



**Memphis / Shelby County
Local Emergency Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2004
Web Page: www.msclpec.org**

Call to Order: Butch Pennington - 2:38 PM

Roundtable Introductions: All Attendees

Reading of Previous Minutes: Minutes from the November 2004 meeting were read and accepted as read with the change of “made” to “make” under the Information Sharing in the seventh line of the NEW GRANT section.

Financial Report:

Current Balances- Savings: \$6,029.97 Checking: \$9,301.27

Incident Discussions:

- **PREMCOR** - On 8/24/04 Premcor experienced a power outage in various units of the refinery to include the CCR, SRU, Sats Gas Unit, Truck Loading Rack and East Crude Unit. This outage was caused by a rodent chewing through a 15,000 volt distribution switch. Initial notifications were made to TEMA and EMA on 8/25/04 and follow up calls were made during the entire event. MSCHD was also notified on 8/26/04 when the severity of the outage was determined. Premcor worked with MSCHD in the decision of whether to shut the entire refinery down to make the repairs or to clear out the troubled unit on line. It was determined that a total shutdown of the refinery would result in more emissions than clearing out the unit online. (There would be emissions associated with shutting down and with starting back up). Premcor was in constant communication with the MSCHD during the entire weekend. A representative of the MSCHD visited the refinery on 8/28/04. MSCHD was in agreement with Premcor's plan to correct the issues and regain compliance. Complete compliance was regained and all units were back on line on 8/29/04. Between September 24-29, an estimated 33 tons of SO₂ were released.

Task Team Reports:

- **Community Outreach Subcommittee**– Rob Hooper stated that Schering Plough would be requesting Shelter In Place training for their Day Care Center. Rob will schedule training with Butch, who volunteered to conduct training. Diane Wyatt reported that Dupont has scheduled Shelter-In-Place training at NSA Midsouth for January 13th & 14th.

- **By-laws Subcommittee** – Butch Pennington reported that the By-laws Subcommittee would review of the current By-laws early next year. Ruth Henry will Chair that Subcommittee. Any LEPC member who would like to assist Ruth can contact Ruth or Butch so they can be informed of meeting times and locations.

Old Business:

- **2004 TEMA Grant** – Butch Pennington reported that a check for \$9,046 was mailed to the County Finance Office. EMA Director Claude Talford reported that he has asked Randall Roby to assist the LEPC to get reimbursement from the County as soon as possible.

New Business:

- **2005 TEMA Grant** - Butch reported that he has submitted to TEMA a request for Grant funds to support another Emergency Preparedness Conference in 2005, LEPC Internet continuance and another major drill. All activities must be completed by September 2005. The grant is for approximately \$14,000. Butch will report to the membership when he hears back from TEMA on grant approval.
- **Emergency Response Course** - Butch reported that he has been in contact with members of TEMA and LSU to determine the process to get the National Center of Biomedical Research (home based at LSU) scheduled to come to Memphis and present their 3-day "Emergency Response To Domestic Biological Incident" Course. This course is designed with a proactive approach to training for response to a biological incident by recognizing the diverse communities that must partner together. The primary audience for this course includes those who are assigned to respond to WMD incidents. This includes special operations teams, police, fire, emergency management, emergency medical services personnel, public health and medical personnel. The minimum number of participants is 20 and the maximum is 40. Butch will submit request through TEMA to try to get the course presented in the Spring of 2005 as the training team is already scheduled through March 2005.
- **Meeting Location** – Butch Pennington asked if anyone had an idea for an alternate meeting location. With more training being presented at the EMA, an alternate location is needed. Scott Yahn, American Environmental Services and Alton Lanier, MSCAA, thought their companies might have meeting rooms available that would be large enough to accommodate the LEPC.
- **December 2004 LEPC Meeting** - Butch reported that according to the LEPC By-laws, the cancellation of any regularly scheduled meeting must be voted on by the membership. A discussion was conducted and a motion was made by Jerry Burdison to cancel the December Meeting. Diane Wyatt seconded the motion and the membership unanimously voted to cancel the meeting. There were no dissenters.

Information Sharing:

- **VERTEX Chemical Drill** - Vertex conducted a Chlorine release drill on the morning of November 17, 2004. After all response units were dispatched and present at the scene of the Chlorine release, the Command Post was immediately established. After an assessment of the "release" was made, it was determined that an evacuation and safety plan needed to be initiated. To simulate the evacuation, notification to the businesses on President's Island was accomplished by activating the Memphis Police Department City Watch. The City Watch Desk was able to contact 135 telephones in 12 minutes and another 7 within several more minutes (142 total). The Pine Hill Community Center was designated as the drill evacuation shelter. MATA provided transport for those who did not have their own transportation (all simulated). During the drill, one scenario involved a reporter (role player) who breached the line and came into the hot zone to get a "scoop". The reporter was successfully stopped and taken out of the area by the Police. Another scenario during the drill involved one of the Fire

Department HAZMAT Technicians simulating a fall from the bottom rung of the rail car ladder. This Man-Down situation was quickly assessed and handled properly by the Fire Department. Following successful mitigation of the simulated hazard, a second City Watch message was released. Drill participants included representatives from Vertex, Memphis Police Department, Memphis Fire Department, Emergency Management Agency, Memphis and Shelby County Health Department, Memphis Police Department Training Academy, Memphis Fire Department Training Academy, and the United States Coast Guard.

- **Stolen Tanker** - An article from the November 12th edition of the Philadelphia Inquirer was discussed with the membership. The FBI has seeking information concerning a 44-foot gasoline tanker that was stolen in April from a Camden County parking lot. The chrome-plated tanker, which can hold more than 9,000 gallons, was empty when taken from a local Transport Terminal in Pennsauken, PA between April 8 and April 12. It bore New Jersey license plate T852SC. Anyone with information is asked to call the FBI in Philadelphia at 215-418-4000.
- **Media Coverage** – Butch Pennington showed videos of the recent media coverage of the 2004 Drill and the recent TV reports on plant security at the riverfront plants and the railroad yards.

Special Presentation:

"Homemade Bomb Use In Shelby County"

Mr. Mike Roland, Memphis ATF

Assisted by Agents Benny Allen & Jon Reed

www.atf.gov

Meeting Attendance: 32

Meeting Adjourned: 4:21 PM

Next Meeting: 2:30 PM, January 20, 2005