



State of Utah

Department of Environmental Quality

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D. Executive Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE AND REMEDIATION Brad T Johnson Director

OLENE S. WALKER Governor

GAYLE F. McKEACHNIE Lieutenant Governor

STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

UDEQ, Building #2, Room 201 168 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, Utah March 9, 2004 @ 9:30 a.m.

Attendance List:

Rolfe, Nanette ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DES

Also Attending:

Bekkemellom, Shane ..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Bradford, Kent ..... Westinghouse Western Zirconium Fifield, DeeEll ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DES Glidden, Jock ..... Sierra Club Grover, Terry ..... Lincoln Environmental Jaynes, Mike ..... Questar Gas Company Luke, Cheryl ..... Utah Attorney General's Office McGarvey, Delane ..... Davis County Health Department Porter, Glen ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DES-Hazmat Shinton, Harry ..... Tooele County Sheriff's Office-Hazmat Smith, Terry ..... Utah Trucking Association Taylor, Neil ..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Willden, Randy ..... Murray City Fire Department Zucker, Mike ..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR

Excused:

Bailey, Rick ..... San Juan County Emergency Services Buchanan, Jim ..... Brigham City Dewsnap, Wes ..... T.W. Company Johnson, Brad ..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Maxwell, Dan ..... Tesoro Petroleum Millett, Mark ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DES-Hazmat Repp, Kris ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DES Squires, Keith ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DES

■ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW .....** **Mike Zucker**

On Tuesday, March 9, 2004, at 9:30 a.m., a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting was held at the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Building #2, in Room 201. Mike Zucker (sitting in for Brad Johnson) welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

■ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES .....**

Minutes from the January 20, 2004, and the February 9, 2004, meetings were distributed and reviewed by the SERC Committee. However, due to the fact that one of the co-chairs of the committee was not present, the approval of the minutes was postponed until the April 20, 2004, meeting.

■ **INTRODUCTIONS .....** **Mike Zucker**

Nanette Rolfe, the new Director for the Division of Emergency Services, was introduced and welcomed as the new co-chair of the SERC Committee. Ms. Rolfe will be replacing Scott Behunin on the committee.

Cheryl Luke of the Utah Attorney General’s Office, was also introduced and welcomed to the committee. Ms. Luke will be replacing Rick Wyss.

Mike Jaynes of Questar Gas was welcomed to the SERC meeting. Mr. Jaynes attended the meeting for the opportunity to ensure that the utility company is properly communicating with the committee regarding gas response emergencies and to offer training to any interested groups.

■ **REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE .....** **Glen Porter**

It is anticipated that the 2004 Grant will be released in April of this year.

The planning for “Operation Dixie”, the full-scale exercise, is going well and is moving forward. This exercise is scheduled for May 15, 2004, in Southwestern Utah.

A Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and Regional Response Team (RRT) conference was held in St. George last month and was a big success.

The Uintah Basin LEPC is struggling at this time with emergency management. They are hoping in the near future to hire a new fire marshall. This will help with the handling of emergency management. The question was asked if the Ute Indian Tribe has it’s own LEPC. The issue of Indian Tribes having their own LEPC has been a challenge and struggle throughout the nation, especially with the handling of grants. Most tribes prefer to be dealt with separately on a nation-to-nation basis, not on a county-to-nation basis, and because individual states do not have the jurisdictional authority on tribal lands. It was suggested that it might be a good idea to invite

tribal representatives to the committee meetings in order for them to put forth and clarify their position. It was also suggested that Rick Bailey, San Juan County Emergency Management Director, give an update on this issue in the next meeting.

Mr. Porter will be attending the Region II meeting in Midvale, Utah on March 17, 2004, to discuss the statewide mutual aide agreement. It is projected that they will be able to pitch this agreement to the Utah Legislature next year. Region I will also be attending this meeting.

■ **ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATE HAZMAT PLAN REVIEW..... Terry Grover**

The Advisory Board continued on in reviewing the state Hazardous Materials Response Plan. Neil Taylor was introduced as the lead person to whom changes regarding the plan should be given, as he is one of the authors of the document. It was decided that the Advisory Committee would take thirty days to review the plan and to submit their changes to Mr. Taylor by E-mail. By doing this, it will hopefully expedite the process of reviewing the plan and make it more time effective.

