



**REGION II LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
and
COASTAL REGION HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE ORGANIZATION (CRHMRO)
and
USCG SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO AREA COMMITTEE HAZMAT WORKGROUP**

The following are the joint minutes recorded from the Region II LEPC, CRHMRO and USCG Sector SF AC HazMat Workgroup quarterly meeting. As such, all groups will provide information in accordance with the agenda, and Region II LEPC will provide information specific to its forum as listed on the agenda. Joint meetings are conducted quarterly for the purpose of sharing information on: hazardous material planning and training grants, training opportunities, and response and resources.

February 20, 2025 (1130-1300) Joint Meeting Minutes

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The virtual meeting was called to order at 1136 by Trisha Johnson. Virtual participants should enter their name and affiliation in the chat. Phone numbers will be called out for identification. Updated agenda included in meeting announcement.

INTRODUCTIONS:

The following people attended in-person:

- Trisha Johnson (CCHMP, LEPC II CHAIR)
- Kathleen Jennings (CDFW-OSPR)
- Erika Olsen (Cal-OES)
- Brian Mancebo (Cal-OES)
- Ismael Vega (CalTrans)
- Colby LaPlace (Solano County)
- Josh Steele (Solano County)
- Brad Mustard (Cal-Trans District IV Hazmat)
- Ben Scheisser (CHP)
- (CHP)
- Kevin Hayward (USCG Sector SF)
- Kevin Reed (USCG Sector SF)
- Jason Rogers (CDFW-OSPR)
- Todd Piantedosi (FBI)
- Kevin Rose (Marin Fire)
- John Phau (CCCSHMP)
- Chris Huran (ConFire)

The following people attended remotely:

- Christopher Ambrose (Solano County)
- Andrew Bogar (BLR OES)
- Michael Beeman (Cal-OES)
- Brentt Blaser (Alameda County)
- Samuel Cowan (USDHS)
- Dan McClellan (ConFire)
- Nikki Davis (DOT)
- Natalia Deardorff (CDPH)
- Melanie Gilbert (Cal-OES)
- Gus Bannan (USCG D11)
- Ginger Hilton (CDPH)
- Ian Servin (LBNL)
- Terri Jackson (CDPH)
- James Nunez (LBNL)
- Danny Kwon (CDPH)
- Rodney Lockett (USDHS)
- Mark Rogers
- Kathy McKeever (USDHS)
- Aileen Mendoza (Alameda County)
- Patrick Ledesma (San Mateo County)
- Richard Diaz
- Carlos Vasquez
- Allison Wilder (Cal-EPA)

II. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2024 MINUTES

November 2024 Joint Meeting Minutes were sent out to membership for any comments. Brad moved to approve minutes. Ben seconded approval of minutes. November 2024 minutes approved. Send in any other comments to Trisha.

III. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hybrid Quarterly Meetings (3rd Thursday of Month)

The 2025 meeting schedule is:

- 1st Quarter - February 20, **11:30 am – 1 pm**
- 2nd Quarter - May 29, **11:30 am – 1 pm**
- 3rd Quarter - August 21, **11:30 am – 1 pm**
- 4th Quarter - November 20, **11:30 am – 1 pm**

LEPC II Leadership Vacancies

- Community Groups Primary/Alternate
- Elected Officials Primary/Alternate
- First Aid/Care & Shelter Primary/Alternate
- Health Alternate
- Fire Alternate – Anthony Woodards (replaced Victor Bontempo and can be alternate)

- Hospital/EMS Alternate
- Media Alternate

Please reach out to Trisha with any nominations or if you are interested in filling vacancies. She will provide handout on expectations. Not a heavy workload.

V. GENERAL UPDATES FOR LEPC REGION II

Trisha Johnson (Chair) opened LEPC II meeting at 1145.

General Updates for LEPC Region II – Cal-OES:

- Monthly Meeting with LEPC Chairs
- Legislative Updates – Brian Mancebo
- Working on spill regulations. Been meeting regularly with Cal-EPA and have looped in OSPR Legal team. Trying to get all three agencies on the same page. Seek approval to go to OAL. Support from Cal-OES Legal has been tremendous. Will have further update for the next quarterly meeting. Delayed with response in Southern California.
- Generator Rule – requiring large/small generators to report to the LEPCs (not current requirement). CUPAs under no obligation to respond to the operators and recommend LEPCs follow suit. Much of data already sent to SERS. CUPAs getting reports on chlorine storage. More discussion to follow.
- Plenty of ERGs - available upon request.
- Continuing Challenge – September 2-5, 2025. Recruiting for instructors at this time. Want folks to submit course descriptions. Have secured 15 tuition grants to cover tuition only. Total of 90 for all LEPCs in state. Seek nominees from each LEPC.
- SERC – Erika Olsen
- January attended Western States SERC/TERC Meeting in Salt Lake City. Helped to understand way LEPCs are operating nationwide. Will share lessons learned with CA LEPCs. Putting work into developing general backbone with LEPCs and SERC. Do have an LEPC website with place for each LEPC chair to have their notes and agendas posted 10 days before the meeting.
- LEPC II has grant submitted by Marin County for HMEP funding. They did the planning needs assessment and thanks to those who participated. Want to make a consistent effort to do planning each year. In process of putting together their application, but issues with federal funding. Heard from PHMSA that funding is coming, but still in a holding period based on application period being delayed. Ibrahim not here today but can reach out to any Cal-OES representatives. HMEP grants are by county, rather than by region. CSTI manages the training funds. Money needs to be used to benefit the LEPCs and CSTI tries to open up classes to LEPC regions. On planning side, run subgrant application and project. Typically used for area plans. Mainly the CUPAs or county levels. Have funding for project that would benefit the LEPC regionally, but difficult to take in funding – needs to be managed through Cal-OES contract.
- Colby LaPlace - best to contact JP Robles – HazMat program manager at CSTI. Best person to have conversation regarding training funds for Ammonia Institute. Mike Beeman will reach out to his contacts and will do this for no charge but needs some

