire Rescue personnel by paying for their tuition (\$3,180 total).

On behalf of the LEPC, staff will perform "Quality Control of Submitted Tier Two Information" for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant planning project. Staff will contact the facilities with Tier Twos that contain 4 or more errors to educate the facility representative on the proper completion of Tier Two forms and use of the State Emergency Response Commission How-to-Comply Handbook. Staff will then prepare and submit to the Division of Emergency Management a report of the Tier Twos

reviewed and recommended corrections forwarded 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 2007/2008 update for the LEPC's Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan is underway with a committee meeting planned for early May. Once the Committee has reviewed the current plan, staff will begin criteria checklist and information update.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for May, 14, 2008.

## **DISTRICT 5**

### **Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council**

Citrus, Hernando, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties

The District 5 Local Emergency Planning Committee held its meeting January 16, 2008 and the Training Subcommittee met prior to the LEPC meeting. Kevin Ford of Hernando County Emergency Management received the Thomas Yatabe Award at the State Emergency Response Commission meeting in Cocoa Beach.

District 5 LEPC held an 8-hour HazMedic Refresher course January 15, 2008. Other training requests were discussed at the LEPC meeting. The committee approved an 8-hour CAMEOfm/Aloha course in Brooksville on March 10, 2008. The committee also approved a 16-hour Highway Safety Course to be held in Citrus County April 14-15, 2008, with a follow-up course to be held in Sumter County April 16-17, 2008. The Highway Safety Courses will address scene safety and traffic management related to a hazardous materials release.

The LEPC chose "LEPC Plan Exercise" as its Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant planning project. The LEPC will conduct a tabletop exercise to meet the first part of the HMEP grant requirement and to meet its biennial exercise requirement. The district will meet the second part of the HMEP grant scope of work by conducting a full-scale exercise. Planning efforts are underway to meet exercise dates of April 9, 2008 for the tabletop and April 30, 2008 for the full-scale. Both of the exercises will be held in Brooksville at the Hernando County Emergency Operations Center.

LEPC staff completed the hazard analysis updates for Sumter County and submitted them to the Division of Emergency Management for review. During this quarter, preliminary work began on the Small Quantity Generator program inspections for both Levy and Sumter counties.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled to take place April 16, 2008 in Citrus County.

## **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 January 25, 2008 at the Regional Planning Council office in Maitland. Mr. John Long from Florida Gas Transmission gave a presentation at the meeting.

Several fire departments attended Propane Gas training January 18, 2008 at Sam's Gas in Orlando. The Training Subcommittee met before the LEPC meeting in January and outlined priorities for the new fiscal year. The Training Subcommittee held an additional meeting February 29, 2008 to further discuss the training needs of the district.

The LEPC selected "Community Workshops and Section 302 Facility Outreach" as its Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant planning project for this fiscal year.

Mr. Dwayne Mundy facilitated the first How-to-Comply Workshop January 24, 2008 during Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. Also, during Hazardous Materials Awareness Week the Army National Guard held hazardous materials training at the Orlando Fire Department Training Center for troops bound for Iraq. Staff participated in this training and provided LEPC information to the Army National Guard. Staff also co-instructed three Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program courses held in Gainesville, Orlando, and Rockledge. The first two were co-instructed with Mr. Mundy and the latter with Ms. Kate Boer.

LEPC staff attended the annual Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference.

The LEPC plans to meet again April 18, 2008 at the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council Office in Maitland. Mr. Mike Lunsford from CSX Railroad will be the guest speaker.

## **DISTRICT 7**

### **Central Florida Regional Planning Council**

DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee and Polk counties

The District 7 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met January 16, 2008 at American Compliance Technologies in Bartow. During the meeting, all those who received the State Emergency Response Commission's Certificates of Achievement were recognized and Battalion Chief Dan Bartle received the Thomas Yatabe Award at the State Emergency Response Commission meeting held in Cocoa Beach. Discussion of the events relating to the Interstate 4 multi-vehicle accident took place, and with Division of Emergency Management approval, the LEPC decided to use this actual event to meet its 2008 LEPC biennial exercise requirement.

