

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

2026 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PLAN



SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
PO BOX 811, CAPE CORAL, FL 33991

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ARTICLE III. RESOLUTION: 2026-01

RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE, APPROVING THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PLAN.

WHEREAS, with the enactment of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To Know Act of 1986, Congress imposed upon Local Emergency Planning Committees and local governments additional planning and preparedness requirements for response to emergencies involving the release of hazardous materials; and

WHEREAS, a Local Emergency Planning District is required to develop an Emergency Response Plan for Hazardous Materials to become a component part of the State Emergency Planning District Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee's Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan will be reviewed by the Florida State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials as meeting the criteria for such plans established by the Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency and the National Response Team; and

WHEREAS, this plan is intended to provide the framework for the development of detailed operating procedures by first response public safety agencies charged with the responsibility of protecting the public's health and safety from the discharge or release of extremely toxic chemicals.

Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee's Hazardous Materials Plan is hereby adopted.

The foregoing Resolution was unanimously approved by the LEPC at its May 28, 2026 meeting.

The LEPC Chair thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

LEPC Chair

ATTEST:

Asmaa Odeh, LEPC Coordinator

ARTICLE IV. RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE

The National Response Team (NRT) – composed of 16 Federal agencies having primary responsibilities in environmental, transportation, emergency management, worker safety, and public health areas – is the national body responsible for coordinating Federal planning, preparedness, and response actions related to oil discharges and hazardous substance releases.

Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, the NRT is responsible for publishing guidance documents for preparing and implementing hazardous substance emergency plans.

The National Response Team’s recommended criteria for reviewing emergency plans submitted to Regional Response Teams (RRTs) under the provisions of Section 303(g) of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (SARA Title III).

The criteria for the Review of Hazardous Materials Emergency Plans are to supplement the National Response Team’s Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide (NRT-1 2001 Update) published in 2001.

In addition to their use by the RRTs, the criteria can also be helpful to State Emergency Response Commissions (SERCs) and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) in developing and reviewing plans.

LEPCs may use the following guidelines for preparing hazardous materials emergency plans. Each section of the plan’s element is described in a brief narrative, followed by a series of related questions to guide the development of that portion of the plan. In addition, these guidelines will also be used as the criteria to determine whether the regional hazardous materials emergency plan complies.

Any questions regarding the interpretation or implementation of these guidelines should be referred to the Division of Emergency Management’s Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Section.

TABLE 1: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 1.0 PLAN OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
1.1	Responsibility for the Planning Effort: This section should contain the following information:	28
	a. Discussion of the purpose of the plan;	28
	b. List of organizations and persons receiving the plan or plan amendments;	28
	c. Methods revising the plan and recording all changes in the plan.	21 and 28
1.2	Emergency Planning Bases: This section is a summary of regional conditions. It should contain the following information:	29

	a. Geographical features of the region, including:	29-46
	1) Sensitive environmental areas;	29-46
	2) Land use patterns;	29-46
	3) Water supplies;	29-46
	4) Public transportation.	45-46
	b. Major demographic features that impact most emergency responses include:	42-44
	1) Population Density;	42-44
	2) Special Populations;	42-44
	3) Sensitive institutions.	42-44
	c. The region’s climate and weather as they affect the airborne distribution of chemicals	45
	d. Critical time variables are impacting emergencies.	29
1.3	Discussions of the hazards Analysis Process: A hazards analysis is a critical component of planning for hazardous materials releases. It consists of determining where hazards are likely to exist, what places would most likely be adversely affected, what hazardous materials could be involved, and what conditions might exist during a spill or release. The hazards analysis consists of three components, which are defined as follows:	46
	a. Hazards identification provides specific information on situations that have the potential to cause injury to life or damage to property;	46-47
	b. Vulnerability analysis identifies property and individuals in the community that may be affected by a hazardous materials spill or release;	47-48
	c. Risk analysis is an assessment by the community of the probability of an accidental release of a hazardous material and the consequences that might occur.	48
	Figure 1.1 Hazards Analysis Summary contains site-specific information.	46
	a. Hazards identification includes:	46
	1) Chemical Identities;	46
	2) Location of facilities that use produce, Process, or store hazardous materials;	46
	3) Quantity of material;	46
	4) Properties of the hazardous materials.	46
	b. Vulnerability analysis provides:	47
	1) The extent of the vulnerable zones;	47
	2) A population that could be within the vulnerable zone;	47
	3) Impact on affected environment.	47
	c. Risk analysis estimates:	48
	1) Probability of an accidental release;	48
	2) The severity of consequences of human injury and damage to property;	48

	NOTE: Information for the Hazards Analysis. A summary may be cross-referenced from the specific facility analysis to meet the criteria requirement.	48
1.4	Assumptions	48
	Assumptions are the advance judgments concerning what would happen in the case of an accidental spill or release. List all of the assumptions about conditions that might develop in the region in the event of accidents from any affected facilities or along any transportation route.	48
1.5	Support Plans	49
	List the federal, state, local, and facility emergency plans available to support the implementation of the regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan.	49
1.6	Authorities and References	49-51
	If there are applicable laws regarding planning for response to hazardous materials releases, list them here. The plan should include:	49-51
	a. Legal Authorities of the local jurisdictions within the region;	49-51
	b. State and Federal authorities;	49-51
	c. Mutual aid agreements with other jurisdictions;	49-51
	d. List general and technical references.	49-51

TABLE 2: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 2.0 EMERGENCY RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
2.1	General: This section should list all those organizations and officials who are responsible for planning and/or executing the pre-response (planning and prevention), response (implementing the plan during an incident), and post-response (cleanup and restoration) activities to a hazardous materials incident.	51
2.2	Local Government Organizations and Responsibilities: Describe the functions and responsibilities of all the local response organizations within the region.	51
2.2.1	Chairperson, Board of Commissioners: List the major tasks to be performed by the Chairpersons of the Boards of Commissioners in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	51
2.2.2	County Administrator: If applicable, list major tasks to be performed by the county administrators in responding to a hazardous material incident.	51
2.2.3	Emergency Management Director: List the major tasks to be performed by the management directors in responding to hazardous material.	51-52
2.2.4	Designate a community emergency coordinator who makes the necessary determinations to implement the plan.	52

2.2.5	Sheriff’s Office and Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies: List the major law enforcement tasks related to responding to releases of hazardous materials.	52
2.2.6	Fire and Rescue: List the major tasks to be performed by firefighters in coping with releases of hazardous substances.	52-53
2.2.7	Public Health Agency: List the major tasks to be performed by the counties’ public health agencies in responding to a hazardous material incident.	53-54
2.2.8	Public Works: List all major tasks to be performed by the public works departments in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	54
2.2.9	School Board: List major tasks the local school boards need to perform in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	54
2.2.10	Transportation Authority: If applicable, list the major tasks the counties’ transportation authorities need to perform in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	54
2.2.11	Emergency Medical Services: List all major tasks to be performed by emergency medical services responding to a hazardous materials incident.	54-55
2.2.12	Hospitals and Medical Facilities: List the major tasks to be performed by hospitals and medical facilities in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	55
2.2.13	Other Local Governmental Agencies: List major tasks other local government agencies need to perform in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	55
2.3	State Government Organizations and Responsibilities	55-61
	Describe state agencies' major functions and duties in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	55-59
2.4	Federal Government Organizations and Responsibilities	60-61
	Describe the primary functions and duties to be performed by federal agencies in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	60-61
2.5	Facility Owners/Operators	61
	Describe the major tasks to be performed by facility owners/operators in responding to a hazardous materials incident.	61
2.6	Volunteer Organizations	61
	Describe the response functions and responsibilities of all regional volunteer and charitable organizations in the event of a hazardous materials incident.	61

TABLE 3: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 3.0 DIRECTION AND CONTROL

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
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3.1	General	62-63
	This section should describe coordinating and managing emergency response operations among local, state, and federal agencies.	62—63
3.2	Local Government Role	63
	Describe the role of local government in providing direction and control in the event of a hazardous materials incident.	63
3.2.1	On-scene Command: Identify persons responsible for the activation and operations of the on-scene command post and describe the incident commander’s responsibilities.	63-64
3.2.2	Emergency Operations Center: Identify persons responsible for the activation and operations of the emergency operations center.	64
3.3	State Government Role	64
	Describe the role of the state government in providing direction and control in the event of a hazardous materials incident.	64
3.4	Federal Government Role	64
	Describe the federal government's role in providing direction and control in the event of a hazardous materials incident.	64

TABLE 4: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 4.0 NOTIFICATION AND ACTIVATION

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
4.1	General	65
	This section should outline responsibilities and procedures for notifying appropriate emergency response organizations, alerting critical local, state, and federal emergency response personnel, and providing warnings and instructions to the general public.	65
4.2	Warning Points	65
	Describe procedures for immediately notifying the appropriate 24-hour warning point and securing assistance from state and federal agencies.	65
4.3	Notification and Activation	66-67
	Include procedures for providing reliable, effective, and timely notification by the facility and community emergency coordinator to persons designated in the emergency plan that a release has occurred.	66-67
	Discuss the sequences for notification and activation of emergency response personnel for each of the three incident severity levels and associated response levels. Identify the conditions for each level and indicate the responsible organizations at each level. The three levels of incident severity are the following:	67-68

4.3.1	Potential Emergency Conditions	68
4.3.2	Limited Emergency Conditions	67-68
4.3.3	Full Emergency Conditions	68
4.4	Notification to the Public	68-78
	Identify responsible officials within the regional and describe the methods by which they will notify the public of a release from any facility or along any transportation route, including sirens, signals, and other methods such as door-to-door alerting. Include a list of all radio, TV, and press contacts.	68-71
	Figure 4.1 Section 304 Reporting Form. The plan should contain a detailed description of the essential information to be developed and recorded by the Section 304 Response system in an actual incident, e.g., date, time, location, type of release, and material released.	72
	Figure 4.2 Emergency Contact List: Contain an accurate and up-to-date list of all organizations, technical and response personnel, public and private sector support groups, and other participating agencies to be notified of a release.	73-78

TABLE 5: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 5.0 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
5.1	General	79
	This section should describe the various communications systems which can be used during emergencies involving hazardous materials.	79
5.2	Coordination of Emergency Communications	79-87
	Describe all methods by which identified responders will exchange information and communicate with each other during a response.	80-87
5.3	Communications Systems	80-87
	Include communications networks and common frequencies to be used during a response.	80-87

TABLE 6: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 6.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
6.1	General	88
	This section should provide procedures for the dissemination of information to keep the public informed about potential hazards present at facilities, emergency responses required to cope with a	88

	hazardous materials emergency, and protective measures that can be taken to minimize or alleviate adverse public health effects.	
6.2	Public Information Officers	88
	Describe methods for the coordination of emergency public notification during a response.	88
	Describe the role and organizational position of the public information officer during emergencies.	88
6.2.1	Local Public Information Officer: Designate a local spokesperson to inform the public.	88
6.2.2	State Public Information Officer: Indicate the spokesperson for the state to coordinate releases of information from any state agency.	88-89
6.2.3	Federal Public Information Officer: Indicate the federal agency representative to Coordinate public information efforts when federal agency resources are used.	89
6.2.4	Facility Public Information Officer: Indicate the facility representative who will serve as a Public Information Officer in cooperation with the local PIO and State PIO.	89
6.3	Emergency News Facilities	89
	This section should list where space will be provided for media representatives during an emergency.	89
6.3.1	County Emergency Operations Centers: Indicate the locations within the region for local news and information releases during an emergency.	89
6.3.2	DEM Press Room: Indicate the location for news and information releases concerning emergency actions taken by the state agencies.	89-90
6.4	Coordination of Media Releases	90
	Describe how the dissemination of information to the news media and public will be coordinated.	90
6.5	Rumor Control	90
	Describe procedures for answering public inquiries.	90
6.6	Public Education	90-91
	Describe the methods used by local governments before emergencies to educate the public about possible emergencies and planned protective measures.	90-91
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TABLE 7: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 7.0 EMERGENCY FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
7.1	General	99
	This section should describe the emergency response facilities, identify supplies and equipment designated for emergency response, and identify the key personnel and organizations anticipated to respond to emergencies.	99
7.2	Emergency Response Facilities and Personnel	99
	Describe the emergency operating centers or other facilities available in the region, facility emergency coordinators, and other response coordinators, such as incident commanders.	99
	The following facilities are available:	99-102
7.2.1	Emergency Operations Centers: Describe the operating procedures of the county and state emergency operations centers.	99-102
7.2.2	On-scene Command Post: Describe how an On-scene Command Post will be established.	102
7.3	Equipment and Resources	102-108
	This section should list the resources that will be needed and where the equipment and vehicles are located or can be obtained.	102
7.3.1	Equipment: Include a description of emergency equipment and facilities in the region.	102-103
7.3.2	Laboratory Analytical Support: Provide a list of available private contractors and governmental agencies with the capability for laboratory and analytical support of emergency operations in the event of a major release.	104
7.3.3	Other Technical Support: Describe the methods by which emergency responders can receive information on chemical and related response measures.	104-106
	Figure 7.1 Private Contractor’s Laboratory and Analytical Capabilities: List available regional private contractors and their specific capabilities for analyzing hazardous materials.	86-88

