



State of Utah

Department of Environmental Quality

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DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE AND REMEDIATION Brad T Johnson Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR. Governor

GARY HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

UDEQ, Building #2, Room 106 168 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, Utah September 19, 2006 @ 9:30 a.m.

Attendance List:

- Bekkemellom, Shane ... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Everett, Brent ... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Grover, Terry ... Lincoln Environmental Services O'Brien, Bob ... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Riley, Michael ... Utah Department of Public Safety/USFMO Taylor, Neil ... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR Zucker, Michael ... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR

WELCOME/OVERVIEW ... Brent Everett

On Tuesday, September 19, 2006, at 9:30 a.m., a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting was held at the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ), Building #2, in room 106. Brent Everett, sitting in for Brad Johnson, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the July 26, 2006, meeting were distributed and reviewed by the SERC. A motion was made and seconded that the SERC meeting minutes be approved, with the following corrections: under the Review of Agency Roles section, page 3, 4th paragraph, 1st line, the entire sentence should be removed and read: "Mr. Riley also explained that the SERC Advisory Committee has been disbanded, due to some inconsistency between the Advisory Committee and the UDPS." "A discussion also took place in which the history and current status of the SERC Advisory Committee was discussed."; under the Review of Agency Roles section, page 3, 4th paragraph, 2nd line, the sentence should read: "However, it is anticipated that in the future, a new Advisory Committee will be formed in the future with a much different organizational manner and with more comprehensive responsibilities." The Commission then unanimously approved the meeting minutes, with the corrections noted.

■ **HAZMAT RESPONDERS COMMITTEE.....Michael Riley**

Michael Riley, Training Manager for the Utah State Fire Marshall's Office (USFMO), informed the Commission that a number of proposed rules had been put together regarding the training, education, and certification of individuals within the state Fire Service. An "R710-10, Rules Pursuant to Fire Service Training, Education, and Certification" handout was distributed to the Commission. [A copy of this handout is available with the meeting minutes at the Division of Environmental Response and Remediation (DERR) offices.] The Fire Service currently has a group of individuals that meet periodically to discuss these types of issues. However, a problem has been encountered as the Fire Academy has been training first responders to a different standard and curriculum than what the Hazardous Materials Institute has been doing. Both trainings are adequate, but due to this contradiction, the USFMO has developed proposed rules to standardize this training throughout the state. In order to help monitor these types of activities, the USFMO has also developed proposed rules to establish a Hazardous Materials Advisory Council to oversee the training, education, and certification of individuals that respond to hazardous material matters. This council will report to the Fire Prevention Board and will include members from all of the various agencies, including the USFMO and the DERR, involved with this issue. The proposed rules have to go through the formal rule making process and it is anticipated that they will be approved by the Fire Prevention Board to become effective November 1, 2006.

■ **EMERGENCY RESPONSE PHASE, HAZMAT.....Neil Taylor
COORDINATION, AND STATE LEAD AGENCY**

Neil Taylor, Environmental Scientist for the DERR, explained that the State of Utah is currently rewriting their Emergency Operations Plan. A "State of Utah Emergency Operations Plan, ESF #10: Hazardous Materials" handout was distributed to the Commission. (A copy of this handout is available with the meeting minutes at the DERR offices.) One of the sections being rewritten is the Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10, which deals with hazardous materials. In the past, the UDEQ was designated as the lead agency for dealing with fixed site hazardous materials, while the Utah Highway Patrol dealt with transportation of these substances. However, as time has progressed, the Utah Department of Public Safety (UDPS) has become more active in handling these types of issues, while the UDEQ responsibilities have decreased. Due to this fact, and since the lead agency would need to coordinate both state and federal resources if an incident were to occur, the UDEQ has made the recommendation that the UDPS now be designated as the lead agency. The UDEQ would still provide assistance in the cleanup and disposal of any materials encountered during the incident, but it would be the UDPS who would coordinate the state's response. However, this would not be in the case of radiological incidents, which would still be handled by the Division of Radiation Control within the UDEQ. With this new recommendation, a meeting will need to take place between the UDPS and the UDEQ in order to review this suggestion to see if it is appropriate. If both agencies agree with the proposal, protocols would need to be developed in order for them to be instituted and incorporated into the State of Utah's Emergency Operations Plan.

■ **LEPC CHEMICAL RELEASE NOTIFICATION PROTOCOLSNeil Taylor**

Mr. Taylor then went on to state that recently, an environmental consultant sent an e-mail to the DERR in reference to a concern regarding proper notification of spills to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs). A copy of an "LEPC E-mail" from the consultant was distributed to the Commission. (A copy of this e-mail is available with the meeting minutes at the DERR offices.) The e-mail referred to an incident that occurred previously, in which the company the consultant was hired by was penalized for failing to notify an LEPC when an ammonia leak occurred. To avoid a similar situation, the consultant endeavored to notify the LEPC of a used oil processor in Utah County. However, it took approximately 5 days for the consultant to get into contact with the LEPC. Due to this incident, the consultant questioned as to who the emergency coordinator was for the LEPC and how the general public would notify them of an incident. After having discussed this issue with the Environmental Protection Agency, the response given to the consultant was that it is the reporting company's responsibility to identify the requirements of the LEPC for the area that they are located in. This could include a telephone number that is available to use when a release has occurred. Nevertheless, this issue was brought before the SERC in order for the Commission to communicate this concern with the LEPCs throughout the state to ensure that they are properly organized and set up to handle the proper notification of spills within their jurisdiction, and that this information is available to anyone within the general public.

■ **FBI/SECRET SERVICE/DPS CHEMICAL SECURITY INITIATIVE ...Neil Taylor**

Mr. Taylor continued on by stating that the UDEQ was also approached by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Secret Service in order to discuss issues related to ensuring companies are fully aware of what steps should be taken in order to secure the certain chemicals in which they store. To accomplish this task, the UDEQ is now endeavoring to identify which companies within the state are storing chemicals and if they truly know what measures need to be taken to stow such chemicals. It is anticipated that the UDEQ will be finished with this project within the next week. Once that information has been gathered and verified, it will then be forwarded to the FBI and the Secret Service.

■ **DEQ FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE, NOVEMBER 29, 2006Neil Taylor**

Mr. Taylor then went on to inform the Commission that on November 29, 2006, the UDEQ is having a functional exercise to test the operations of the Department's emergency operations center. The USFMO was then invited to attend and participate in this functional exercise as it may be helpful to have someone take the role of local fire departments during this exercise. Mr. Riley then volunteered to assist and contribute to this exercise in order to effectively test the UDEQ's emergency operations center.

■ **OTHER BUSINESS.....**

Terry Grover informed the Commission that on October 30, 2006, through November 3, 2006, the U.S. Air Force will be holding a transport exercise as well, involving a stage four peacekeeper simulator in Moab, Utah. Lincoln Environmental, the local sheriff's department, and the Region VII LEPC will also be involved with the training exercise. The UDPS was then also invited to attend and participate in this transport exercise training.

Mr. Riley then explained to the Commission that the Hazardous Materials Institute is moving from the State Office Building to the new Larry H. Miller Public Safety building, which is roughly at 9300 South and I-15 in Sandy, Utah. This move will become effective approximately the first part of November 2006.

■ **NEXT MEETING**

The next SERC meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2006. The location of the meeting has not yet been determined, but will most likely be held at the UDPS.

■ **ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m.