



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

Produced by the South Carolina Emergency Management Division

SERC Activities

The South Carolina Emergency Response Commission (SERC) conducted 2 meetings in the past year that included topics such as funding support for E-Plan provided by SLED, continued discussions on support to Local Emergency Planning Committees and methods to promote regional LEPCs. Updates were provided regarding the funding process and status of the PHMSA three-year grant to support HazMat responder training and planning.

Currently there are 33 counties statewide with active LEPCs. There are two regional (multi county) LEPCs, and a third regional LEPC is forming in the Midlands. The SERC continues to encourage those inactive LEPCs to form or to join with other LEPCs to meet EPCRA requirements.

The SERC also supports the ongoing efforts of Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, state agencies and pipeline businesses in forming a pipeline safety partnership. This project is called the South Carolina Pipeline Emergency Response Initiative (SCPERI). SCPERI will be conducting outreach and training within South Carolina to first responders and emergency management communities in the coming year.

EPA Region 4 Update on Presidential EO 13650 Implementation

July 2016

Actions taken by the EPCRA/RPM Program (Air Pesticides & Toxics Management Division): After completion of Regional SOPs on implementation of EO-13650, the Region 4 Chemical Management and Emergency Planning (CMEP) Section management and staff met with Federal Region 4 representatives from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The meeting focused on respective agency updates on Executive Order 13650 compliance assurance matters, with each agency sharing important information on current compliance monitoring and enforcement initiatives. The agencies agreed to develop and share their respective top 10 compliance issues so that each agency can disseminate other agency highlighted issues to facility representatives during program inspections. CMEP Section staff are developing Federal Region 4's Risk Management Program top 10 compliance issues and sharing them with DHS and OSHA. The tri-agencies have also agreed to teleconference on a quarterly basis.

On April 5-6, 2016, OSHA (Birmingham area office) inspectors joined EPA staff and contractor inspectors on a joint EPA/OSHA Risk Management Program inspection in the State of Alabama. The joint inspection allowed both EPA and OSHA to collaborate to gain a greater familiarity with each other's inspection protocols and techniques to further improve federal inspection coordination and referrals.

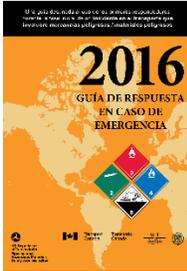
Additional efforts by the EPA Region 4 Superfund Program (Emergency Response, Removal & Prevention Branch): Since completion of Regional SOPs on implementation of EO-13650, the Region 4 Superfund Division Emergency Response, Removal and Prevention Branch provided support to federal, state, local and private response organizations through targeted outreach, training and exercise participation. During FY2016, the program has conducted and/or participated in 41 outreach, exercise and training events including Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), State and County Emergency Management agencies, local response organizations such as fire department and hazmat units, as well as private industries. A program to facilitate a meeting of the host-state SERC and/or a targeted training or tabletop as part of our biannual Regional Response Team meetings has been initiated.

DHEC (Division of Emergency Response, Bureau of Environmental Health Services – Environmental Affairs)
 In 2016 the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) Emergency Response Section created the position for the Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Coordinator. This position was filled by Jim Martin, an environmental geologist with 7 years of experience with SCDHEC. The focus of EPCRA Coordinator position will be to make sure that South Carolina facility Tier II information is up to date on the E-Plan website. The Tier II form is required annually under Section 312 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA). The purpose of this form is to provide State, local officials, and the public with specific information on potential hazards. This includes the locations, as well as the amount, of hazardous chemicals present at the facility during the previous calendar year. Currently 3,715 facilities have uploaded Tier II information to the site this year. Jim Martin is available to train first responders on how to access and use the E-Plan website. By county, the breakdown is as follows:



For any other additional information concerning EPCRA please feel free to contact Jim Martin at martinjm@dhec.sc.gov or by phone at (803)896-4116.

2016 EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK



The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) ordered, received, and distributed 27,781 copies of the USDOT 2016 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) for all South Carolina state agencies, counties and universities. The USDOT updates, prints, and issues these publications every four years for distribution to the States.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT



According to the USDOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), every day, over a million shipments of hazardous materials move through our nation's transportation arteries. Most shipments arrive without incident. However, we must be prepared for those rare instances when something goes wrong. Our hazmat grant programs help do that by funding training and drills for our first responders. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) administers this grant for South Carolina. While this has been an annual grant process, PHMSA is changing it to a three year grant. SCEMD has decided to continue administering this grant on an annual basis in order to allow our LEPCs to continue with their annual planning and training projects.

ANDERSON COUNTY LEPC



2016 Annual LEPC Report for Anderson County, SC

Anderson County has an active LEPC which meets six times a year. Attendance for each meeting conducted so far this year has averaged 20 people, with good representation from industry and volunteer organizations as well as

city, county, and state employees. Meeting locations in 2016 have included or will include McLaughlin Body Company, Robert Bosch LLC, and the Center of Excellence at Anderson University.

One of the goals of the Anderson Co LEPC in 2015 was to improve the county fee structure for hazardous materials. Two public meetings were held to solicit input from a variety of stakeholders, including Anderson Co Emergency Services, the Hazardous Materials Team, and industry representatives. Accordingly, during the last meeting of the year, a revised structure was voted on and unanimously approved by the LEPC. Some time was spent in the first part of 2016 facilitating the rollout of the new fee structure and assisting with implementation. One of the required activities of an LEPC is to review the county emergency action plan. Accordingly, Steve McDade, who is the 911 Coordinator for Anderson Co, presented an overview of the county emergency action plan at the June 7 LEPC meeting. This presentation was especially informative for industry participants, many of whom gained greater knowledge of county response strategies and procedures.

The Anderson County Hazmat Team had 10 responses this year, mostly to transportation incidents. The Team has recently participated in drills with Colonial Pipeline Belton Station, Marathon Belton Terminal, and the Kinder-Morgan Terminal. Table Top Exercises included one with CSX Railroad, an SC Upstate Preventative Radiological / Nuclear Detection Table Top Exercise, and a DOE / FBI Table Top Exercise (Isotope Crossroads). Four Team members attended the International Hazardous Materials Response Team Conference in Baltimore, MD. Colonial Pipeline provided River Booming and Diking Training. Use of PEAC HazMat/WMD software was practiced. A DOE Radiological Assistance Team from SRS provided radiological monitoring training and practical exercises. Recent equipment additions include instrumentation for radiological monitoring and radioisotope identification, a handheld mass spectrometer, and a Thermo Scientific FTIR for chemical identification. A new ¾ ton truck was placed into service equipped with a duplicate set of monitors, detectors, and limited PPE. This truck can support surrounding counties with advanced detection capability.

The Hazmat Team has also provided equipment demonstrations at LEPC meetings, participated in several “community day” events with local fire departments, and conducted hazardous materials familiarization training at several fire departments. The Team Coordinators regularly participate in the County Fire Chief’s Association, the Anderson County LEPC, SC Firefighter Mobilization, SC Hazardous Materials Working Group, and SC Homeland Security Specialized Response Teams.

Below are photos with descriptions from recent activities.



Response May 6, 2016 on I-85 at mm23 with Piercetown FD for diesel fuel leak.



Response with Double Springs FD on I-85, mm5.



Response July 3, 2015 on I-85 with Powdersville FD for overturned tanker..



Drill at Colonial Pipeline on 8/26.



New response vehicle.

Report authored by: Chris Carnell, Anderson County LEPC Chair, Terry King, Anderson County HazMat Team Coordinator, and Barry Kelley, Anderson County HazMat Team Coordinator.

COLLETON COUNTY LEPC



Colleton County Emergency Preparedness Agency and the Colleton County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) sponsored a county-wide household paint collection event on Saturday July 9 at the National Guard Armory. This event allowed the citizens of Colleton County to dispose of any unwanted household paints that they had without any cost. In South Carolina, the only way to dispose of household paint is to wait until it is completely dried. It can then be recycled.

Thirty-two cars dropped off paint, resulting in the collection of over 800 one-gallon cans, 50 five-gallon buckets and several pint and quart-size containers. The citizens were able to drive through and members of the LEPC and volunteers from the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) unloaded the paint cans.

The paint was then loaded into DHEC-approved containers and into a shipping container. With the assistance of LEPC, CERT volunteers, the Colleton County Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Colleton County, the event was marked as a success. This event is only the second of its kind that has been held in Colleton County; however, many locations throughout the county allowed LEPC the ability to advertise for this event including businesses, churches, media, and social media.