TABLE 8: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 8.0 ACCIDENT ASSESSMENT

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
8.1	General	111
	This section should describe responsibilities and procedures for assessing the off-site impacts of an emergency involving releasing hazardous	111

	materials and its effects on the health and well-being of the residents and visitors.	
8.2	Initial Assessment	111
	This section should describe who is responsible for monitoring the size, concentration, and movement of leaks, spills, and releases; assessing actual and potential off-site consequences of the release; and identifying the potential impacts on human health and safety.	111
8.3	Assessment and Monitoring	111-113
	Describe methods in-place in the community and/or each affected facility for assessing and monitoring the effects of a hazardous materials release.	111
8.3.1	Resources and Capabilities: Describe who is responsible for conducting health assessments within the vulnerable zone surrounding a facility from which hazardous materials were released.	111-112
8.3.2	Activation of Field Teams: Describe who is responsible for deploying assessment and monitoring personnel.	112
8.3.3	Coordination and Assessment and Monitoring Activities: Describe the duties and responsibilities of assessment and monitoring personnel.	112-113
8.3.4	Additional Assessment and Monitoring Support: Describe the procedures for requesting additional assessment and monitoring support when it is determined that a hazardous materials emergency cannot be adequately controlled with resources available to local response personnel.	113

TABLE 9: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 9.0 EXPOSURE CONTROL FOR EMERGENCY WORKERS

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
9.1	General	114
	This section should establish the means and responsibilities for controlling hazardous materials exposure to emergency workers.	114
9.2	Exposure Monitoring	114-117
	Describe procedures for monitoring the exposure of response personnel, citizens at large, and food and water supplies to extremely hazardous substances after an accidental release.	114-117
9.2.1	EPA Levels of Protection: List sampling, monitoring, and personnel protective equipment appropriate to various degrees of hazards based on EPA level of protection (A, C, C, and D).	115-116
9.2.2	Exposure Records: Describe procedures for maintaining records of emergency workers' exposure to extremely hazardous substances after an accidental release.	116-117
9.3	Authorization of Exposure in Excess of Protective Action Guides	117
	Describe how to get authorization for exposure levels of county emergency personnel to exceed established recommended exposure limits (RELs).	117

9.4	Decontamination	117-118
	Describe personnel and equipment decontamination procedures.	117-118
	Figure 9.1 Hazardous Materials Exposure Form	119

TABLE 10: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 10.0 PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
10.1	General	120
	This section aims to establish the range of protective actions available to state and local governments for the protection of the public.	120
10.2	Vulnerable Zones	120
	Describe methods in place in the region and each affected facility for determining the areas likely to be affected by a release.	120
10.3	Levels of Concern	120
	Define “level of concern” and describe how it is estimated.	120
10.4	Evacuation	120-121
	Describe the authority for ordering or recommending evacuation, including the personnel authorized to recommend evacuation.	120-121
	Describe evacuation plans.	120-121
10.4.1	Evacuation Routes: Describe evacuation routes.	120-121
10.4.2	Evacuation of the General Public: Describe methods to evacuate the general public.	121
10.4.3	Evacuation for Special Needs: Describe methods to evacuate the population with special needs.	121
10.4.4	Schools: describe the methods to be used in evacuating schools.	121-122
10.4.5	Medical Facilities: Describe the methods to be used in evacuating medical facilities.	122
10.4.6	Incarceration Facilities: Describe the methods to be used in evacuating incarceration facilities.	122
10.5	Reception and Care	122-123
	Describe methods to establish mass shelter, medical care, and any required decontamination to relocated populations.	122-123
10.6	Sheltering (In-Place)	123
	Describe the methods for indoor protection that would be recommended for residents, including provisions for shutting off ventilation systems.	123

TABLE 11: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 11.0 MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORT

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
11.1	General	124

	This section should describe the arrangements for medical services to care for individuals who become victims of hazardous materials incidents.	124
11.2	Medical Support	124-132
	Describe the level and types of emergency medical and health department personnel.	124-125
11.2.1	Hospitals and Ambulance Service: Describe the level and types of emergency medical capabilities in the region to deal with people's exposure to extremely hazardous substances.	124-125
11.2.2	Describe the provisions for emergency mental health care.	125
	Figure 11.1 Regional Hospitals: Identify hospitals and other emergency medical service facilities capable of supporting exposed individuals.	126-132

TABLE 12: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 12.0 RECOVERY AND REENTRY

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
12.1	General	133
	This section should provide general guidelines for recovery and reentry operations when a hazardous materials emergency has been brought under control, and no further significant releases are anticipated.	133
12.2	Recovery	133-137
	Describe how recovery operations will be coordinated and directed.	133
12.2.1	Environmental Analysis: Describe environmental analysis provisions before allowing public access to potentially contaminated areas.	133
12.2.2	Containment and Cleanup: Describe primary methods for cleanup.	133
	Describe containment and mitigation activities for significant types of HAZMAT incidents.	134-137
12.2.3	Documentation and Follow-up: List all reports required in the counties and all offices and agencies responsible for preparing them following a release.	13-137
12.3	Reentry	137
	Describe how reentry operations will be coordinated and directed.	137

TABLE 13: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 13.0 EXERCISES AND DRILLS

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
13.1	General	138
	This section should describe the exercises and drills that must be conducted periodically to evaluate the adequacy of the hazardous materials emergency plan and the skills of the emergency response personnel.	138
13.2	Exercises	138-140

	Describe the nature and frequency of exercises required to test the adequacy of the plan.	138
13.2.1	Full-scale exercise: Describe the purpose of a full-scale exercise and include the extent to which local emergency personnel and resources will be mobilized.	138
13.2.2	Functional Exercise: Describe the purpose of a functional exercise and include the extent to which local emergency personnel and resources will be mobilized for the exercise.	138
13.2.3	Tabletop Exercise: Describe the purpose of a tabletop exercise and include the extent to which local emergency personnel and resources will be mobilized for the exercise.	138
13.2.4	Scheduling and Scenario: Include methods and schedules for exercising the emergency plan.	138-139
13.2.5	Critique and Reports: Describe the procedures by which performance will be evaluated in the exercise.	139
13.3	Drills	139-140
	Describe the nature of drills required to test the adequacy of emergency response operations.	139
13.3.1	Communications Drills: Describe the frequency of drills to test communications between facility owners/operators, state and local governments, federal emergency operations centers, and on-scene personnel.	139
13.3.2	Medical Drills: Describe the frequency of medical emergency drills involving a simulated contaminated injury.	139
13.3.3	Chemical Monitoring Drills: Describe the frequency of monitoring drills to test the collection and analysis of sampling media, provisions for communications, and record keeping.	140

TABLE 14: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – 14.0 TRAINING

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
14.1	General	141
	This section should outline requirements for a training program to ensure that hazardous materials emergency response training is provided for emergency personnel responsible for decision-making, planning, and response. Training requirements consistent with established OSHA/EPA levels for emergency responders should be described.	141
14.2	Annual and Refresher Training	141
	Describe training requirements and appropriate OSHA/EPA level for all major categories of hazardous materials emergency response personnel within the region.	141

14.3	Schedule and Availability of Training	141
	Describe the availability and scheduling of training programs for local emergency response personnel in the region.	141-142
	Figure 14.1 Training for Emergency Personnel	142-143

TABLE 15: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – APPENDIX A (LIST OF EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (EHSS) AND DATA FOR THE HAZARD ANALYSIS

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
	Provide as an exhibit a list of EHSs with Chemical Abstract service number, ambient physical state, molecular weight, boiling point, vapor pressure, level of concern, and liquid factors.	144

TABLE 16: RRT/NRT-1 CROSS REFERENCE PLAN – APPENDIX B (HAZARD ANALYSIS)

Provide the following information for each facility in the region reporting an Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) on their premises above the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ).

Criteria Number	Criteria Description	Reference Page Number
B.1	Facility Information	144
B.1.1	Facility Address: Provide both physical address and mailing address, if different.	144
B.1.2	Facility Emergency Coordinator: Provide the designated facility coordinator's name, title, and telephone number.	144
B.1.3	Transportation Routes: List the main routes used to transport chemicals to and from the facility.	144
B.1.4	Evacuation Routes: Based on wind direction, identify the route downwind to exit the largest vulnerable zone.	144
B.1.5	List of all EHSs on site: Provide a list by Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) number of all EHSs used, produced, or stored at the facility.	144
B.2.0	Hazard Identification	144
	Provide the following information for each EHS above the TPQ at the facility.	144
B.2.1	Chemical Identity: Provide the proper chemical name, CAS number, and natural physical state of each EHS according to Appendix A.	144
B.2.2	Maximum Quantity on Site: Express in pounds the maximum quantity of each EHS the facility would have on-site at any given time	144
B.2.3	Amount in Largest Vessel or Interconnected Vessels: Express in pounds the amount of each EHS stored in the largest vessel or interconnected vessels.	144

B.2.4	Type and Design of Chemical Container: Indicate the storage method for each EHA, i.e., drum, cylinder, and tank.	144
B.2.5	Nature of the Hazard: Describe the type of hazard most likely to accompany a spill or release of each EHS, i.e., fire, explosion.	144
B.3.0.	Vulnerability Analysis	144
B.3.1	The extent of the Vulnerable Zone: Identify the estimated geographical area that may be subject to concentrations of an airborne EHS at levels that could cause irreversible acute health effects or death to human populations within the area following an accidental release.	144
B.3.2	Critical Facilities: List facilities within the vulnerable zone that are essential to emergency response or house special needs populations, i.e., schools, public safety facilities, hospitals, etc., and their maximum expected occupancy.	144
B.3.3	Estimated Exposed Population: Provide an estimate of the total population within the vulnerable zone that would be affected in a worst-case release.	144
B.4.0.	Risk Analysis	144
B.4.1	Probability of Release: Rate the probability of release as Low, Moderate, or High based on observations at the facility. Considerations should include the history of previous incidents, current conditions, and controls at the facility.	144
B.4.2	The severity of Consequences of Human Injury: Rate the severity of consequences if an actual release were to occur. Indicate the number of possible injuries and deaths and the associated high-risk groups.	144
B.4.3	The severity of Consequences of Damage to Property: Describe the potential damage to the facility, nearby buildings, and infrastructure if an actual release occurs.	144
B.4.4	The severity of Consequences of Environmental Exposure: Describe the potential damage to the surrounding environmentally sensitive areas, natural habitat, and wildlife if an actual release were to occur.	144
B.4.5	Historical Accident Record: Describe any past releases or incidents at the facility.	144

ARTICLE V. RECORD OF REVISIONS

TABLE 17: RECORD OF REVISION

REVISION NUMBER	DATE OF REVISION	REVISION MADE BY
1	6/1992	John Gibbons
2	6/1994	John Gibbons
3	6/1995	John Gibbons
4	5/1996	John Gibbons
5	6/1998	John Gibbons
6	5/1999	John Gibbons
7	5/2000	John Gibbons
8	5/2001	John Gibbons
9	5/2002	John Gibbons
10	5/2003	John Gibbons
11	5/2004	John Gibbons
12	6/2006	John Gibbons
13	6/2007	John Gibbons
14	6/2008	John Gibbons
15	7/2009	John Gibbons
16	5/2010	John Gibbons
17	5/2011	John Gibbons
18	6/2012	John Gibbons
19	5/2013	John Gibbons
20	6/2014	John Gibbons
21	5/2015	Nichole Gwinnett
22	4/26/2016	Nichole Gwinnett
23	6/22/2017	Nichole Gwinnett
24	5/24/2018	Sean McCabe

25	5/23/2019	C.J. Kammerer
26	5/28/2020	C.J. Kammerer
27	5/27/2021	Katelyn Kubasik
28	5/26/2022	Amelia Williams
29	5/25/2023	Charity Franks
30	5/23/2024	Charity Franks
31	5/21/2025	Asmaa Odeh
32	5/28/2026	Asmaa Odeh
33	5/2027	
34	5/2028	
35	5/2029	
36	5/2030	
37	5/2031	

2026 Change Log

- Cover page, TOC, Resolution: rolled forward from 2025 to 2026 (Resolution 2026-01).
- Record of Revisions (Table 17): Row 32 (May 2026) added with name of revising staff.

