



Dallas County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Minutes of the General Meeting

February 12, 2024

Meeting Host/Location:

Cedar Hill Rec Center in Cedar Hill, TX; 310 E Parkerville Rd, Cedar Hill, TX 75104. A meeting agenda was posted, and the proper public notice was given in advance of the meeting.

Meeting Attendees:

Joshua Venable, De'Sean Helton, Malcolm Chicoye, Christopher Babina, Hector Ortiz, David Gifford, Tina Sanders, Nadia Avalos, Joshua Tincopa, Denisse Martinez, Laura Sifuentes, Lauren Sanchez

Meeting:

- Chair, Denisse Martinez opens the meeting and brings the first order of business.
- Chair introduces Vice Chair, Joshua Tincopa. Vice Chair proceeds to seek approval of the November 27, 2023, meeting minutes.
 - A motion to approve the minutes and seconded. The minutes were approved as written by unanimous consent of the members present.
- Chair introduces Kristi Robeson from CISA to talk about the ChemLock Program Overview.
 - What is ChemLock?
 - ChemLock was created in 2021 and its for facilites that didn't reach the threshold to be regulated but still wanted to participate in securing chemicals.
 - Completely voluntary program at no cost to facilities.
 - This program is available for all sectors and anyone that has a dangerous chemical on their facility can participate.
 - This includes small and medium businesses that may not have a robust dedicated security in place.
 - Chemical Hazards
 - Toxics and Toxic Precursors- Can cause death or serious injury through inhalation
 - Flammables- Can create a vapor cloud that explodes

- Explosives and Explosive Precursors- Can be used to create an explosive device
- ChemLock Services and Tools:
 - ChemLock offers On-site Assessments and Assistance, providing security awareness consultations, security posture assessments, and security planning visits.
 - ChemLock provides a range of Resources including security planning guidance, a security planning template, and fact sheets and best practices.
 - For Exercises and Drills, ChemLock offers chemical security exercise templates and facilitates a tabletop exercise through CISA.
 - Training Courses offered by ChemLock include Introduction to Chemical Security and Secure Your Chemicals Security Planning.
 - ChemLock provides Special Access to CISA Services, offering Active Shooter Preparedness training and a demo of the Cyber Security Evaluation Tool (CSET).
- ChemLock Publications
 - Guidance Documents- Helps facilities build a step-by-step chemical security plan tailored to their business model and unique circumstances
 - Fact Sheets- Focuses on a particular aspect of chemical security
 - Flyers- Brings general awareness to chemical threats and need for chemical security measures
 - Templates- Provides customizable templates that organizations can use
- Exercises and Drills
 - CISA Tabletop Exercise Packages (CTEPs), drills, and general materials to help conduct exercises tailored to chemical security. Ex: Active Shooter, Cyberattacks, Civil Unrest
- How Do I Sign Up for a ChemLock Service?
 - Visit cisa.gov/chemlock
 - Fill out our short service request form
 - CISA will contact you to follow up about the service you are requesting

- Chair introduces Nic Brescia from the EPA to talk about the EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinator.
 - What is an EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinator?:
 - EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinators (FOSCs)
 - FOSC is pre-designated federal official responsible for coordinating and directing response efforts at a release of oil or hazardous substances within the EPA inland AOR.
 - NCP charges FOSC with responsibility for ensuring immediate and effective response to discharges or release of oil or hazardous substances within the inland area.
 - Under NRS, major duty of FOSC is to coordinate with state and local response organizations to ensure an immediate and effective response.
 - When Does EPA FOSC Get Involved?
 - Normal and Response Operations
 - Can be involved in most inland oil or hazmat incidents
 - Regardless of other jurisdictional authorities
 - Requested by Local or State Government
 - Unavailability of other response or enforcement mechanisms
 - Normally, Responsible Party (RP) will pay for EPA response actions; non-RP requestors do NOT
 - Messaging
 - In the current age of the internet media resources available to the public, accurate and coordinated factual response related messaging to the public is critical for a successful response action.
 - It is one of the responsibilities of the FOSC to work with Unified Command (UC) to coordinate the production of accurate and factual public messaging related to the response action in a timely manner.
 - Fence Line Community Air Monitoring
 - Can be involved in most inland hazmat incidents and some oil spills (BTEX)
 - Work in UC with Stakeholders/RPs to establish incident specific FLCAM protection goals
 - High expectation that RPs will provide significant participation in FLCAM data gathering

- Decision to take an action to protect the public from the effects of a release (such as an evacuation or shelter-in-place advisory) is retained at the local level
- Planning/Preparedness
 - FOSC has the responsibility to coordinate with the TCEQ and TDEM regarding common goals for response planning and preparedness
 - EPA is currently developing an updated plan to re-initiate outreach and partnership between the EPA FOSC and the planning/preparedness community

Public Comments:

- Secretary, Laura Sifuentes asks for a motion to end the meeting. A motion was made to end the meeting. No comments were made once this presentation had concluded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm.

Submitted by: