



# **TAMPA BAY LEPC, DIST 8 HAZMATTERS**

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## **Fourth Quarter - October - December, 2007**

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District 8 was involved in a number of HMEP and LEPC co-sponsored activities this quarter. Staff attended the Quarterly SERC meetings in Tallahassee in October, 2007. Staff conducted two LEPC meetings: a specially-called meeting on October 10, 2007 was held to hear a presentation from Mr. Mike Lunsford, Hazmat Coordinator for CSX Railroad. The regularly scheduled LEPC meeting met November 28, 2007

HMEP Training this quarter of preparations for methanol (foam) training in two counties which will each consist of three one-day courses.

The Tampa Bay LEPC is continuing with the HMEP Planning Project with Facility Disaster Planning Workshops on Hazards/Risk Assessment, as a follow-on to the planning workshops held previously. While no workshops were held this quarter, preparations were made for conducting the next one on January 15, 2008 at the Pasco County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility in Land O' Lakes, FL. The Team continues to meet prior to LEPC meetings and via tele-conferences.

As part of the HMEP Planning Project, Section 302 Outreach, staff participated in three Port of Tampa Ammonia Siren Warning briefings: the first was at the DeSoto Elementary School on McKay Bay, just north of the Port of Tampa on November 6, 2007, where the briefing was conducted simultaneously in English and Spanish. Two powerpoint presentations were given side-by-side, one in each language, and one of the teachers at the school provided the Spanish translation. The second two briefings were held at Port America on November 8, 2008.

Staff represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the Tampa Bay Spill Committee on October 16 and December 11, 2007 as well as the US Coast Guard Area Committee on the same dates following the Spill Control meeting. The Area Committee is meeting to discuss revision of the Area Contingency Plan. Staff represented the LEPC at the RDSTF General Assembly Meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at FDLE 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<sup>th</sup> and the Mid-Planning Conference on December 4, 2007.

Tampa Bay 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 FBI. The exercise will involve the explosion of a city bus so that the PCSO and FBI can conduct evidence collection - on the first day - and on the day, law enforcement and hazmat team will enter the house used to manufacture the chemical explosive bomb used on the bus and will decontaminate the house prior to evidence collection at that position. The Concepts and Objectives Development meeting was held on November 7<sup>th</sup> and the Initial Planning Conference (IPC) was conducted on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the PCSO Forensics building. PCSO Captain Scott Stiner will be the exercise director.

Staff participated on the planning committee for 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean Gulf 07 and chaired a session at the Inaugural EPA Region 4 Chemical Emergency Conference held jointly with Clean Gulf on November 16, 2006. The Panel of LEPC members address 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 Pinellas Police Standards Council continues to meet at the TBRPC under LEPC sponsorship and staff assisted with the October 10, November 14, and December 12, 2007 meetings.

The next LEPC meeting will be January 23, 2008, one week earlier than usual to avoid conflict with the Annual FEPA Conference at St. Pete Beach on January 28 - February 1, 2008. The meeting will be off-site at the newly opened Manatee County Emergency Operations Center in Bradenton and will be preceded by a tour of the facility conducted by Manatee County Director of Emergency Management, Laurie Feagans.