Mr. Carter has attended multiple after action review meetings to gather information for use in the report on this incident.

Mr. Carter completed the hazards analysis updates for facilities in De Soto County and submitted the analyses to the Division of Emergency Management. Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste inspections were completed for Hardee and Okeechobee counties. A total of 55 sites were visited between these two counties. Mr. Carter attended the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference.

LEPC staff will conduct Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) training March 4-5, 2008 in Sebring and a class is scheduled for April 16-17, 2008 in Bartow. Anyone who is interested in attending this class should contact Mr. Carter. Mr. Carter observed and assisted Mr. Dwayne Mundy and Ms. April Raulerson in their presentation of a HSEEP course February 12, 2008.

Many facilities are submitting their 2007 Tier Two reports and Mr. Cater is reviewing them as they arrive. Those facilities with discrepancies in their reports are being contacted so that corrections can be made in a timely manner.

The LEPC plans on conducting its next meeting May 7, 2008.

## **DISTRCT 8**

### **Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council**

Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas counties

The District 8 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met January 23, 2008 at the new Manatee County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Bradenton and a second meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2008 where a Florida Gas Transmission Pipeline presentation will be given.

Both the LEPC and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) passed proclamations recognizing January 20-26, 2008 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week and the LEPC sent letters to each city and county government in the District requesting similar proclamations. Twelve jurisdictions complied and passed proclamations as requested.

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant training this quarter consisted of CSX Railroad Safety instruction February 26, 27, and 28, 2008. Additionally, Ethanol/Foam training was held at the Tampa Fire Academy March 4, 5, and 6, 2008. Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) training consisted of a class in Sebring March 4-5, 2008. Preparations are underway for another HSEEP class in Bartow April 16-17, 2008 and one in Pinellas Park April 29-30, 2008.

Facilities represented at previous HMEP "Facility Disaster Planning on Hazards/Risk Assessment" workshops were invited to submit their disaster preparedness plans for judging by the Planning Team and for inclusion at the TBRPC Future of the Regions Awards to be held March 28, 2008 at the Quorum Hotel in Tampa. This is the first year for these awards and a first, second, and honorable mention plaque will be awarded.

LEPC staff conducted 12 How-to-Comply workshops for facilities needing assistance with Tier Two preparation. Additionally, the Shelter-in-Place video is being translated into Spanish.

Staff represented the LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee meeting February 19, 2008 as well as the US Coast Guard Area Committee on the same date. Staff is on the planning committee for the US Coast Guard Port Reconstitution Tabletop Exercise to be held March 19, 2008. Prior to the exercise, a Port Reconstitution Workshop and Training will be held at the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center March 5, 2008.

The LEPC is planning its biennial exercise to be conducted in May 2008 as a full-scale exercise with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The scenario includes a chemical bomb explosion on a city bus. A hazardous materials team will decontaminate the house used to manufacture the bomb prior to law enforcement evidence collection. The Mid Planning Conference was held February 12, 2008 and the Final Planning Conference is scheduled for April 28, 2008. Two interim planning conferences will be scheduled: one to refine the scenario and the Master Scenario Events List and one to define all logistics requirements. Plans are underway to broaden the scope of the exercise to include at least two county EOCs and to exercise a Multi-Agency Command component.

Staff attended the Annual Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference and staff plans on attending the National Association of SARA Title Three Program Officials Conference in Savannah, Georgia April 7-11, 2008.

At the next LEPC meeting, planned for May 28, 2008, the LEPC will vote to reconfirm its current membership for the biennial membership recertification by the State Emergency Response Commission in July. Biennial elections for LEPC Chair and Vice-Chair are scheduled for the July 30, 2008 LEPC meeting.

## **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 28, 2008, at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. Special guests at the meeting were Mr. Randy Smith and Mr. Charles Byrd of TECO People Gas Company. Mr. Smith provided a digest of the training programs and safety initiatives employed by TECO People Gas which operates underground gas pipelines, compressor stations, and other facilities in Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Sarasota Counties.