ARTICLE VI. DEFINITIONS

TABLE 18: DEFINITIONS

Word	Definitions
Acute	Severe but of short duration. Acute health effects are those that occur immediately after exposure to hazardous chemicals.
Ambient	Surrounding. Ambient temperatures are temperatures of the surrounding area (e.g., air or water).
County Designations	The State has assigned each county an identification number. The text will refer to these numbers periodically. The counties and assigned numbers are: Charlotte-8; Collier-11; Glades-22; Hendry-26; Lee-36; Sarasota-58
Director, Department of Emergency Management	Synonymous with Civil Defense Director.
Disposal	The removal of waste material to a site or facility specifically designed and permitted to receive such wastes.
Drill	A supervised instruction period aimed at developing, testing, and monitoring technical skills necessary to perform emergency response operations.
Exercise	A simulated accident or release set up to test emergency response methods and for use as a training tool.
Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs)	A list of chemicals identified by EPA based on toxicity and listed under Title III of SARA.
Facility	Defined for Section 302 of Title III of SARA as all buildings, equipment, structures, and other stationary items which are located on a single site or contiguous or adjacent sites and which are owned or operated by the same person (or by any person which controls, is controlled by, or under common control with, such person). For purposes of emergency release notification, the term includes motor vehicles, rolling stock, and aircraft.
Facility Emergency Coordinator	Facility representative for each facility with an extremely hazardous substance (EHS) in quantity exceeding its threshold planning quantity (TPQ), who participates in the emergency planning process.
Full Emergency Condition	An incident involving a severe hazard or large area that poses an extreme threat to life and/or property and will probably require a large-scale evacuation or an incident requiring the expertise or resources of the county, State, Federal, or private agencies.
Hazardous Material	Any substance or material in a quantity or form which may be harmful to humans, animals, crops, water systems, or other elements of the environment if accidentally released. Hazardous materials include explosives, gases (compressed, liquefied, or dissolved), flammable and combustible liquids, flammable solids or substances, oxidizing

	substances, poisonous and infectious substances, radioactive materials, and corrosives.
Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH)	The maximum level to which a healthy worker can be exposed for 30 minutes and escape without suffering irreversible health effects or escape-impairing symptoms.
Incident Commander	The pre-designated local, State, or Federal official responsible for coordinating a hazardous materials response action, as outlined in the pertinent emergency response plan.
Level of Concern (LOC)	The concentration of an extremely hazardous substance (EHS) in the air above which there may be serious irreversible health effects or death as a result of a single exposure for a relatively short period of time.
Limited Emergency Condition	An incident involving a greater hazard or larger area which poses a potential threat to life and/or property and which may require a limited evacuation of the surrounding area.
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)	A committee appointed by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), as required by Title III of SARA, to formulate a comprehensive emergency plan for its region.
Safety Data Sheet (SDS)	A compilation of information required under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard on the identity of hazardous chemicals, health and physical hazards, exposure limits, and precautions. Section 311 of Title III of SARA requires facilities to submit SDSs under certain conditions.
National Response Center (NRC)	A communications center for activities related to response actions, it is located at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC. The NRC provides facilities for the National Response Team to use in coordinating a national response action when required and can be reached 24 hours a day for reporting actual or potential pollution incidents.
Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL)	Established by OSHA, the PEL may be expressed as a time-weighted average (TWA) limit or as a ceiling exposure limit that must never be exceeded instantaneously, even if the TWA exposure is not violated. The OSHA PELs have the force of law.
Potential Emergency Condition	An incident or threat of a release can be controlled by the first response agencies and does not require the evacuation of other than the involved structure or the immediate outdoor area. The incident is confined to a small area and does not pose an immediate threat to life or property.
The radius of the Vulnerable Zone	The maximum distance from the point of release of a hazardous substance at which the airborne concentration could reach the level of concern (LOC) under specified weather conditions.
Recommended Exposure Limit (REL)	The NIOSH REL is the highest allowable airborne concentration that is not expected to injure a worker. It may be expressed as a time-weighted average (TWA), usually for 8-hour work shifts.
Release	Any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment

	(including the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles) of any hazardous chemical, extremely hazardous substance, or toxic chemical.
Remedial Actions	Actions consistent with a permanent remedy are necessary to prevent or minimize the release of hazardous materials so that they do not spread or cause substantial danger to public health and safety or to the environment.
Reportable Quantity (RQ)	The quantity of a hazardous substance that triggers reporting under CERCLA; if a substance is released in a quantity that exceeds its RQ, the release must be reported to the National Response Center (NRC), as well as to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and the community emergency coordinator for areas likely to be affected by the release.
State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)	A commission appointed by each State governor according to the requirements of Title III of SARA; duties of the commission include designating emergency planning regions, appointing Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), supervising and coordinating the activities of planning committees, reviewing emergency plans, receiving chemical release notifications, and establishing procedures for receiving and processing requests from the public for information.
Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ)	A quantity designated for each chemical on the list of Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs) triggers notification by facilities of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) that such facilities are subject to emergency planning under Title III of SARA.
Vulnerable Zone (VZ)	An area over which the airborne concentration of a chemical involved in an accidental release could reach the Level of Concern (LOC).

ARTICLE VII. ACRONYMS

TABLE 19: ACRONYMS

Acronym	Acronym Name
AFFF	Aqueous Film Forming Foam
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
BCC	Board of County Commissioners
CAMEO	Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations
CAP	Civil Air Patrol
CAS	Chemical Abstract Service
CB	Citizens Band
Ceil	Ceiling
CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHEMTREC	Chemical Transportation Emergency Center
CHRIS	Chemical Hazard Response Information System
CPE	Chlorinated Polyethylene
CPG	Citizens Protection Guide
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DEM	Florida Division of Emergency Management
DEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
DHHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
DOT	(U.S. or Florida) Department of Transportation
EAS	Emergency Alert System
ECO	Emergency Coordinating Officer
EEGL	Emergency Exposure Guidance Limit
EHS	Extremely Hazardous Substance
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
EPI	Emergency Public Information
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GAR	Governor's Authorized Representative
HEAR	Hospital/Emergency Ambulance Radio
HMRT	Hazardous Materials Response Team
IDLH	Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee

LOC	Level of Concern
mg/m ³	Milligrams per Meter Cubed
MHz	Megahertz
MSA	Mine Safety Administration
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
NAWAS	National Warning System
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRC	National Response Center
NRT-1	Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide, National Response Team
OHM-TADS	Oil and Hazardous Materials Technical Assistance Data Systems
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
ppm	Parts per Million
PIO	Public Information Officer
PVC	Poly Vinyl Chloride
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services
REL	Recommended Exposure Limit
RIDS	Response Information Data Sheets
RRT	Regional Response Team
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
SPEGL	Short-term Public Emergency Guidance Level
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TOMES	Toxicology Occupational Medicine and Environmental Series
TPQ	Threshold Planning Quantity
TWA	Time Weighted Average (usually eight-hours)
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
VZ	Vulnerable Zone

ARTICLE VIII. BASE PLAN

Section 8.01 Plan Overview and Purpose

A. Responsibility for the Planning Effort

With the enactment of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986, Congress imposed upon state and local governments additional planning and preparedness requirements for emergencies involving the release of hazardous materials. In compliance with these requirements, the Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee (SWFL LEPC) has prepared a plan for responding to and recovering from releasing hazardous or toxic materials from those facilities subject to the Act's requirements.

The SWFL LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan is developed based on guidance criteria prepared by the National Response Team (Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide/NRT-1) and the State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials (Chapter 9G-7, Florida Administrative Code). This plan will provide local emergency response personnel with operational guidance to manage resources in response to hazardous materials emergencies effectively. This plan is based upon certain assumptions and the existence of specific resources and capabilities, which may be subject to frequent change. Because of this, some deviation in implementing operational concepts identified in this plan may be necessary to protect the health and safety of residents and transients near each facility. This plan addresses the range of potential emergencies and the appropriate measures to minimize exposure through inhalation, ingestion, or direct exposure.

Those portions of the plan addressing local emergency response capabilities were developed by each County Division of Emergency Management in a joint effort with the State Division of Emergency Management, with input from designated emergency contacts of those agencies with hazardous materials emergency responsibilities. Emergency management planners developed site-specific portions of the plan with input from affected facility owners and operators.

The plan will be reviewed and updated annually. Plan revisions will reflect changes in implementing procedures, improved emergency preparedness capabilities, deficiencies identified in drills and exercises, etc.

Copies of the plan and any subsequent revisions will be distributed to the Emergency Management Director for each of our six member counties for implementation of the plan. Each recipient will be responsible for maintaining a record of plan revisions. Each county is encouraged to use the information contained in this plan to develop their respective response plans and implementing procedures.

B. Emergency Planning Bases

The LEPCs in Florida follow the exact geographic boundaries of the Regional Planning Councils. The SWFL LEPC region includes Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Sarasota Counties and encompasses approximately 6,663 square miles, including more than 4,500 miles of shoreline. Charlotte, Collier, Lee, and Sarasota Counties border the Gulf of Mexico, while Glades and Hendry Counties border Lake Okeechobee. Southwest Florida's strong economy, desirable climate, and continued development have fueled significant population growth over the past several decades. As a result, the region's most densely populated areas—primarily along the coastlines and within urban centers—are among the most vulnerable to both natural and human-caused disasters. In addition to coastal hazards, the region also faces risks associated with extensive agricultural lands, inland flooding, and large areas of floodplain that are susceptible to severe weather events and environmental impacts.

Charlotte County is fifth in the region in land area, approximately 690 square miles of land and 126 square miles of inland surface water. The county is bordered on the west by the Gulf of Mexico; north by Sarasota County; east by Glades County; and on the south by Lee County.

Collier County is first in the region in land area, approximately 2,025 square miles of land and 112 square miles of inland surface water. The county is bordered on the north by Lee and Hendry Counties; south by Monroe County; and east by Broward and Dade Counties.

Glades County is fourth in the region in land area, approximately 762 square miles of land and 223 square miles of inland surface water. The county is bordered on the north by Highlands and Okeechobee Counties; east by Lake Okeechobee; west by Charlotte County; and south by Hendry County.

Hendry County is second in the region in land area, approximately 1,162 square miles and 27 square miles of water. The county is bordered on the north by Glades County; west by Lee County; east by Palm Beach County; and south by Collier County.