funding to rent tents, get food. They are non-profit and could use a helping hand. Years ago HMEP did not cover food. If that is one of the things they are looking for, CHMIA might also be able to fund this training.

- Mike Beeman – provide CSTI update. Scheduling for next academic year. Once goes through approval process. See Technician and Specialist course in next week or two. If folks are looking for a Tech Spec refresher for first week of June.
- Regional Area Plan (Trisha)
 - Once there is product to review, will be able to gather group to review.
 - Interest in becoming a subcommittee member? The existing LEPC II Plan is from 1994 and needs to be updated.
 - Still a need for a regional plan. How do we connect dots between county area plans to develop coordinated regional plan?
 - Trisha contacted by a contractor regarding plan development.
- Melanie – no updates. Erika will work with Melanie.
- GRP Updates (Jennings)
 - Update on Klamath River GRP (Starts in Siskiyou and includes Humboldt and Del Norte counties). Draft Klamath River GRP is out for review to the GRP Subcommittee and if anyone wants a copy to review to let Anna Burkholder know. There is an FTP site with link) but I don't think it was distributed to LEPC II. The GRP boundary includes Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.
 - General questions on OSPR GRPs, please reach out to Anna Burkholder (Anna.Burkholder@wildlife.ca.gov). For technical questions please reach out to Kathleen Jennings (Kathleen.Jennings@wildlife.ca.gov) to be directed to appropriate GRP lead.
- Other - None

Cal-OES Updates

- Coastal Region Liaison – Melanie Gilbert, Cal-OES
- HMEP Grants – Ibrahim Koroma, Cal-OES
- CSTI Update

Link to CSTI/Cal OES Monthly Training Bulletin (February 2025):

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/planning-preparedness-prevention/california-specialized-training-institute/state-training-office/>

VI. DISCUSSION:

During recent training Jack Fry mentioned the phrase “never forget”. Now with the way 2025 has begun with fires, two terrorist attacks (NOLA, Las Vegas), Moss Landing battery fire, refinery fire, it calls to mind the need for preparedness. Seeing more movement. Looking into planning, coordination of resources. Task Cal-OES to see if all Type I teams in State would be available to respond. Brian M. shocked at response of agencies willingness to send Type I and Type II teams down to help out with LA Fires. Trisha: Wake up calls recently. We want to make sure we are prepared. Common theme – hoping to bring some speakers to speak on preparedness topics. Consciousness knowing limitations but always keeping in the back of our minds “never forget”. One of the things Mr. Rogers said – don't look at the people that are

running, look at people willing to step up and help. How have these disasters changed your consciousness?

Erika – SERC/TERC lots of discussion on hazmat response. Fires in California. California is very prepared with dedicated people and agencies trying to assist. Just want to at least try. Strength of California – always so encouraged by support in the regions and everything going on during the meetings. LEPCs are going to continue to provide a great networking forum for people to make connections and know who to call during emergencies.

Trisha - Hesitant to attend these types of meetings. Were going to have a collaborative meeting. Would like to pose this as a neutral ground and include industry. Their experience and knowledge of emergencies would be beneficial to share. Room full of regulators. All of us coming together and sharing our experience, knowledge and expertise to protect the communities we live in and serve.

Kevin – Sector SF – Hit on what basically 2025 has been – one thing after another and seeing that cascading series of events. Has directly influenced need to collaborate and not just dusting off plans – going to the Statewide (hearing more about lithium ion battery fires). Not just traditional oil response – so many things coming into our ports. All our committees provide an opportunity to listen, collaborate and refresh our plans. Leadership is committed to this collaboration. Forcing a deeper dive into plans and how they overlap internally and externally.

Todd – For Superbowl – emergency response agencies do not talk to each other. This is true in other areas too. Others from CA were sent to learn how to manage. It was a surprise how little the agencies interact and there is appreciation that LEPC II collaborates in the way they do.