It was suggested that as the plan is reviewed, it might be a good idea to have other state agencies, specifically those that are signatories on the plan, come to future meetings to see what has changed. The issue of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and their role was discussed. As of right now, UDOT does not have any representatives serving on any LEPCs. This issue needs to be addressed as UDOT is often involved in Hazmat issues. It was suggested that the Executive Director of UDOT attend these meetings.

■ **LEPC UPDATE ..... DeeEll Fifield**

Recently, the Weber County LEPC changed chairmanship. Their new co-chairs are from the Utah Transit Authority, representing the public side, and Staker-Parsons, representing the private side. The LEPC is also in the process of reviewing its by-laws and making some other organizational changes.

The Washington County LEPC was the sponsor for the LEPC Conference in February. They were thanked for all of their hard work in planning the conference, especially in handling the registration fees and in dealing with the Dixie Center.

■ **INTERMOUNTAIN HAZMAT CONFERENCE ..... DeeEll Fifield**

The Intermountain Hazmat Conference has been scheduled for May 25-27, 2004, in Park City, Utah. This is the annual Hazmat conference that is held every year. The format of the conference is being revised in order to make the conference more user friendly. The registration cost for the conference is \$75.00. On the first day of the conference, one of the keynote classes is going to be a class entitled "Fun with Chemistry." It was stated that next year's conference could possibly be held in St. George. The committee was informed that a CERCLA grant had been received by the

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of approximately \$12,000.00, which will be applied towards the conference. Part of this money is going to be used as stipends for the registration fee. This is the first time that student-stipends have been offered and an application process is going to be put together in order to effectively handle it. This is being done in order to help encourage people to come to the conference that would normally not be able to attend.

■ **NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) ..... DeeEll Fifield**

The Federal Government, through Homeland Security, has approved the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the standard process for handling incident responses throughout the nation. It is not known how much of this system will be required on the local level, but it is anticipated that it will be fully embraced by the interested parties throughout the state. Upon review, nothing new or different has been found between this system and the regular incident command that state agencies have used in the past. DeeEll Fifield stated that he would send a copy of NIMS to the members of the SERC Committee. It was suggested that in future meetings, it might be a good idea to review this new system. It was also stated that state, county, and local jurisdictions would need to adopt NIMS as a requirement for receiving ODP grant money beginning in FY 2005. It is anticipated that this system will be adopted as a state standard.

■ **RRT UPDATED PLAN..... Neil Taylor**

Recently, the committee received an updated RRT plan. The new plan does not include many changes, but now includes information regarding homeland security. It also discusses how federal agencies work with one another and how they are to contact individual states in the event of an incident. However, the only thing that had been updated on the committee's part was the contact information.

■ **OTHER BUSINESS..... Mike Zucker**

On February 4, 2004, an Incident Management training was held by Ron Gloschen at the Utah Department of Health. The training was very informative and was a big success. It was suggested that it might be beneficial to invite the chairs of the LEPCs to attend the SERC meetings. By doing this, the committee would be able to find out what they are involved in and dealing with. They could also report on the problems they are encountering and what their successes are. The question was then raised if there is a need for other state agencies that routinely respond to events, to attend an incident command system review. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to take the NIMS process and put an awareness class together on how the process works.

Mr. Jaynes of the Questar Gas Company attended the SERC meeting to offer training and information regarding their company. Part of the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission codes that Questar is required to comply with deals with offering training to emergency responders. They have been able to supply training to local fire departments and thought it would be a good idea to contact the committee to see if there is anything we require as emergency

responders and if they are supplying all the necessary information. The training conducted by Questar, provides information on the physical properties of natural gas, how to recognize their pipeline facilities (made up of regulator stations or underground piping made of either plastic or steel), and how to deal with these types of situations. The head of the training department for Questar is Reid Hess and he can be contacted at (801) 324-3374. A brochure entitled "Damage Prevention and Natural Gas Pipeline Emergencies" was distributed among the committee. It was stated that Questar as a company, has one of the best outreach programs to the LEPCs throughout the state. The question was then raised if this training is part of what the RRTs would receive in the normal course of their duties or would something need to be arranged. It was stated that it would depend on the agency as they are on some of their agendas. However, it was suggested that it would be beneficial to have this part added to the other trainings received by RRTs. Mr. Porter stated that he would work on getting this completed. The question was then asked if gas storage facilities are required to report under the Community Right-to-Know law. It was stated that natural gas facilities are required to report under that law.

■ **NEXT MEETING** .....

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. at Lincoln Environmental, which is located at 3160 Reeves Avenue, Ogden, Utah. The Advisory Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m.

■ **ADJOURNED** .....

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.