Lee County is third in the region in land area, approximately 803 square miles of land and 238 square miles of inland water. The county is bordered on the north by Charlotte County; east by Hendry and Collier Counties; south by Collier County; and west by the Gulf of Mexico. The county has two sets of island chains. The barrier islands chain stretches from north to south along the county's western boundary and includes Gasparilla, Cayo Costa, Upper Captiva, Sanibel Estero, Lover's Key, Big Hickory and Little Hickory. The interior island chain is located between the barrier islands and the mainland and includes Pine Island, Little Pine Island, Cabbage Key, Useppa Island and over 50 small islands.

Sarasota County is sixth in the region in land area, approximately 573 square miles of land and 31 square miles of inland water. The county is bordered south by Charlotte County; west by the Gulf of Mexico; north by Manatee County; and east by Manatee and DeSoto Counties. It has three

heavily populated barrier islands: Longboat Key, Lido Key, and Siesta Key; and two lesser populated barrier islands: Casey Key and Manasota Key.ⁱ

Regionally

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) region includes a mix of rapidly growing coastal urban centers and extensive rural and agricultural areas across Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Sarasota Counties. The region’s well-connected transportation network—anchored by Interstate 75, U.S. 41, U.S. 27, and other major state and local corridors—facilitates efficient north–south and east–west movement of goods, services, and hazardous materials. As a result, each county must maintain comprehensive planning and response capabilities to address the potential for hazardous materials incidents involving vehicle, rail, pipeline, marine, or aviation transport. In rural and agricultural areas in particular, spills or releases may go undetected for a period of time and may travel significant distances through drainage systems, waterways, or open land before impacting populations, livestock, or sensitive environmental resources, complicating early identification and response.

Hazardous materials emergencies in the SWFRPC region may range from minor incidents with no off-site impacts to major events resulting in the release of toxic or hazardous substances beyond facility boundaries. The primary objective of hazardous materials emergency planning and preparedness is to minimize exposure to incidents that could result in contamination levels exceeding the Levels of Concern (LOCs) established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Effective mitigation reduces risks to residents, critical infrastructure, agricultural operations, natural resources, and facilities that manufacture, store, transport, or use hazardous materials.

No single emergency scenario can represent all possible hazardous materials incidents in the region. Instead, planning must account for a wide range of variables, including release type, duration, environmental conditions, and transportation pathways. Accordingly, this plan establishes a flexible and scalable framework designed to support appropriate response actions for varying levels of threat across diverse geographic and operational conditions within the SWF LEPC region.

Demographics: The Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) estimates the 2025 population of the six-county region at 2,023,747, with an additional seasonal increase during the winter months. Lee County accounts for the largest share of the regional population with 839,223 residents, followed by Sarasota County with 487,640 residents and Collier County with 413,314 residents. All six counties experienced population growth between 2020 and 2025. Regionally, the population increased by 214,575 residents, representing an overall growth rate of 11.9 percent during the five-year period, exceeding the State of Florida’s overall growth rate of 8.55 percent. The following table displays growth rates by county.

TABLE 20: SOUTHWEST FLORIDA LEPC REGION POPULATION

County	2025 Population	2020 Population	Change 2020–2025	% Change
Charlotte	223,430	186,847	+36,583	19.6%
Collier	413,314	375,752	+37,562	10.0%
Glades	13,055	12,126	+929	7.7%
Hendry	47,085	39,619	+7,466	18.8%
Lee	839,223	760,822	+78,401	10.3%
Sarasota	487,640	434,006	+53,634	12.4%
Region Total	2,023,747	1,809,172	+214,575	11.9%
State of Florida	23,379,261	21,538,187	+1,841,074	8.55%

Source: BEBR Florida Estimates of Population 2025 (April 1, 2025 estimates) and U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Decennial Census.

The 2020 Decennial Census reports an average regional median age of approximately 48.9 years across the six counties (compared with 43.0 years statewide). Charlotte County has the oldest population in the region, with a median age of 60.1 years and 40.2 percent of residents aged 65 or older, followed closely by Sarasota County. In contrast, Hendry County has the youngest population, with a median age of 34.8 years and only 13.9 percent of residents aged 65 or older.

TABLE 21: 2020–2024 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY AGE SUMMARY

County	Median Age (years)	% Under 18	% Aged 65 and Over
Charlotte	60.1	13.80%	40.20%
Collier	53.4	17.40%	33.10%
Glades	36.9	23.50%	16.80%
Hendry	34.8	28.90%	13.90%
Lee	49.2	17.80%	29.40%
Sarasota	58.8	14.60%	38.70%
Region Avg. (median of medians)	48.9	—	—
State of Florida	43.0	19.5%	21.2%

Source: Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Decennial Census, as reported in Florida EDR County Area Profiles (Feb/May 2026).

The SWFRPC region’s population is predominantly non-Hispanic White, though demographic composition varies significantly by county. Hendry County has the largest Hispanic or Latino population at 48.9 percent, followed by Glades County at 30.8 percent and Collier County at 27.9 percent. Charlotte and Sarasota Counties have the lowest Hispanic or Latino populations at 6.3 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively. The region also includes notable non-Hispanic Black or African American populations, particularly in Hendry, Glades, and Lee Counties.

TABLE 22: 2020–2024 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY RACE SUMMARY

County	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	NH AIAN	NH Two+	Hispanic
Charlotte	84.20%	4.00%	1.80%	0.20%	3.50%	6.30%
Collier	61.70%	6.70%	1.90%	0.20%	2.80%	27.90%
Glades	52.80%	10.10%	0.70%	1.50%	4.10%	30.80%
Hendry	33.90%	12.80%	0.80%	0.40%	3.20%	48.90%
Lee	67.90%	8.30%	2.00%	0.20%	3.80%	17.80%
Sarasota	81.00%	4.70%	1.70%	0.20%	3.10%	9.30%
State of Florida	51.5%	14.5%	2.9%	0.2%	3.7%	26.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Decennial Census, as reported in Florida EDR County Area Profiles (Feb/May 2026).

Housing: The 2020 Decennial Census recorded 1,006,346 housing units in the six-county region. The majority of the region's housing units are located in Lee County (40.9 percent) and Sarasota County (25.5 percent), followed by Collier (18.5 percent), Charlotte (12.9 percent), Hendry (1.6 percent), and Glades (0.5 percent). Vacancy rates vary significantly across the region, ranging from 16.3 percent in Hendry County to 26.2 percent in Charlotte County. Collier, Glades, Lee, and Sarasota Counties also exhibit relatively high vacancy rates—ranging from 22.2 percent to 25.4 percent—reflecting the region’s substantial seasonal and vacation housing stock, particularly in coastal communities. Overall, the region’s housing vacancy rate of 23.4 percent is substantially higher than the statewide rate of 13.5 percent, underscoring the influence of seasonal residency patterns and tourism-driven housing demand across Southwest Florida.

TABLE 23: 2020–2024 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY HOUSING SUMMARY

County	Total Housing Units (2020)	Occupied Units (2020)	% Vacant (2020)
Charlotte	129,876	95,887	26.20%
Collier	185,751	139,220	25.10%
Glades	5,373	4,006	25.40%
Hendry	16,615	13,913	16.30%
Lee	412,002	320,577	22.20%
Sarasota	256,729	196,867	23.30%
Region Total	1,006,346	770,470	23.40%
State of Florida	9,865,350	8,529,067	13.5%

Sources: Housing unit counts and occupancy are from the 2020 Decennial Census as reported in the Florida EDR County Area Profiles.

Mobile homes are a significant housing type across the SWFRPC region. Based on the 2020 Decennial Census, the region contains 1,006,346 total housing units, with the largest concentrations in Lee County (412,002 units) and Sarasota County (256,729 units), followed by Collier, Charlotte, Hendry, and Glades Counties. Mobile homes are more prevalent in rural and

lower-density areas of the region and are often used as an affordable housing option. While they provide important housing accessibility, they typically do not appreciate in value and are highly vulnerable to severe weather events, particularly hurricanes and tornadoes.

TABLE 24: 2020–2024 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY MOBILE HOMES SUMMARY

County	Total Housing Units
Charlotte	129,876
Collier	185,751
Glades	5,373
Hendry	16,615
Lee	412,002
Sarasota	256,729
State of Florida	9,865,350

The average median household income in the SWFRPC region is approximately \$68,865, compared with \$74,568 for the State of Florida. Collier County has the highest median household income in the region at \$85,173, followed by Sarasota County at \$76,889 and Lee County at \$71,236. Glades County has the lowest median household income at \$44,968 and also the highest poverty rate in the region at 18.7 percent. The regional poverty rate is approximately 11.3 percent, slightly below the statewide rate of 12.1 percent.

TABLE 25: AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY INCOME SUMMARY

County	Median Household Income	Median Family Income	% All Ages in Poverty
Charlotte	\$64,812	\$81,205	11.90%
Collier	\$85,173	\$104,692	9.30%
Glades	\$44,968	\$58,421	18.70%
Hendry	\$50,114	\$63,587	16.90%
Lee	\$71,236	\$88,904	11.40%
Sarasota	\$76,889	\$99,142	9.60%
Regional Avg.	\$68,865	\$82,659	11.30%
State of Florida	\$74,568	\$89,891	12.10%

Water: As the use of conservation techniques and water recycling become more prevalent among various sectors of the population, the complexity of new technology will necessitate clean unpolluted water for drinking, recreation, commercial and industrial uses. Assessing environmental releases will probably become more cumbersome as the increasing need for water resources become more obvious. Equally important will be a greater need for LEPC's of the State to play a more vital role of protecting the water resources from hazardous contamination, as water is the most elemental resource upon which the economic and urban structure of the area is based. Underlying this section of the plan is the functioning rivers, streams, watersheds and runoff areas of the region and their importance to the region. Increase

growth will obviously dictate a greater need for services and controlled development. A significant amount of rain form creeks, rivers and lakes.

The major water bodies formed by this rainfall in Southwest Florida include part of Lake Okeechobee and three major river basins: the Caloosahatchee, Myakka and Peace. The Caloosahatchee River, which originates at Lake Okeechobee, is the only major river located entirely within the Region. The Myakka and Peace Rivers originate in Central Florida. Additionally, the wetland systems associated with these rivers, particularly the Peace and Myakka Rivers, are believed to filter runoff before it enters the systems. The three major natural springs known to exist in the region are found in Sarasota County. Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs are the largest, with surface diameters of 250 feet and depths which exceed 200 feet.ⁱⁱ Located within two miles of each other and approximately thirteen miles south and east of Venice, both springs are also archaeological sites.

Lake Okeechobee is the second largest freshwater body located entirely within the boundaries of the United States. Compared to Lake Okeechobee, the remainder of the Region's major lakes appear to be small. Lake Trafford, the Region's second largest lake, has a drainage area of approximately thirty square miles and an average surface area of 2.3 square miles.ⁱⁱⁱ When water elevation in Lake Trafford exceeds twenty-one feet, water overflows into Corkscrew Swamp. Many smaller lakes are fed by or feed the shallow aquifers. They can vary greatly in surface area depending upon the season. Additionally, many man-made lakes created from abandoned pit-mines serve as recreational areas for the Region's residents.

Climate: Average annual temperatures range from 65.4°F in to 84.8°F. The average monthly high peaks at 92°F in June, July, and August. The average monthly low is 54°F in January. Freezes are not common in the region, although "jacket weather" does occur periodically during the fall and winter months. Patterns of precipitation in Southwest Florida exhibit strong seasonal variations. Specifically, the region enjoys a rainy season from June through September (averaging 9.4 inches per month), and a characteristic dry season from October through May (2.3 inches per month). Southwest Florida has been identified by the National Weather Service as one of the most hurricane-vulnerable areas of the United States. As such, the potential for large-scale loss of life and property during a hurricane is great. No specific emergency sequence can be isolated as the model for which to plan because each emergency could have different consequences, both in nature and degree. As an alternative to defining a specific emergency, the plan identifies various parameters for planning which are based upon knowledge of the possible consequences, timing and release characteristics of a spectrum of emergencies. This plan will establish the appropriate response for each level of threat.

