



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #VI.C

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2016

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: STAFF

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM UPDATE

South Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities (SoFlaLEPC)

LEPCs were created by the Florida Legislature in 1988 to implement EPA's Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. LEPC Districts coincide with those of Regional Planning Councils. The South Florida LEPC holds quarterly meetings that are open to the public. Membership consists of nearly 50 individuals from categories such as emergency management, public utilities, environmental, fire rescue, law enforcement, hazardous materials, health/medical and private industry. SoFlaLEPC activities include public outreach and hazardous materials training and exercises provided free of charge. Over the last 14 years, 150 class sessions have trained more than 4,000 responders in the Region.

FY1516 Training

In this past fiscal year, the LEPC hosted ten training sessions for 316 students representing over 6,000 student/hours. One class in particular, the Hazardous Materials Technician Course, provided 24 first responders the 160-hours of training required by the State to qualify as HazMat Technicians.

FY1516 Exercise

The South Florida LEPC holds biennial training exercises as part of its contract with the State. This year, LEPC staff directed a Liquefied Natural Gas Transport Exercise. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is purified Methane cooled down to cryogenic temperatures. Under such conditions, LNG compresses down by a factor of 600 to 1 facilitating storage and transport. It also becomes very difficult to ignite.

A new LNG production facility recently began operating in the Hialeah area with most of its production transported by truck to local ports for shipment to the Caribbean. FEC Railroad purchased 24 GE hybrid locomotives capable of running on diesel and/or LNG. They started running test trains from Jacksonville to Miami, with plans to eventually fuel the engines at the Hialeah facility.

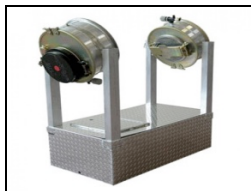


The LEPC exercise presented an excellent opportunity for first responders and LNG producers, shippers and users to work together and coordinate the update of response plans to reflect specific and unique needs for LNG incidents.

HazMat Equipment Purchases

In support of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) HazMat Training Trailer Initiative, the South Florida LEPC purchased four additional hazmat training props from the approved list. The purchased equipment included a Chlorine One-Ton Training End “B” Prop with Wheels and Rail Car/Tank Truck Training Dome “C” Prop. Also purchased were Chlorine Emergency “B” and “C” Kits. These items will complement the Dome Leak Simulator purchased last year. The items will be stored and maintained by the Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue HazMat Team and available to other District teams for training. Together, these purchases represent an investment of more than \$16,000 on the part of the LEPC to benefit and improve training of hazmat first responders in the Region. Plans call for the purchase of a trailer next year to facilitate transport of the training props to other Departments.

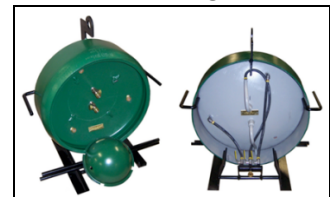
Dome Leak Simulator



Emergency “C” Kit



One-Ton Training End



Rail Car/Tank Truck Training Dome



Emergency “B” Kit



Southeast Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force – Region 7 Activities

Council staff assisted the Region plan Operation HeatShield, a major full-scale training exercise on February 6. The event brought together SWAT teams from numerous South Florida Police Departments to face a series of active shooter scenarios. The teams integrated their activities with those from local Fire Rescue/EMS and the Health Department to evacuate, treat and direct “victims” to local hospitals. Exercise venues included the Downtown Government Center and Marlins Park as well as other locations across the County. Many dignitaries were on hand, including DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson, MDPD Director Juan Perez and Councilmember Tim Daubert.

Recommendation

Information only.