Colby - Tony Semenza – Good idea to talk to him to get industry to participate. Make a presentation at next Safety Summit. Make a presentation to solicit agency involvement. Think there will be some participation. There was some collaboration prior to the fire that was helpful.

VII. LEPC Business.

Kevin Reed made Motion to adjourn. Brad Mustard seconded and LEPC Meeting adjourned at 1236.

VIII. CRHMRO: Speakers' Bureau & Incident Reviews

CRHMRO Meeting called to order at 1236 by Trisha Johnson

Training

- Regional Training
 - Past
 - Upcoming – May 2025 – BAYEX – hosted by 95th Civil Support Team. Planning is underway for the event. In different parts of the Bay Area. Venue not confirmed. In addition to hazmat teams, will also be SWAT teams, etc.
 - Hazardous Materials Investigation Course (Funded by CHMIA). Funding for 24 scholarships to include tuition and per diem. Heavier on law enforcement side – grant from Cal-EPA (51%) between fire, regulatory, CalTrans. Prerequisite to attend two-week Advanced Environmental Crimes Training program. Prosecutors can also recommend. David Dearborn is Facilitator.

Do not need to be an active CHMIA member – environmental, hazmat, regulatory with nexus to. At CSTI in SLO. Registration is open right now. May 12-16th with May 11th (travel day) and half day on 5/16. (Same as BayEX).

- CHMIA Conference April 28th- May 1st (T-Th) in Shell Beach at the Cliffs Hotel. Registration open now. CHMIA has 8 scholarships for that.
- James Nunez – Commented that this is an excellent course.

Incident Reviews – Roundtable Discussion

- Jason Rogers (CDFW-OSPR)– responded to Martinez refinery fire. Responded to Santa Cruz wharf and Moss Landing battery fire.
- ConFire – Martinez - decon of patients. Carbon monoxide. Potential fentanyl response – ended up being methamphetamines.
- Marin County – Small plane crash in Hamilton Field in Novato – crashed into one of hangars. Area monitoring and soil sampling. Class B foam applied.
- Colby (Solano County) – MRC incident. Coordinating with Contra Costa County regarding shelter in place. Vallejo Fire responded. PMAO activated.
- Ben (CHP) - Pool company stop – transporting chemicals – sodium hypochlorite released from truck. Smelled bleach coming through air conditioning. Over 100 degrees. Truck coated in hazardous waste because of all the spills. Had to pay contractor to cleanup.
- Trisha (Contra Costa Health HazMat) - Martinez Refining Company fire and release. Called on the road. Refinery team leader – wanted Community Warning System. Fire notification and then hazmat. On fire and flaring. Two months ago was doing routine inspection. At the time the emergency manager gave an hour-long presentation on all the flaring incidents. LP Flare – was coming from a certain unit – crude unit. It was the cat-cracker. Sent out two air monitoring units – go toward Bay Point and move in – how far out into Bay Point. One unit going around refinery. Wind blew things away from community (e.g., off of Arthur Road). Was Level 2 Health Advisory appropriate or was a Shelter-In-Place needed? 680 was being smoked out. CHP officers closed off NB 680 ramp to Marina Vista. CHP wearing respirators. County used half face. Near McNabney Marsh, Waterbird Regional Preserve (levels very high there). Still five employees at Transfer Station, so went in and told them to leave. County directed all employees to leave facility. Had rep at UC and at Refinery. BAAD (renamed) sent meteorological van out there and pulled samples – not too many hits. Only so much that could be sampled/monitored. Shelter-In Place lifted Saturday night. Level 2 advisory lifted on Tuesday – was several fires and still smoldering. Outpouring of state and federal partners offers of assistance (including USEPA). Example of collaboration with all the agencies doing what they could. MRC provided information and was transparent. Would not know what was really going on without the earlier inspection. Would be helpful to discuss case studies and what are lessons learned (e.g., LA Fires – Mutual Aid).
- Danny (CDPH) – Question lifting Level 2 advisory. If MRC did not want to maintain that would County have lifted earlier? Trisha: Might have lifted earlier – were not sure if anything would go wrong – MRC being cautious with fires still smoldering. Kept everyone in readiness posture.
- Ginger (CDPH) – (Post-Meeting Submittal) CDPH is involved in the LA fires. CDPH EH SMEs supporting the local air and soil monitoring also on the Debris TF, leading the EH subgroup, and leading the water monitoring team coordinating env/ health impact related

assessments, groups as well as Dashboard development, messaging and communication, and community engagement.

X. Adjournment – Next Meeting: May 29, 2025

- **ADJOURN CRHMRO:** Kevin R. made Motion to adjourn both meetings at 1256. Ben seconded motion. All in favor. CRHMRO and Joint Meeting adjourned at 1257 on 02/20/2025.

Action Items:

- ☐ Gather more nominations and vote in nominees – ongoing
- ☐ Schedule subcommittee meeting for Regional Area Plan revisions committee
- *Hire contractor?
- ☐ Survey to create emergency contacts list for Region II
- ☐ Update LEPC Membership Handbook Motion to adjourn