Transportation: The Southwest Florida region relies on an interconnected transportation network of highways, rail corridors, waterways, bridges, and airports that support daily mobility, commerce, tourism, and emergency response. Major north-south corridors including Interstate 75, U.S. 41, and U.S. 27 provide regional connectivity across Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Sarasota Counties, while state and county roads such as SR 29, SR 31, SR 80, SR 82, CR 74, and CR 776 provide east-west access and serve coastal and inland communities. Several counties, particularly Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee, have limited coastal evacuation routes and numerous drawbridges that may affect evacuation and emergency response times during storm events.

Rail infrastructure throughout the region primarily supports freight movement and limited passenger or tourist service. Seminole Gulf Railway serves Charlotte, Lee, and Sarasota Counties, while South Central Florida Express operates through Glades and Hendry Counties. Rail lines parallel many major transportation corridors and carry commodities including agricultural products, aggregates, fuel, fertilizer, and other industrial materials. The close proximity of rail and highway corridors to populated areas increases vulnerability to transportation-related hazardous materials incidents.

Regional aviation facilities include Southwest Florida International Airport, Page Field, Punta Gorda Airport, Naples Municipal Airport, Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, and several smaller municipal and private airfields that support commercial, general aviation, agricultural, emergency, and training operations. Water transportation assets include the Intracoastal Waterway, the Okeechobee Waterway, the Caloosahatchee River, and numerous marina facilities that support navigation and recreation throughout the region. Coastal barrier islands and beach communities rely heavily on bridges and causeways for access.

Transportation corridors throughout the region also serve as major routes for the movement of hazardous materials by highway, rail, air, pipeline, and water. Multiple counties contain facilities that produce, store, or use hazardous substances, creating potential risks to nearby populations and critical infrastructure during accidental releases or disaster events. The transportation system therefore plays a critical role in regional emergency management, evacuation planning, and disaster response coordination.

Communications: Communications infrastructure throughout the SWFL LEPC region includes commercial broadcast television and radio stations serving the Fort Myers–Naples, Sarasota–Bradenton, and adjacent media markets; regional and local newspapers; and multiple cable, fiber-optic, satellite, and wireless broadband providers. Major telecommunications providers operating within the region include Comcast/Xfinity, CenturyLink/Lumen, Frontier, AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile, and Spectrum, among others. Broadband access is generally available across the region, although service reliability, speed, and resiliency may vary in rural and inland portions of Glades, Hendry, eastern Collier, and eastern Charlotte Counties. Public emergency communications are supported through the FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), including the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system and the Emergency Alert System (EAS), as well as county-level emergency notification platforms operated by Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Sarasota Counties. These systems provide critical public information before, during, and after disasters and support regional evacuation, sheltering, and emergency response operations.

Utilities: Utilities within the region are provided through a combination of investor-owned utilities, electric cooperatives, and municipal systems. Electric services are primarily supplied by Florida Power & Light (FPL), Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC), and other local providers, while natural gas service is provided by TECO Peoples Gas, Florida Public Utilities, and regional distribution systems. The region’s utility infrastructure includes major transmission lines, substations, fuel terminals, pipelines, and petroleum distribution networks that support residential, commercial, agricultural, and industrial activities. Propane and liquefied gas facilities are located throughout the region, and transportation corridors, ports, and airports play an important role in fuel distribution and emergency logistics. Utility systems remain vulnerable to hurricanes, flooding, storm surge, and other hazards that can disrupt power, fuel supply, and

critical services. Regional coordination among utility providers and emergency management agencies is essential to support infrastructure resilience and disaster recovery.

C. Hazards Analysis

Comprehensive planning depends upon a clear understanding of what hazards exist and what risks they pose for the community. To gain this understanding, the SWFL LEPC will conduct site-specific hazard analyses for airborne releases of extremely hazardous substances (EHSs) as required by SARA/EPCRA. Hazard analysis is the basis for developing and revising the mandatory emergency response plans under SARA/EPCRA.

The hazards analysis included in this plan section is designed to consider all potential acute health hazards within SWFL LEPC and identify which hazards are of high priority. It should be addressed in the emergency response planning process. Numerous facilities in SWFL LEPC are subject to the requirements of SARA/EPCRA; however, only a limited number have notified the State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials (SERC) following the provisions of SARA/EPCRA. The hazards analysis will be updated as additional existing facilities come into compliance and new facilities subject to the requirements of SARA/EPCRA are constructed.

The hazards analysis for SWFL LEPC consists of the following three components:

1. **Hazards Identification** - provides specific information on situations that have the potential for causing injury to life or damage to property. Hazards identification includes information about:
 - a. Chemical identities;
 - b. The location of facilities that use produce, process, or store hazardous materials;
 - c. The type and design of chemical container or vessel;
 - d. The quantity of material that could be involved in an airborne release; and
 - e. The nature of the hazard (e.g., airborne toxic vapors or mists, which are the primary focus of this guide; also, other hazards such as fire, explosion, large quantities stored or processed, and handling conditions) is most likely to accompany hazardous materials spills or releases.

2. **Vulnerability Analysis** - identifies areas in the community that may be affected or exposed, individuals in the community who may be subject to injury or death from certain specific hazardous materials, and what facilities, property, or environment may be susceptible to damage should a hazardous materials release occur. A comprehensive vulnerability analysis provides information on the following:

- a. The extent of the vulnerable zones (i.e., an estimation of the area that may be affected in a significant way as a result of a spill or release of a known quantity of a specific chemical under defined conditions);
 - b. The population, in terms of numbers, density, and types of individuals that could be within a vulnerable zone;
 - c. The private and public property that may be damaged, including essential support systems and transportation facilities and corridors; and
 - d. The environment that may be affected, and the impact of a release on sensitive natural areas and endangered species.
3. **Risk Analysis** - is an assessment by the community of the likelihood (probability) of an accidental release of a hazardous material and the actual consequences that might occur based on the estimated vulnerable zones. The risk analysis is a judgment of the probability and severity of consequences based on the history of previous incidents, local experience, and the best available current technological information. It provides an estimation of the following:
- a. The likelihood (probability) of an accidental release based on the history of current conditions and controls at the facility, consideration of any unusual environmental conditions, or the possibility of simultaneous emergency incidents;
 - b. The severity of consequences of a human injury that may occur, the number of possible injuries and deaths, and the associated high-risk groups;
 - c. The severity of consequences on critical facilities;
 - d. The severity of consequences of damage to property; and
 - e. The severity of consequences of damage to the environment.

D. Assumptions

The reporting facilities will identify extremely hazardous substances present in quantities above their threshold planning quantities.

Estimates of vulnerable zones are based upon the following credible "worst case" assumptions:

1. Quantity released: the maximum quantity that could be released from the largest vessel or interconnected vessels;
2. b. Rate of release to air: the total quantity of gas, solid as a powder, or solid in solution is assumed to be released in 10 minutes; for liquids and molten solids, the rate is based on the rate of evaporation (rate of volatilization);

3. Temperature: not applicable to gases or solids as powders or in solution; for liquids, dependent on whether they are used at ambient temperature or near their boiling points; for molten solids, at their melting point;
4. Meteorological conditions: wind speed of 1.5 meters per second (3.4 miles per hour) at 80 degrees F, and "F" atmospheric stability.
5. Topographic conditions: flat, level, unobstructed terrain; use of the dispersion model for rural areas; and
6. Level of concern (LOC): one-tenth of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH) "Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health" level (IDLH).

The chemical facility owners and operators will notify state and local governments of an emergency in sufficient time to implement warning and protective actions.

The chemical facility owners and operators will provide sufficient funding to state and local governments to assure compliance with federal, state, and local chemical emergency preparedness requirements.

E. Supporting Plans

The following federal, state, local, and facility emergency plans are available to support the implementation of the SWFL LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan:

- Charlotte County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials
- Charlotte County/Punta Gorda Comprehensive Plan
- Collier County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials
- Emergency Response Guide (2020)
- Florida Coastal Pollutant Spill Plan
- Florida Fire Chief's Association Statewide Emergency Response Plan (July 2015)
- Florida Mutual-Aid Plan/Agreement
- Florida State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) for Hazardous Materials – Guidelines for Hazardous Materials Training (2015)
- Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide (January 2011)
- FLAHR Typing Policies for Florida's Hazardous Materials Resources (2005)
- Glades County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials
- Hendry County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials
- Lee County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials
- National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
- Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials
- Southwest Florida Hurricane Evacuation Study Update
- Southwest Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan
- State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

F. Authorities and References

1. Legislation and Regulations

- a. Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, Title III of the Superfund Amendments and
- b. Reauthorization Act of 1986;
- c. State Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, Part Two, Florida Statutes;
- d. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act;
- e. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act;
- f. Resolutions from each Board of County Commissioners; and
- g. Executive Order 80-29, "Disaster Preparedness."

2. Mutual Aid Agreements

Each county has entered the State-wide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA) with the State. This agreement includes conditions, rules, and standards governing any mutual aid; provisions for immunity from liability, waiver of claims, and indemnification from third-party claims; notification of persons authorized to request or invoke mutual aid; compensation consideration; and procedures for the direction and control of personnel and units rendering assistance. An official copy of this mutual aid agreement is on file with the Clerk of each county.

3. General and Technical References

- a. Guide for All-Hazard Emergency Operations Planning, State and Local Guide (SLG) 101, Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- b. Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide (NRT-1A), National Response Team;
- c. Community Teamwork, U.S. Department of Transportation;
- d. Community Awareness and Emergency Response Program Handbook, Chemical Manufacturers Association;
- e. Site Emergency Response Planning, Chemical Manufacturers Association;
- f. Community Emergency Response Exercise Program, Chemical Manufacturers Association;
- g. CAMEO Chemicals Software Database
- h. Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG), 2024 edition, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA);

- i. Guidelines for the Selection of Chemical Protective Clothing, current edition, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH);
- j. Occupational Safety and Health Guidance Manual for Hazardous Waste Site Activities, Washington, D.C.: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 85-115, with subsequent NIOSH updates;
- k. NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards, Washington, D.C.: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, current online edition;
- l. Technical Guidance for Hazards Analysis – Emergency Planning for Extremely Hazardous Substances (the "Green Book"), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and U.S. Department of Transportation, 1987 (still the active EPA guidance for EHS hazard analysis; cite EPA Office of Emergency Management's Risk Management Program guidance for current refinements);
- m. PHMSA Pipeline Safety and Hazardous Materials Safety regulations, 49 CFR Parts 100–199
- n. EPA Risk Management Program rule, 40 CFR Part 68
- o. National Response Team, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide (NRT-1), 2001 Update, with subsequent NRT criteria revisions.

G. Hazards Analysis Summary

Hazardous Analysis for each county is electronically available by contacting the SWF LEPC office.

Section 8.02 Emergency Response Organizations and Responsibilities

A. General

This section identifies the state, county, federal, and private organizations that would participate in response to an emergency involving hazardous materials and describes the responsibilities of each group. Those individual officials responsible for coordinating the activities of the agencies listed below are responsible for assuring the continuity of resources to support emergency operations over a protracted period.

B. Local Government Organizations and Responsibilities

1. Chairperson, Board of County Commissioners

The Chairperson of each Board of County Commissioners is responsible for overall hazardous materials emergency response planning in his/her county. The Chairperson, through the Director of Emergency Management, shall initiate actions and provide direction and control at the local level, including consideration of in-place sheltering or evacuation as an option for the protection

of the public, and conduct emergency operations to respond to the effects of an emergency involving hazardous material.

The Chairperson is responsible for assuring the overall continuity of resources to ensure twenty-four-hour operations for a protracted period. If conditions warrant, the Board will declare a local state of emergency.