In other matters, the committee finalized its official LEPC logo shirts which the members can wear during official proceedings, training events, and exercises. The LEPC approved promoting the State Emergency Response Commission's Model Cost Recovery Ordinance. Local governments in the region that do not have a Cost Recovery Ordinance or a similar instrument will be asked to consider a similar means to recoup expenses incurred as a result of a hazardous materials incident.

Following the Governor's initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the LEPC approved the following energy management standards;

- electronic distribution of future LEPC agendas (100% of the members present requested future agendas in electronic format)
- manage future meetings by projecting agendas on screens electronically
- approximately five backup copies of the agenda will be available during the meeting in case of email problems
- duplicating of handouts will only be made when necessary or upon request

The LEPC's Hazardous Materials Awareness Week initiatives included;

- proclamations were distributed and received from political subdivisions of Southwest Florida
- proclamations were on display in the lobby of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
- A Public Availability Notice was included in a local newspaper of the region
- Hazardous Materials Awareness information was posted on the LEPC's website

The following training is slated to be conducted by the LEPC;

- HAZWOPER/Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Course, March 6, 2008 at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
- Air Monitoring for Hazardous Materials Technician Course, March 17-19, 2008, at Hodges University

- Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Training at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

The next quarterly meeting of the LEPC is scheduled for May 22, 2008. Additional information regarding the programs and activities of the LEPC can be obtained by viewing [www.swfrpc.org](http://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) meeting was held February 7, 2008 at the Indian River Community College Chastain Campus, Stuart, Florida.

District 10 sponsored the following classes in the second quarter: six 4-hour Hazardous Materials Awareness level classes January 19-21, 2008 held in the Town of Palm Beach; two Hazmat IQ classes were held February 21 and 22, 2008 in Fort Pierce; an 8-hour HAZWOPER class was conducted in St. Lucie County February 27, 2008 and one is scheduled for March 26, 2008 in Martin County. The LEPC will continue to take requests for training within the region.

The LEPC selected "Shelter-in-Place Education Enhancement" as its 2007-2008 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant planning project. Tasks include workshops and seminars, creation of a website, and the construction of a scaled portable Shelter-in-Place community model. Staff is currently processing written and/or published and other feedback information gathered from the region's county emergency management offices. The physical model will be constructed during the next quarter.

Facilities in the Martin County and Palm Beach County requested and staff conducted an Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act workshop February 29, 2008.

The Planning Subcommittee is currently reviewing the District 10 LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan and the subcommittee will submit comments prior to the next scheduled LEPC meeting. The Marketing and Public Information Subcommittee will meet prior to the next scheduled LEPC meeting to discuss a regional training calendar.

The LEPC scheduled the next meeting for May 1, 2008 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 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met February 27, 2008 at the South Florida Regional Planning Council in Hollywood. The LEPC presented the Thomas Yatabe Award to Don Perdue, who was unable to attend the previous State Emergency Response Commission meeting to receive the award. The members reviewed the work of the Training and Exercise Subcommittees and nominated Chief Ron Khawly of Miami Fire Rescue and Hugh Johnston from American Compliance

Technologies for membership. John Long from the Florida Gas Transmission Company made an interesting presentation regarding their gas facilities in south Florida.

The LEPC Exercise Subcommittee met January 29, 2008 and elected Lieutenant Michael Stacks of Miami-Dade Fire Rescue as Chair and discussed exercise requirements for this year. The Exercise Subcommittee met again February 22, 2008 and discussed possible scenarios for this year's tabletop exercise and drill. The subcommittee considered using Homestead Air Force Reserve Base for the exercise because the base would offer large open spaces and unoccupied warehouses for use in hazardous materials drills. Miami-Dade Transit will be an active participant and the Sanitation Department and others will be invited.

The Training Subcommittee also met January 29, 2008 and discussed the 2007-2008 Training Courses Package approved by the LEPC and selected five of the nine listed courses as high priority for the year.

The next District 11 LEPC meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2008 at the South Florida Regional Planning Council in Hollywood.