"LEPC would like to thank all of the volunteers, agencies, businesses, churches and citizens that made this event successful. Without everyone's involvement LEPC would not have been able to complete its goal," said Colleton County Emergency Preparedness Director Suzanne Gant. (article and photo courtesy of WalterboroLive.com)



CHARLESTON COUNTY LEPC

Mission Statement: The Charleston County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was organized to fulfill the requirements of the federal regulations regarding Title III of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986. The organization is composed of concerned citizens and representatives of industry and emergency services. The LEPC seeks to formulate a partnership between its diverse members to prepare the county to withstand the effects of hazardous materials emergencies through planning and exercising of a comprehensive emergency action plan.

The Charleston County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is comprised of members from county and city departments, industry representatives and community members. Within Charleston County LEPC documents to include reports, facility information, and hazard information are under the supervision of the Charleston County Emergency Management Department (EMD).

EMD coordinates the LEPC for hazardous materials planning and emergency response. EMD also coordinates the "Knox Box" program and receives Tier II Chemical Inventory Reports on behalf of the LEPC. Meetings are open to the public and held the second Wednesday of every other month and begin at 9:30am. Meetings are held at the Charleston County Emergency Services Building (8500 Palmetto Commerce Parkway, North Charleston). Charleston County's committee also participates in the Tri-County (Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester) LEPC and meets on a semi-annual basis. Meetings rotate between the three counties. Meeting dates, times and locations are announced in the weeks prior to the actual meeting date.

ORDINANCE NO 1139 Amended ORDINANCE NO. 914 established a hazardous substances user fee to be utilized to train personnel, purchase specialized emergency response equipment, and improve the hazardous substances response capability within Charleston County. Fees are per chemical or substance reported in the Tier II report.

Not unlike other committees, the LEPC became somewhat complacent and members began to not attend meetings. During the year the Executive Committee began an outreach effort encouraging attendance. Now the committee is revitalized by not only checking off mandates but by establishing goals.

Training and learning opportunities were made available to all committee members throughout the year. Industrial agencies gave presentations and or tours of their facility during meetings as well as presentations on chemical and detergent suicides and mock meth labs. Members were invited to participate in or attend the Emergency Operations Center Earthquake Exercise held in June as well as a number of Disaster Preparedness Presentations, Expo's and major events such as the Black Expo and the Annual Bridge Run. Members participated in classes on the Computer-Aided Management Emergency Operations (CAMEO), ICS-300, ICS-400 and the MGT-404 Sports & Special Events Incident Management class held May 5-6, 2015.

On behalf of the LEPC, the Charleston County Emergency Management Department will be submitting the HMEP Grant reapplication in October of 2016 to obtain funding to support the mission of the LEPC as well as Basic, Advance and Recertification classes in Clandestine Laboratories. To date, over 100 first responders, i.e. Law Enforcement and Firefighters, are well trained and DEA certified. Meth produced in clandestine labs produces a

large amount of toxic waste – waste that is poisonous to the environment and extremely costly to clean up. It is the goal of the committee to continue to hold regularly scheduled meetings and create subcommittees, as deemed appropriate by the committee. The LEPC will continue to offer training and learning opportunities for the LEPC members, first responders and its community.

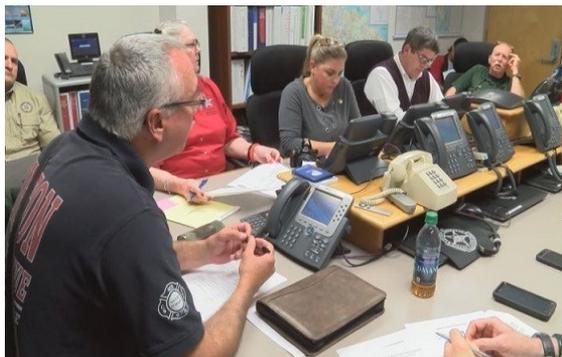


CHESTER COUNTY LEPC

Chester County Emergency Management has written and produced a professional, informative and attractive LEPC Guide which was funded under a HMEP planning grant. The LEPC Guidebook was designed to introduce the reader to the Chester County Local Emergency Planning Committee. The guide draws on the experience of the Chester County LEPC from comprehensive plans and the experience of its broad-based membership group of chemical industry members, emergency services, emergency management, and the public.

The LEPC Guide contains an overview of the LEPC, information about the Chester County LEPC, and a listing of the Chester County LEPC activities, outreach and exercises. The LEPC activities conducted this past year included a commodity flow study, hazards vulnerability assessment, HAZMAT transportation incident resource book, facility site tour and the LEPC Guidebook. The LEPC's outreach included a household hazardous waste day, an all hazards brochure, information about and copies of the DOT Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG), and Tier II reporting process. Exercises conducted/ coordinated by the LEPC include a tabletop HAZMAT transportation exercise, a leak seal kit and technical decon drill, a technical decontamination exercise and a chlorine cylinder HAZMAT exercise.

BEAUFORT COUNTY LEPC



(Source: WTOC)

A Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting was held in Beaufort on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at the Beaufort County Law Enforcement Center. The committee is a group of individuals from different backgrounds, including law enforcement, emergency responders, community business owners, and other stakeholders in the Beaufort County area. In the case of a release of a hazardous material, the committee has a plan and response in place. Part of this plan includes looking into all the possibilities that could affect the Beaufort area response and recovery plan.

The purpose of the meeting was to look at the impact of hazardous materials in the area. This year, they received a planning grant and a training grant to keep responders up to date with the latest techniques and technology funded through the state.

"The committee is always open and looking for individuals that are in our community; our business owners; those that are associated with our tourism industry, of course, naturally, the emergency services from all of the different municipalities and county entities for extra input, you know, the more we can put towards something, the better ideas we can come up with," said Chief Tom Webb, Burton Fire District.

These meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be the second Wednesday in July, and they are looking for new members.

CENTRAL SAVANAH RIVER AREA (CSRA) LEPC Aiken, Barnwell, Edgefield, McCormick Counties

The regional CSRA LEPC that reconvened last June has continued to grow and build on its strong relationships with local businesses. Recently, the local NBC TV channel provided a news story highlighting the CSRA as four local South Carolina Counties joining forces to better handle an emergency. The news reporter's interview followed their September 2015 LEPC meeting held at the Strom Thurmond Dam Visitor Center in Clarks Hill. LEPC Coordinator and Edgefield EMD director, Suzy Spurgeon, noted that the four member counties are each fairly small and alone they would have difficulty responding to a disaster in their county. It was recognized that each county would need to expand out for more resources. The news story emphasized that the LEPC focus is on how to prepare and respond to emergency situations. The LEPC will also explore ways to safely handle hazardous materials. The LEPC members understand that there are significant amounts of hazardous materials in all four counties. Within the CSRA there is a wide range of industries that include fabrication, gasoline mixing tanks, and even nuclear facilities. Additionally it is recognized that all four counties are down river from the Lake Thurmond Dam and a failure would affect them all. Barnwell EMD Director Roger Riley recognized that previous efforts to have a single county LEPC struggled due to the lack of industry in the county. Mr. Riley said that the 2014 ice storm hit that region hard and it was the worst they had experienced since hurricane Hugo in 1989. He noted that the ice storm was a "wakeup call" for local officials and it was a major FEMA declared disaster. The CSRA LEPC is looking to revitalize membership by inviting new industry to the table. The CSRA LEPC will be meeting quarterly and will rotate the meeting host location. Each quarter will build on the previous with new topics added to the agenda each meeting.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS LEPC

Newberry, Fairfield, and Saluda counties have come together to form a regional LEPC called the Central Midlands LEPC. The three county emergency managers have worked to develop a regional LEPC that will serve all of the counties' needs. The first meeting is planned for September 14, 2016. Newberry County will host the meeting. They are going to have a presentation from Spartanburg County about its LEPC, which has been successful, and a presentation on the SERC. There is a wide range of Tier II facilities in these counties, and the emergency managers are hopeful that this LEPC will provide an opportunity to share information and lessons learned and to build relationships with each other. The LEPC is going to work toward developing a strong understanding of what LEPCs are, why we have LEPCs, and the benefits of having an LEPC. Within the first year, it is the intention of this LEPC to elect a chairman and vice chairman and to develop bylaws for the LEPC.



GEORGETOWN LEPC

Critical to a successful LEPC is attendance and participation. Membership recruitment plays a big part of that. The organizational culture of the public safety entities involved with Georgetown County's LEPC is one of an inclusive and partnership nature. Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, and EMD are very involved in the community and always looking for prospective new members. They find these prospective members during their responses, public education events, and other community events. As the LEPC has become more successful, this culture has spread throughout all members. So instead of one person recruiting, the whole membership is recruiting.