2. County Administrator and/or County Public Information Officer

These individuals may conduct news conferences and issue disaster preparedness news bulletins or other disaster preparedness public information statements.

3. Emergency Management Director

The Director is responsible for coordinating, developing, and maintaining procedures to use in the development of the local hazardous materials plan, which is a part of the CEMP. The Director will also maintain this plan with revisions to the CEMP.

The Director or his designee will assist in communications and other logistical support as requested.

To the public safety agencies involved in emergency operations in response to a hazardous materials release.

The Director is responsible for early warning and notification of the population affected by the release of hazardous materials. He is also responsible for the notification of the county EOC staff, activating the EOC, and notifying all local governmental and non-governmental agencies supporting emergency operations as appropriate to the severity of the incident.

The Director is responsible for developing and implementing a public education program to advise the public of the risks associated with an all-hazards environment. The Director is authorized to issue any public information statements during a disaster period necessary to implement any contingency plan previously approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Director is designated as each county's Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC). The Director will coordinate overall emergency operations, and support needs with the State Division of Emergency Management, state and federal support agencies, and the appropriate facility owner/operator.

4. Sheriff's Office and Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies

Responsibilities shared by the Sheriff's Office and Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies include:

- a. Determine, where possible, the occurrence of a hazardous materials release;

- b. Notify the fire department that has jurisdiction of the occurrence of a hazardous materials release and request that an appropriate response be initiated;
- c. Isolate and establish command over the area where evacuation, public safety, traffic control, and protection of property are of concern;
- d. Provision of traffic control along evacuation routes and crowd control at reception centers and shelters;
- e. Secure evacuation areas until residents are allowed to return to their homes; and
- f. Provide additional resources and support as necessary.

5. Fire and Rescue

Responsibilities shared by county and municipal fire departments include:

- a. Respond to, investigate, and assume direct control of the management of hazardous material incident scenes occurring within its jurisdiction using incident command procedures,
- b. Determine the type and nature of the hazardous material involved;
- c. Determine the necessity for an evacuation, issue evacuation orders when appropriate, and identify the vulnerable zone to be evacuated;
- d. Notify the emergency communication center, which will make proper notification to federal and state agencies as required by federal and state laws;
- e. Request assistance from appropriate federal and state agencies through the County Division of Emergency Management;
- f. Initiate requests for assistance from appropriate agencies necessary to neutralize and/or contain the hazardous materials involved;
- g. Give full cooperation to assisting agencies involved in determining action to be taken to contain the hazardous material and restore the area to normal; and
- h. Provide vehicle wash down and monitoring, when necessary, at prescribed locations and in a manner consistent with Florida Department of Environmental Protection and/or Health Department direction.

6. Public Health Agency

The County Health Departments are responsible for the following:

- a. Monitoring potential public health problems;

- b. Supervising local public health operations and coordinating all governmental and non-governmental relief agency resources involved in the prevention or control of emergency public
- c. health problems;
- d. Coordinating all health and medical services; and
- e. Informing the Florida Division of Emergency Management, through the emergency management director, of degraded public health conditions.
- f. IAW Florida Statute 381.0303, the County Health Departments are responsible for the appropriate staffing for special needs shelters.
- g. Please note that all county health department staff are the Florida Department of Health employees.

7. Public Works

The Public Works Departments will provide the following assistance:

- a. Assist local fire departments in assembling and disassembling wash-down stations and disposing of waste materials;
- b. Assist American Red Cross by providing garbage pickup and disposal for reception centers and shelters;
- c. Assist law enforcement agencies with evacuation operations by providing traffic control equipment and personnel; and
- d. Assist in containment and cleanup of spills by providing equipment and personnel as necessary.

8. School Board

The County School Boards will supervise temporary shelter operations that utilize school facilities and provide equipment for the preparation of food for evacuees in cooperation with the American Red Cross. The School Board will also assist in providing buses for evacuees needing transportation if requested by the director of the County Department of Emergency Management.

9. Transportation Authority

The Southwest Florida Urbanized Area's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) are countywide or multi-county agencies. Five MPOs are serving Southwest Florida.

Mandated by federal law to coordinate transportation planning and provide a forum for decisions concerning countywide transportation issues. The MPO maintains a "comprehensive,

cooperative, and continuing" transportation planning process with the Florida Department of Transportation. This planning process is commonly known as the Southwest Florida Regional Transportation Analysis and Long-Range Transportation Planning.

10. Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services will provide emergency medical transportation to persons in need of such services, give the evacuation and transfer of patients from nursing homes and hospitals in the affected areas, and assist in evacuating persons with special needs who cannot evacuate themselves.

11. Hospitals and Medical Facilities

The county hospitals and others in the surrounding area are available to the counties will accommodate, if evacuation is necessary, transfer patients from affected hospitals, critical nursing home patients requiring hospitalization, and accident victims injured during the evacuation operations.

12. Other County and Municipal Agencies

Other county and municipal agencies may be required to provide equipment, personnel, and services to support emergency operations. Transportation needs may also be met by county means and mass transit.

C. State Government Organizations and Responsibilities

1. Governor

Under the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, the Governor is ultimately responsible for protecting the population of the State from the dangers created by emergencies that are beyond the capabilities of local governments or which are multi-jurisdictional. He will provide that protection by assigning appropriate state resources and agencies.

Any or all of the above responsibilities are implemented by:

- a. Providing direction and control should the emergency be beyond the capabilities of the local governments affected;
- b. Issuing necessary Executive Orders, proclamations, and regulations; and
- c. Ensuring that timely emergency response operations can be initiated.

The Governor will also request federal assistance upon determining that the State has insufficient technical and/or logistical resources to adequately cope with the off-site consequences of an emergency involving hazardous material.

2. Attorney General

The Attorney General will provide consultation to the Governor on legal matters concerning emergencies involving releasing hazardous materials.

3. Department of Environmental Protection (Lead Agency)

- a. Act as the technical advisory agent in identifying, containing, and removing hazardous materials threatening or affecting water or air quality, as authorized by Florida Statutes;
- b. Locate sites and establish acceptable procedures for the disposal of hazardous materials;
- c. Act as the primary operational agency in the containment and cleanup of inland hazardous materials spills. DEP would respond to incidents involving more than 5 gallons of hazardous materials other than petroleum products. For petroleum incidents, this amount would be 100 gallons;
- d. Act as the sole authority on the use of chemical dispersants in combating a hazardous materials incident. DEP prefers that releases be contained and cleaned up (or neutralized) rather than dispersed;
- e. Provide a coordinator to serve as Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) of the Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 when an incident requires a multi-agency response;
- f. Provide technical assistance and/or response to a hazardous materials incident. Service may include via telephone or on-site response, as warranted by conversations with the first responders;
- g. When pollutants, as defined in Section 376.031(7), Florida Statutes, are determined to be discharged into navigable waters within the geographic responsibility of the United States Coast Guard, the state response shall be as provided in the Florida Coastal Pollutant Spill Plan, as approved by the Governor and Cabinet, under Sections 376.05 and 376.07, Florida Statutes. Section 376.031(7) defines a pollutant as "oil of any kind and in any form, gasoline, pesticides, ammonia, chlorine, and derivatives thereof, excluding liquefied petroleum gas;"
- h. Provide traffic supervision and control for water transportation routes adversely affected by a hazardous materials incident; and
- i. Provide manpower and logistical support for areas, especially any state park or recreational area directly affected by a hazardous materials incident.

4. Florida Division of Emergency Management (Support Agency)

The Division coordinates the State's response to hazardous materials emergencies. The Department will also request and coordinate assistance from federal emergency response agencies as necessary. The Department will:

- a. Notify appropriate state, local and federal agencies of an emergency involving hazardous material;
- b. Coordinate federal, state, and local emergency response activities;
- c. Ascertain the requirements of state and local political subdivisions for supplies and equipment, and locate and provide needed supplies and equipment;
- d. Provide for activation of the State Emergency Operations Center, and provide personnel and equipment to operate emergency response facilities;
- e. Carry out the provisions of the State Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, as amended;
- f. Prepare the State of Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) through the Division of Emergency Management;
- g. Provide guidance and assistance in the preparation of local hazardous materials emergency response procedures; and
- h. Assist the local governments in providing public education and information regarding properly responding to a hazardous materials emergency.

5. Department of Transportation (Support Agency)

- a. Supplement activities between public and private agencies on matters relating to public transit;
- b. Provide public transportation services where emergency services are required;
- c. Support county highway/road departments in securing and installing barricades, signs, and other necessary equipment needed for traffic control;
- d. Coordinate traffic management activities in and around the affected areas;
- e. Coordinate movement of emergency resources to and from the designated area;
- f. Assist in containing and cleaning hazardous materials spills on a state-maintained street or highway. Provide site check and cleanup of a hazardous materials incident only after those responsible for an initial incident have removed the overwhelming majority of waste. Repair highway and rights-of-way as necessary for public safety;

- g. Provide inspection of the condition of railroad tracks and all supportive, relative equipment, including locomotives and other rolling stock of any railroad operated within the state, and provide personnel to determine the cause of a railroad accident; and
- h. Provide law enforcement and investigative response limited to awareness level for transportation-related hazardous materials incidents subject to federal transportation regulations.
- i. Conduct motor carrier accident investigations.
- j. Suspend tolls on State highways to facilitate traffic movement upon issuance of an executive order by the Governor.
- k. Determine load variances on State roads to assist with the movement of heavy equipment during an oil spill event.
- l. Provide vehicles and drivers for use in transporting pollutants from the scene of discharge to staging or disposal sites upon issuance of an executive order by the Governor.

6. Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (Support Agency)

- a. Assist other law enforcement agencies in the movement of traffic during an emergency involving hazardous material;
- b. Assist other law enforcement agencies in the state to police the affected area;
- c. Provide security and assist in staffing roadblocks to support county personnel who are involved in emergency response operations;
- d. Provide communications assistance as required; and
- e. Upon request, Florida Highway Patrol will assist in the transportation of samples for analysis when immediate analysis is necessary.

7. Florida Department of Health (Support Agency)

- a. Coordinate the sheltering of persons affected by a hazardous materials incident;
- b. Assist in the identification of possible health hazards related to hazardous materials incidents and take corrective action as needed;
- c. Assist in solving problems affecting drinking water or food supplies contaminated by hazardous materials;
- d. Respond to all emergencies associated with radioactive materials or ionizing radiation;

- e. Assist in the coordination of ambulance deployment;
- f. Assist in the coordination for treatment of mass casualties;
- g. Coordinate the deployment of Strategic National Stockpile resources;
- h. Coordinate for and participate in the deployment of Environmental Health or Epidemiological Strike Teams as required; and
- i. Coordinate for and participate in the deployment of Behavioral Health Strike Teams.

8. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Support Agency)

- a. Assist in the identification, containment, and disposal of pesticides and insecticides;
- b. Assist in the identification of possible health hazards related to a hazardous materials incident, which may affect a food commodity or the production of that food commodity; and
- c. Provide support for law enforcement activities.

9. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Support Agency)

- a. Assess damage to fish and wildlife populations and habitat resulting from a hazardous materials incident;
- b. Coordinate with other appropriate federal and state authorities any action deemed necessary or required for the protection of endangered or threatened species;
- c. Provide support for law enforcement and search and rescue operations;
- d. Assist other agencies with manpower and logistical support for obtaining samples, controlling traffic, and pursuing criminal investigations; and
- e. Maintain a toll-free number for notification of incidents that may threaten fish and/or wildlife habitat (1-800-282-8002).

10. Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services

Responsible for the regulation of Liquid Propane gas.

11. Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 Hazardous Materials

The State's ESF #10 has been formed to provide a mechanism for the coordinated response by state agencies to hazardous materials emergencies that are beyond the capability of local governments. ESF #10 also provides technical assistance and information for incidents that require state or federal involvement. The ECO of ESF #10 shall serve as the focal point for

coordinating state response and support to local governments. Primary and Support Agencies in this ESF include those state agencies whose responsibilities are outlined in this section.

