

Champaign County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Meeting Minutes

February 23rd, 2016

Location: ILEAS Boardroom
1701 E. Main St.
Urbana, IL 61802
Time: 10:30 AM

I. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting started at 10:30 and introductions were made.

II. Review and approval of minutes from the November 24th meeting

Mike McCormick made the motion, Pat Titus seconded the motion, and all approved.

III. Update on Commodity Flow Study for Champaign County by Regional Planning Commission

Sharif Ullah of the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) indicated that the Commodity Flow Study for Champaign County is complete and is available online at http://www.ccrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/HMCFS_Final_Report.pdf.

The study which included the collection of truck traffic data at 13 locations within Champaign County was the first of its kind to be conducted in the county. The recommended future actions are to conduct a similar survey of hazardous material carried by railroads and to update the surveys every 5 years.

IV. Local incident discussions and upcoming events

While not local to Champaign County, it was noted that in January the U.S. Chemical and Safety and Hazard Investigation Board issued its final report on the April 17, 2013 fire and explosion at the West Fertilizer Company in West, Texas. The event resulted in 15 deaths (including 12 emergency responders) and more than 260 injuries. Key findings included shortcomings in emergency response, including pre-incident planning or response training of the volunteer fire departments. The Board's analysis of the emergency response concluded that the West Volunteer Fire Department did not conduct pre-incident planning or response training at WFC, was likely unaware of the potential for fertilizer grade ammonium nitrate detonation, did not take recommended incident response actions at the fire scene, and did not have appropriate training in hazardous materials response. Lack of pre-incident planning was cited as a key contributing factor to the fatalities of the first responders.

Pat Titus of Illini FS discussed a spill that occurred in December 2015 in Leverett, IL. The tank level on a transport carrier was misread and about 4700 gallons of product overflowed the tank, 1300 gallons of which was captured in the containment structure. The IL EPA was onsite and the cleanup included the removal of about 40 truckloads of soil.

Keith Erickson of the University of Illinois reported on a tanker spill that migrated to a storm sewer. The response, which took twelve hours, prevented the material from reaching the Boneyard Creek.

John Dwyer will attend the 2016 Midwest Emergency Preparedness and Response Conference presented by the Winnebago County LEPC on 04/12/2016 and 04/13/2016 in Rockford, IL.

The Association of American Railroads is offering “Crude by Rail” web-based training at no charge to emergency responders. The training, designed for first responders with railroads passing through their jurisdiction, is available at the following link: <http://www.aar.com/CBR.html>.

V. Wrap up and Open Discussion

John Dwyer discussed a natural gas leak that occurred at an underground natural gas storage field in California. The underground natural gas storage field in northwest Champaign County is owned by Peoples Gas. Tom Puracchio of Peoples Gas stated that there are some significant differences between the California facility and the Peoples Gas facility but there are also some common vulnerabilities. As a direct result of the California storage field incident, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is expected to soon propose new regulations for the underground storage of natural gas. Any new regulations put forth by PHMSA would apply to the Peoples Gas facility as well. It was further noted that Peoples Gas meets annually with the local fire departments, Champaign County ESDA, and METCAD.

John Dwyer stated that SARA Title II data is now available.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am. Mike McCormick made the motion to adjourn, Deb Goettig seconded the motion, and all approved.

Future LEPC Meeting Dates: June 28th, September 27th, and November 29th 2016

Reminder: If you have not done so please complete the Open Meetings Act training at

<http://foia.ilattorneygeneral.net/Default.aspx>

Attendance List:

John Dwyer, CC EMA
Bruce Ricketts, Presence EMS
Mike McCormick, Conair Corp
Greg Abbott, METCAD
Sherry Wooten, UIPD
Jackie Christensen, UCSD
Stephanie Vogelsang, UIPD
M Sharif Ullah, CCRPC

Susan Monte, CCPRC
Jane Li, CUPHD
Raymond Mucha, CUPHD
Mike Flanagan, CUPHD
Tom Puracchio, Peoples Gas
Carol Vorel, WDWS Radio
Brian Ball, Champaign Fire
Deb Goetig, American Red Cross
Duane Miller, APL Engineered Materials
David Scherer, University of Illinois DRS
Iris Ducey, IEMA
Dan Smith, IEMA
Shane Cook, CCSO
Mark Newton, Union Pacific
Cris Burch, Union Pacific
Pat Titus, Illini FS