It is important that people see the value of attending the meetings. Great strides have been made to assure that happens. Meetings are structured to provide opportunities for both our business and industry members, as well as our public safety members, to gain insightful knowledge into the diverse composition of our LEPC. One agenda item that we have instituted over the past few years is our Get to Know session, which allows one of our LEPC members to give a presentation on their business or agency to familiarize the other members with their scope, mission, and capabilities. Another popular initiative that our LEPC has implemented is facility tours. Several of our LEPC members have hosted meetings at their facility, provided lunch, and given a site tour. This has proven to spark the interest of our LEPC members and directly lead to increased participation.

Another area where our LEPC has been successful is in the area of exercises. Our LEPC is involved in or supports several exercises each year, ranging from table top exercises to full scale exercises. Not only do these help governmental and private companies test their preparedness and response capabilities, but in several cases it helps them meet some of the regulatory and insurance requirements they may have. In addition, it allows us all to work together, develop confidence and trust, build relationships, and help improve our capabilities by identifying our strengths and weaknesses. The scenarios and exercises, along with some real life events, have illustrated the experiences and knowledge gained from active participation in the LEPC and is a very obvious value to our members.

The Georgetown County LEPC has evolved over time from a small group to a robust, diverse committee of business, industry, and public safety partners. These relationships have proven to be beneficial in both exercise and real-world situations, and would likely not have been possible without the determination of our LEPC.



OCONEE COUNTY LEPC

The Oconee County Local Emergency Planning Committee meets quarterly and incorporates nearly 70 representatives from 33 agencies and organizations within the county. During the meetings, each representative reports any recent emergency events or disaster planning procedure updates. Presentations and trainings are also held during the meetings to help provide a better knowledge of the needs and concerns of each agency and organization.

During a quarterly LEPC meeting held on August 19, 2015, NANO Cleaning Solutions gave a presentation detailing their services and products. They use patented cleaning technology with touchless application to eradicate harmful elements in homes and businesses, including mold, viruses, bacteria, and fungi. Their EPA approved technology is gentle enough to use on food contact surfaces and strong enough for hospitals without the harmful use of chemicals.

On November 18, 2015, HEPACO gave a presentation to the LEPC regarding their contracting firm. HEPACO is a premier Emergency Response and Environmental Services Contractor. They work with many well-known corporations in the transportation, communication, petroleum, energy, manufacturing, commercial, and institutional industries. They assist with hazardous material spill response and restoration along with chemical transfers during all types of disasters.

The Oconee County LEPC sponsored a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event that was held on April 23, 2016 at the Seneca High School parking lot. Items collected from the public included 12,493 pounds of household chemicals, along with 267 pounds of medicine collected by the Oconee County Sheriff's Department. Shred-Away and Goodwill Industries were also available on-site for document shredding services and donations. There were over 60 volunteers from the Oconee County LEPC, Emergency Services, Red Cross, SCDHEC, CERT, City of Seneca, Duke Energy, Goodwill, BASF, Shred-Away, Oconee County HAZMAT team and the Oconee County Sheriff's Department that assisted with the event.



(Photo showing some of the types of chemicals that were accepted during the Oconee County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event.)

On May 18, 2016, the Oconee County Sheriff's Department Narcotic Division delivered a training presentation to the LEPC pertaining to methamphetamine labs and their subsequent hazards. The training provided critical information to assist in identifying the materials contained in a meth lab. Reporting of any suspicious materials or activity as soon as possible is very important. The Oconee County HAZMAT team currently consists of 12 active members that work along with SCDHEC and the Sheriff's Department to assist with the clean-up and decontamination of meth lab areas to secure the environment and people's safety. The Oconee County HAZMAT team is active in quarterly and annual trainings and drills to maintain their proficiency and familiarity with their equipment.

One of our LEPC members, John Murray, published an emergency preparedness guide. Disaster related events he has previously encountered inspired him to research and gather information for the publication. The guide contains resourceful information to help prepare us before, during, and after disaster related events.



SUMTER COUNTY LEPC

Sumter County's LEPC was revitalized in 2015. The group now consists of general industry and has adopted a name and a set of by-laws. The committee was meeting at first on a monthly basis but then moved to a bi-monthly meeting schedule. Meetings were put on hold when the October 2015 Flood event occurred and resumed meetings in June of 2016 to discuss voting on positions and a small TTX was held. The committee plans to continue the meeting schedule and to reach out to other agencies and fields to expand the committee.



c/o The SOUTH CAROLINA
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION
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