D. Federal Government Organizations and Responsibilities

1. U.S. Coast Guard

- a. Provide for the cleanup and decontamination of any hazardous substance on the state's coastline and on navigable waterways within the state; and
- b. Operates the National Response Center (NRC) on a twenty-four-hour-per-day basis.

2. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Provide for the cleanup and decontamination of any hazardous substance that can potentially affect public health, safety, and the environment.

3. U.S. Department of Transportation

Regulates the transportation of hazardous materials.

4. Regional Response Team (RRT)

The RRT provides a coordinated federal response capability at the scene of a hazardous materials incident that poses a threat to the public health and welfare, the navigable waters of the United States, adjoining shorelines, or into or upon waters of the contiguous zones, and all inland waters.

5. National Response Team (NRT)

The National Response Team comprises representatives from 14 federal agencies with emergency planning and response capabilities. The NRT provides a coordinated federal response capability to a hazardous materials incident that exceeds the capability of the RRT.

E. Facility Owners/Operators

1. Designate a representative/coordinator to participate in the emergency planning process as a facility emergency coordinator and assist local emergency management directors and LEPCs in the preparation and maintenance of emergency response plans for hazardous materials present at their facility(s);
2. Notify the State Emergency Response Commission is subject to the requirements of SARA/EPCRA;

3. Submit Safety Data Sheets and emergency inventory forms to the State Emergency Response Commission, LEPCs, and local fire departments;
4. Submit toxic chemical release forms to the State Emergency Response Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency for each toxic chemical defined in Section 313 of SARA/EPCRA that was manufactured, processed, or otherwise used in quantities exceeding the established threshold amount during the preceding calendar year;
5. Provide immediate notification to the local fire departments, State Emergency Response Commission, and LEPC of the emergency release of a listed hazardous substance over the reportable quantity for that substance; and
6. After release, provide written follow-up emergency notice to the State Commission and the LEPCs.

F. Volunteer Organizations

1. American Red Cross

The American Red Cross will provide reception and care for evacuees. This service will include registration of evacuees, provision of shelter managers, and special assistance to evacuees. Additional shelter space may have to be established by the American Red Cross should the relocation period last longer than anticipated. In this event, the American Red Cross will coordinate the mobilization and relocation of evacuees through the County Emergency Operations Center.

2. Emergency Alert System (EAS) Stations

Provide early warning to the public and area broadcasting stations via EAS tone alert systems.

3. Florida Wing, Civil Air Patrol

The Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol (CAP) assists the state and its political subdivisions in responding to emergencies. The CAP can provide the following assistance:

- a. Aerial control, direction, and surveillance of surface traffic;
- b. Light transport flights for emergency movement of personnel and supplies;
- c. Aerial photographic and reconnaissance flights;
- d. Search and rescue (including aircraft ramp checks for mission craft and aerial and ground search activities);
- e. Radio communications; and
- f. Other activities as approved by the Wing Commander, CAP, and Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management.

4. Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)

The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service will lend communications support to local response agencies during emergencies.

5. Salvation Army

- a. In coordination with the Red Cross, the Salvation Army may provide mobile canteen service and emergency feeding to government workers, volunteers, and disaster victims.
- b. The Salvation Army may distribute food, clothing, and other supplies following a local disaster or during recovery operations.
- c. The Salvation Army, when available, should establish liaison with the EOC to ensure full coordination of relief efforts.

Section 8.03 Direction and Control

A. General

This section describes coordinating and managing emergency response operations between local, state, and federal agencies.

B. Local Government Role

All disasters are considered “local” even when assistance from state and federal resources is requested and provided. Therefore, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners is responsible to the county regardless of who provides support in response to a disaster. To streamline the command and control, it is strongly recommended that the Chair provide delegation of authority to the Incident Commander with specifics concerning incident response, including but not limited to cost and legal constraints and other policy considerations.

Local governments have the primary role of preventing unnecessary hazards to the general public from an emergency involving releasing hazardous materials. When the accidental release of hazardous materials occurs, the effects of which are strictly confined to the premises of private industry in the region, governmental response agency assistance should be on a cooperative basis only. Care must be exercised so that a local government is not unnecessarily liable for damages because actions were forced upon a facility operator incorrectly. However, when there is any possible off-site threat to the general public or the environment, a public safety agency must assert its authority and take decisive charge of the scene.

Initial response to hazardous materials accidents will be the responsibility of the law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services agencies within the jurisdiction where the accident occurred. In the county's unincorporated areas, the initial response will be the responsibility of the sheriff's office and/or Fire/Rescue.

The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Chairman will coordinate and direct emergency response through emergency management organizations and other county emergency response agencies. The Community Emergency Coordinator will coordinate overall emergency response activities and operations until increased state assistance is deemed necessary. Direction and control will be exercised through the County EOC.

1. On-Scene Command

The Chairman of the BCC may designate the senior law.

Enforcement of fire officials at the site of the accident as the county's incident commander. In this capacity, the incident commander would be responsible for:

- a. The direction of local resource deployment and local emergency response activities;
- b. Keeping county officials apprised of on-scene activities;
- c. Implementing actions necessary to protect public health and safety; and
- d. Coordination of clean-up and recovery operations.

2. Emergency Operations Center

The county emergency management director may activate the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) upon notification of a release of hazardous materials.

Appropriate response and support personnel would be called to the EOC to coordinate the actions of their respective agencies and organizations. Upon activation, the Chairman of the BCC from the EOC would exercise direction and control of county emergency operations. Once fully activated, the EOC will continue to function continuously until the emergency is over and its effects can be more effectively controlled through normal governmental channels.

C. State Government Role

The role of state government in response to a hazardous materials emergency is to support local government operations unless the scope of the emergency warrants increased state action. The Division of Emergency Management from the State Emergency Operations Center coordinates the state government support.

Upon receipt of notification from the county that a release of hazardous materials has occurred, the Department of Environmental Protection staff may be dispatched to the scene to guide local

emergency operations personnel to mitigate environmental damage. In a major hazardous materials accident, all or a portion of the State Emergency Operations Center and ESF #10 may be activated to coordinate state response and support to the county.

Increased state actions may be warranted for emergencies involving multi-jurisdictional hazards, when local governments believe the emergency is beyond the capabilities of local resources, or when the Governor determines there is an overriding concern for the public's safety. For these situations, the Governor can designate the primary responsibility for emergency response to the state by issuing an Executive Order under Section 252.36, Florida Statutes. The issuance of the Executive Order will be coordinated with local governments. Upon issuance of an Executive Order, the local government will continue to coordinate the emergency response operations of the local agencies.

As federal on-scene coordinator becomes part of the unified command once federal agencies become involved in the incident.

D. Federal Government Role

The federal government's role in response to an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials is to support local and state emergency operations. Activation of the Federal Regional Response Team (RRT) provides access to federal resources unavailable at the state and local levels. An on-scene coordinator will be designated to coordinate federal resources and support.

Section 8.04 Notification and Activation

A. General

This section outlines responsibilities and procedures for the notification of appropriate emergency response organizations; alerting key local, state, and federal emergency response personnel; and providing warnings and instructions to the general public.

B. Warning Points

In an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials, a county warning point will be provided for twenty-four hours. The County EOC will normally serve as the County Warning Point during normal business hours. This practice and the hours it is normally manned may vary from county to county. Each County Warning Point is equipped with proper communication equipment to receive notification of hazardous materials emergencies and follow up with rapid and effective alerting of key local and state emergency response personnel. The telephone numbers for the county warning points are as follows:

TABLE 26: COUNTY WARNING POINTS

County	Agency	Contact #
Lee	Lee County Sheriff's Office, Cape Coral Police Department, Fort Myers Police Department, Sanibel Police Department	Enhanced 911
Sarasota	Sarasota County Sheriff's Department	911
Hendry	Hendry County Sheriff's Department	911
Charlotte	Charlotte County Sheriff's Department	911
Collier	Collier County Sheriff's Department	911
Glades	Glades County Sheriff's Department	911

The Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) is the designated State Watch Point in the event of a hazardous materials incident. As such, the DEM is responsible for receiving an emergency notification from the county warning point and alerting key state and federal emergency response personnel. The DEM is also responsible for assisting LEPCs in providing warnings and instructions to the general public.

A Duty Officer is on duty at the State Watch Office in Tallahassee on a twenty-four-hour per day. The twenty-four-hour telephone number for the State Watch Office is (850) 815-4001 or 1 (800) 320-0519. Facility operators are responsible for notifying The National Response Center (NRC).

The National Response Center (NRC) is the national warning and communications center for emergencies involving the release of hazardous materials. Located at U.S. Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, D.C., the NRC receives and relays notices of discharges and releases to the appropriate on-scene commander and provides facilities for the National Response Team to coordinate a national response action when required. A twenty-four-hour telephone number for the NRC is (800) 424-8802.

C. Notification and Activation

Facility owners or operators are required to notify immediately local, state (and in some cases federal) authorities following the release of a listed extremely hazardous substance in an amount that exceeds the reportable quantity for that particular substance. The responsibility of the owner/operator of the facility from which hazardous materials have been released is to notify the state warning point that a release has occurred. Specific information to be included in the facility's initial and follow-up messages is identified in Figure 1. If the State Watch Office Point receives notification of a release from a source other than the county EOC, the State Watch Office will immediately notify the county EOC.

Following a reportable release, the facility owner or operator must:

- Contact 911
- Contact the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

- Contact the National Response Center (NRC) if a substance is reportable under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act 1980 (CERCLA).

Upon receipt of notification of an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials, the county warning point will try to verify the information in the initial report. Local response organizations will be notified of the emergency by the county warning point at the direction of the County Warning Officer. The Warning Officer, who in most cases will be represented by the Director of Emergency Management, will be in charge of all facilities and personnel with assigned duties in the warning process. The names and telephone numbers of both the primary and alternate contact for each emergency response organization identified in Figures 2 through 6 will be maintained by each County Department of Emergency Management.

These names and telephone numbers will be verified and updated continuously to ensure accurate and timely notification. The notification message will specify that the organization stands by or start to mobilize emergency response personnel.

Emergency response personnel will be called to duty using established county notification procedures. Support agencies will be alerted by the agency they are supporting. Emergency response personnel will report to their agency response center for specialized equipment and further instructions if mobilization is required.

The sequences for notification and activation of emergency response personnel for each threat level are discussed below. Details of notification and activation are contained in county implementing procedures.

1. Potential Emergency Conditions

a. Description

The first response agencies can control an incident or threat of a release and do not require evacuation other than the involved structure or the immediate outdoor area. The incident is confined to a small area and does not pose an immediate threat to life or property.

b. Notification

Upon receipt of notification of a potential emergency condition from the facility owner or operator, the county emergency communicator will notify the following emergency personnel:

- County Emergency Management Director/Manager;
- County Sheriff and/or Municipal Police Departments (as appropriate);
- Chief, County Fire/Rescue and/or Municipal Fire Departments (as appropriate);

- Director, Emergency Medical Services (as appropriate); State Watch Office.

c. Activation

Activation of emergency response personnel beyond the first response agencies and partial EOC staff is not anticipated for this level of emergency. The county emergency management director will monitor the situation, coordinate local response activities, and be prepared to take further action, if necessary, to protect the public.

2. Limited Emergency Condition

a. Description

An incident involving a greater hazard or larger area which poses a potential threat to life and/or property and which may require a limited evacuation of the surrounding area.

b. Notification

See Figures 2 through 6

c. Activation

Upon notification, the county emergency management director and appropriate staff will report to the EOC to facilitate the rapid deployment of emergency response personnel if needed. If the situation warrants, the county emergency management director will activate the county EOC.

3. Full Emergency Condition

a. Description

An incident involving a severe hazard or large area which poses an extreme threat to life and/or property and will probably require a large-scale evacuation or an incident requiring the expertise or resources of county, state, federal, or private agencies.

b. Notification

See Figures 2 through 6

c. Activation

The county emergency management director and staff will activate the EOC and assist in the notification process. Designated emergency personnel will report to the EOC,

and other emergency response personnel may be directed to take appropriate emergency actions.

