



**WASHINGTON  
STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION  
(SERC)**

**MEETING MINUTES  
September 17, 2008**

***MEMBERS PRESENT***

Sgt. Mark Arras – Washington State Patrol, Fire Protection Bureau  
Ms. Julie Baker – Washington State Department of Transportation  
Mr. John Butler – Department of Ecology (Ecology)  
Mr. John Geppert - Department of Labor and Industries  
Mr. Sam Lorenz – Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs-Eastside)  
Assistant Chief Brian Schaeffer – Chair  
Mr. Richard Schroedel – Local Emergency Manager  
Ms. Maillian Uphaus – Military Department Representative  
Mr. John Wheeler – Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs-Westside)

***STATE STAFF and GUESTS PRESENT***

Ms. Deborah Henderson (EMD)  
Ms. Jeanette Lomax (EMD)  
Mr. Ron Wilson (EMD)  
Ms. Suzanne Powers (EPA)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Brian Schaeffer, SERC Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 and welcomed SERC members and guests.

**WORKGROUP REPORTS:**

***SERC Charter/By-Law Review  
Assistant Chief Brian Schaeffer, SERC Chair***

- SERC By-Laws, with proposed changes, were distributed and discussed. Most recommended changes were cosmetic. John Butler requested language change in Article IV, Section 3 regarding Staff Coordinator role. The word “Coordinator” will be eliminated and the word “shall” will be changed to “may.” In Article VI, Section 3, in addition to the previously recommended changes, a third sub-



element will be added that calls for the Chair to directly contact the affected organization/agency to request a new member be appointed. A vote will be taken at the next SERC meeting for final approval. (*Enclosure 1*)

For further information, contact Ron Wilson at (253) 512-77069 or e-mail: [r.wilson@emd.wa.gov](mailto:r.wilson@emd.wa.gov)

***Public Outreach  
Presented by Ron Wilson (EMD)***

- LEPC Guide and Hazmat Plan Template posted to EMD's website.
- Ron Wilson and Sadie Whitener will be representing the SERC at the September 23<sup>rd</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference in Spokane.
- Existing outreach products that LEPC's can access and utilize are posted on Washington State EMD's web page, which can be found at <http://www.emd.wa.gov/>

For further information, contact Ron Wilson at (253) 512-77069 or e-mail: [r.wilson@emd.wa.gov](mailto:r.wilson@emd.wa.gov)

***EPCRA reporting compliance/ Industry Outreach  
Presented for Sadie Whitener (Ecology) by Suzanne Powers, EPA***

- Sadie Whitener shared that most of the Tier Two data has been entered and reports continue to come in from delinquent reporters. For Reporting Year 2007, 3,668 facilities reported 14,240 substances.
- The RY 2007 Tier Two data is available in CAMEO format. Contact us for your county data.
- The new SERC logo has been added to reporting forms, which are available at [www.ecy.wa.gov/epcra](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/epcra) .
- Ecology and EPA staff are available for EPCRA Workshops. If anyone is interested in hosting a workshop, let us know as soon as possible.

For further information, contact Ms. Sadie Whitener at (360) 407-6729 or email: [swhi461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:swhi461@ecy.wa.gov).



***State Regional HazMat Teams Initiative  
Presented by Mr. John Butler (Ecology)***

John Butler reported on the Statewide CBRNE/HazMat Capability study project. Representative Al O'Brien re-introduced HB 2790 during the current 2008 legislative session. The bill was amended to reflect the CBRNE Stakeholder's Group's recommendations. Though it received a hearing, it did not pass this session as a supplemental budget item. Since then, the CBRNE response structure has been refined and reduced to substantially cut the start-up and sustainment costs while still maintaining a level one incident response within a two-hour window. It will be re-introduced in the 2009 legislative session .

The CBRNE Stakeholder Group will continue to meet to address budget efficiencies, gap analysis and Program implementation support issues until successful legislation can be accomplished. The revised start-up cost for five hazmat teams throughout the state is estimated to be at 12.1 million dollars. Thereafter, 4 million dollars will be required for sustainment each year. (*Enclosure 2*)

For further information contact Mr. John Butler (360) 407-6970 or e-mail:  
[jbut461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jbut461@ecy.wa.gov)

***Training Coordination  
Presented by Mr. Ron Wilson (EMD)***

- 2009 Statewide Hazmat Workshop will be April 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in Richland, WA at the HAMMER facility.
- 2009 LEPC Tribal Conference will be April 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> at Campbell's Resort in Chelan, WA.

For additional information, contact Mr. Ron Bowen at (360) 753-0357 or email:  
[ron.bowen@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:ron.bowen@wsp.wa.gov) and Ms. Stefani Christensen at (253) 512-7046 or email:  
[S.Christensen@emd.wa.gov](mailto:S.Christensen@emd.wa.gov)

**FUNDING/GRANT INFORMATION**

- 2009 HMEP increase
  - 9 HMEP grants awarded this year in the amount of \$72, 345.



- The pass thru grant to the Washington State Patrol, Fire Protection Bureau increased by an additional \$110,000. These dollars are used to provide hazmat training throughout Washington state.
- **NEW** L & I grant to cover training for Worker Protection program.
  - John Geppert will send the grant guidance to Ron Wilson to distribute.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **SERC position vacancies**
  - Transportation Industry
    - Julie Baker from Department of Transportation agreed to assist in finding both a primary and alternate to serve on the SERC.
  - Tribal representative
    - Letter mailed to tribes requesting a nomination to serve on the SERC.
    - The Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA) was to send out a letter requesting Tribes to send a nomination for a representative to give tribal perspective on the SERC. Ron will follow up on and see if this has been completed.
    - John Geppert suggested a letter be sent directly to each tribe requesting nominations for both a primary and alternate member to serve on the SERC. The SERC would then make the selections based on the applications.
- **SERC Logo**
  - Ron Wilson thanked Stefani Christensen for designing 16 logos for the SERC. Through the process of elimination the SERC logo was chosen from the top five designs. SERC pins were distributed to those in attendance.
  - Ron shared the importance a logo has in visual recognition, dedication and professionalism.
- **SERC member information on website**
  - Both names of the primary and alternate holding a SERC position and the organization represented will be posted on EMD's website.



### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Member resignation – Curt Russell
  - Curt Russell was recognized for his service on the SERC.
- e-Plan and e-Disclosure – Suzanne Powers (*Enclosure 3*)

For further information, contact Mr. Ron Wilson at (253) 512-7069 or e-mail: [r.wilson@emd.wa.gov](mailto:r.wilson@emd.wa.gov)

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- 1) Coordinate the SERC Workshop (**EMD**)
- 2) Working groups (**working group leads**)
- 3) SERC nomination letter for Tribal Chairpersons (**Ron Wilson**)
- 4) Final By-Laws revision (**Ron Wilson**)

### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next meeting will be the annual SERC Workshop scheduled for January 15, 2009 in Olympia. More details will be forthcoming.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chief Brian Schaeffer, SERC Chair, adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Interested parties may contact the Washington SERC through:

Mr. Ron Wilson, SERC-LEPC Program Coordinator  
c/o Washington State Emergency Response Commission  
Building 20, MS: TA-20  
Camp Murray WA 98430-5122  
(253) 512-7069 voice  
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[r.wilson@emd.wa.gov](mailto:r.wilson@emd.wa.gov)

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Enclosures (3)