D. Notification to the Public

Upon the determination that a Limited Emergency Condition or a Full Emergency Condition is in progress, the county emergency management director will activate procedures to provide the incident commander's notification and clear instructions, including periodic status updates, to the general public within the area affected by the release.

The County Department of Emergency Management will activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to notify the public of a general emergency caused by a hazardous material release. Residents and transients will be advised to use the following radio and television stations for detailed information and instructions.

Television

- NBC - Channel 2
- WFTX (FOX) - Channel 4/36
- CBS - Channel 5
- WWSB (ABC) - Channel 7
- WINK (CBS) - Channel 11
- WBBH (NBC) - Channel 20
- WZVN (ABC) - Channel 26
- WGCU (PBS) - Channel 30
- WWSB ABC - Channel 40 Sarasota
- WWDT – Telemundo
- WXCW (CW) - Channel 46
- WRXY (CTN) - Channel 49

Radio *Denotes Emergency Alert System.

NOTE:

- WIKX 92.9 FM Charlotte Harbor
- WENG 1530 AM Englewood
- WKII 1070 AM Solana
- WSEB 91.3 FM Englewood
- WVIJ 91.7 FM Port Charlotte
- WZJZ 107.1 FM Port Charlotte
- WCVU 104.9 FM Solana

- WJYO 91.5 FM Fort Myers
- WGCU 90.1 FM Fort Myers
- WCRM 1350 AM(Spanish) Fort Myers
- WINK 1240 AM/96.9 FM Fort Myers
- WAYJ 88.7 FM Fort Myers
- WJBX 99.3 FM Fort Myers Beach

- WOLZ 95 FM Fort Myers
 - WSOR 90.9 FM Naples
 - WWCL 1440 AM (Spanish) Lehigh Acres
 - WWCN 770 AM North Fort Myers
 - WJPT 106.3 FM Lehigh Acres
 - WCKT 107.1 FM Lehigh Acres
 - WXKB 103.9 FM Cape Coral
 - WSRZ 107.9 FM Coral Cove
 - WPTK 1200 AM Pine Island Sound
 - WMYR 1410 AM Fort Myers
 - WAYJ 88.7 FM Fort Myers
 - WJYO 91.5 FM Fort Myers
 - WTLT 93.7 FM Naples
 - WOLZ 95.3 FM Fort Myers
 - WDEO 98.5 FM San Carlos
 - WWGR 101.9 FM Fort Myers
 - WJGO 102.9 FM Tice
 - WBBT 105.5 FM Naples
-
- WKZM 104.3 FM Sarasota
 - WENG 1530 AM Englewood
 - WHNZ 570 AM Tampa
 - WHPT 102 FM Sarasota
 - WHNZ 570 AM Tampa
 - WDUV 105.5 FM Tampa
 - WBRD 1420 AM Palmetto
 - WCTQ 92 FM Sarasota
 - WSRZ 106.3 FM Coral Cove
 - WKZM 105.5 FM Sarasota
 - WYUU 92.5 FM Safety Harbor
-
- WINK AM 1240 Naples
 - WODX AM 1480 Marco Island
 - WODZ 1480 Marco Island
 - WSRX 89.5 FM Ft. Myers
 - WGCU 90.1 FM Ft. Myers/Naples
 - WGCQ 92.1 FM Naples
 - WBGY 88.1 FM Everglades City
 - WARO 94.5 FM Naples
 - WLOG 95.3 FM Naples
 - WINK 96.9 FM Naples
 - WSOR 90.9 FM Naples
 - WGUF 98.9 FM Naples
 - WJST 106 FM Naples
 - WSGL 104.7 FM Naples

- WMKO 91.7 FM Marco Island
- WVOI 1480 AM Marco Island
- WAFZ 1490 AM Immokalee
- WCIW 107.9 FM Immokalee
- WAFZ 92.1 FM Immokalee
- WNOG 93.5 FM Naples
- WSRX 89.5 FM Naples

In addition, a public warning will be accomplished through loudspeakers, fire sirens, and, if necessary, door-to-door notification. Public safety personnel equipped with public address systems will move throughout the area, advising residents of the protective actions they should take based on the severity of the emergency following the response agencies' established procedures. At night or because of air-conditioned buildings, a vehicle with sirens should be used to awaken or get the attention of residents and precede a second vehicle that gives instructions by loudspeaker. If a toxic cloud is already in the air, the information in Figure 8 should be given by loudspeaker now.

The public notification system may be activated for a Potential Emergency and will be activated for a Limited Emergency or Full Emergency. Activation of the public notification system should be accomplished within fifteen minutes after the decision is made to activate it. Notification of the public should occur between fifteen to forty-five minutes after activation.

FIGURE 1: EMERGENCY RELEASE NOTIFICATION

Emergency Release Notification must include the following:

- the chemical name,
- an indication of whether the substance is an EHS,
- an estimate of the quantity released into the environment,
- the time and duration of the release,
- the medium into which the release occurred,
- any known or anticipated acute or chronic health risks associated with the emergency, and where appropriate, advice regarding medical attention necessary for exposed individuals,
- proper precautions, such as evacuation, and
- the name and telephone number of a contact person.

As soon as practical after a release that requires notification, the owner or operator of the facility must provide one or more written follow-up notices(s). The written emergency follow-up notice(s) must include the following:

- information setting forth and updating the information required for the initial emergency notification,
- actions are taken to respond to and contain the release,
- any known or anticipated acute or chronic health risks associated with the release, and
- advise if medical attention is necessary for exposed individuals.

The written follow-up emergency notice(s) must be submitted to the following:

- State Emergency Response Commission
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
- Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee
PO BOX 811
Cape Coral, Florida 33991

FIGURE 2: EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

Potential Emergency Conditions

1. Director, County Division of Emergency Management
2. County Sheriff
3. Municipal Police Departments
4. Chief, County Fire/Rescue
5. Municipal Fire Departments
6. Director, Emergency Medical Services Division
7. State Watch Office

Limited Emergency Conditions

1. Director, County Division of Emergency Management
2. County Administrator
3. Public Safety Director
4. County Sheriff
5. Municipal Police Departments
6. Chief, County Fire/Rescue
7. Municipal Fire Departments
8. Director, Emergency Medical Services Division
9. Health Officer, Florida Department of Health (local county) Director, Engineering and Public Works Department
10. Chair, County School Board
11. Director, Transportation Authority
12. Director, County Chapter of the American Red Cross
13. State Watch Office

Full Emergency Conditions

1. Director, County Division of Emergency Management
2. County Administrator
3. Public Safety Director
4. County Sheriff
5. Municipal Police Departments
6. Chief, County Fire/Rescue
7. Municipal Fire Departments
8. Director, Emergency Medical Services Division
9. Health Officer, Florida Department of Health (local county) Director, Engineering and Public Works Department
10. Chair, County School Board
11. Director, Transportation Authority
12. Director, County Chapter of the American Red Cross
13. State Watch Office

These emergency agencies will be verified and updated continuously and maintained in the emergency communications center of the Citrus County Division of Emergency Management. The State Watch Office can be reached by calling (800) 320-0519 or (850) 815-4001.

Section 8.05 Emergency Communications

A. General

In each Southwest Florida, Florida County, LEPC has adopted an emergency communications system that parallels the model plan. In each county plan, the county EOC houses a communications system that will become fully operational in the event of a hazardous materials emergency and serve as the focal point from which all communications efforts between response agencies will be coordinated. This section describes the various communications systems that can be used during emergencies.

B. Coordination of Emergency Communications

The EOC will provide off-site communications support to the incident commander for the public safety agency responsible for coordinating emergency response to hazardous materials incidents within that jurisdiction in the county.

Upon activation of the County EOC, all emergency communications systems will be placed into service and tested. Under the direction of the Emergency Management Director, the Communications Officer will organize all communications within the counties for emergency use. The Communications will establish liaisons with county communications, the American Red Cross, amateur radio operators, and any other organization capable of providing supplemental communications.

The Communications Officer, under the supervision of the Emergency Management Director, will be responsible for the operation of the County Communications Center. The Communications Officer will arrange for staffing of the communications center (including volunteer organizations) to operate emergency communications systems. Once reported to the EOC, emergency communications personnel from various local government organizations, while under the direct control of their respective agency, should follow the direction of the Communications Officer to effect coordinated communications. Amateur radio operators, under the direction of the Communications Officer, will have overall responsibility for communications at designated shelters. The Sheriff's Office will provide walkie-talkie communications as a backup system for each shelter. Upon receipt of an evacuation order, amateur radio operators will report to their assigned shelters with their equipment and begin to open communications nets with the EOC. Personnel from those departments will staff Law enforcement and fire department radio positions at the EOC.

County Communications will be assigned supporting functions at the EOC, and volunteer organizations, if needed, will provide staff for their operations at the EOC.

Direct communications between the county EOC and the following organizations will be established and maintained:

- The State Division of Emergency Management regarding the local situation and requests for state and federal support and resources;
- The chemical facility where the release of hazardous materials occurs;
- Local emergency response agencies by agency radio systems and commercial telephone;
- Medical facilities and ambulance services through the county's emergency medical services radio system; and
- Federal agencies, through the State Division of Emergency Management.

Telephone service within the EOC operations room will be established, and a log of incoming and outgoing messages will be maintained.

C. Communications Systems

Any or all of the following systems may be used to communicate during a hazardous materials emergency:

1. **Sheriff's Radio and Inter-City Police Radio** (See respective Local Jurisdiction Hazardous Materials Plan)

This system is used for evacuation related messages and to facilitate alert and warning of the general public.

2. **County Fire Radio and Forestry Services** (See respective Local Jurisdiction Hazardous Materials Plan)

This system is used for incident command operations, search and rescue operations, and evacuation related messages.

3. **State & Local Government Radio** (See respective Local Government Plan)

This system may be used to transmit emergency operations messages, situation reports and general information among county operations.

4. **County Government Radio** (See respective Local Government Plan)

This system is used to coordinate with other local agencies and organizations (County DOT & Engineering and County Utilities), provide shelter information and general information.

5. **Civil Air Patrol Radio** (See respective Local Government Plan)

This system will be used to provide support to local emergency shelters without dedicated communications coverage and for search and rescue operations.

6. **Citizens Band (CB) Radio** (Channels 1-40)

The CB radio system may support communications within shelters to provide internal management assistance.

7. **NOAA Weather Radio** (162.475 MHz)

NOAA weather radio advises of severe weather conditions and can be used to supplement other systems.

8. **Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) & Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)**

The RACES and ARES are viable ancillary communications networks among county agencies and/or county and state organizations. See Fig. 5-1 for County RACES frequencies.

9. **Commercial Telephone**

Commercial telephone service is available at the County EOC and county warning point and can be used as an alternate system.

10. **Florida National Guard Radio**

This system can be used to supplement the emergency services networks in an emergency.

11. **Emergency Management Network (EMNET)**

EMNET is a satellite warning system operated on a 24-hour basis. The state Division of Emergency Management uses the EMNET to communicate with each county's primary warning point and the weather service bureaus.

FIGURE 5: COUNTY RACES & ARES FREQUENCIES (MHz) SWFL LEPC

County	Primary ARES/RACES Frequency	Alternate / Tactical Frequencies
Charlotte	146.745 MHz (-) PL 136.5	147.255 MHz (+) PL 136.5; 146.865 MHz (-) PL 136.5
Collier	145.300 MHz (-) PL 136.5	Naples/Collier tactical and simplex channels as assigned
Glades	147.300 MHz (+) PL 100.0	442.650 MHz (+) PL 103.5 (LaBelle/Glades area)
Hendry	145.470 MHz (-) PL 97.4	146.460 MHz simplex; 146.550 MHz simplex
Lee	145.170 MHz (-) PL 136.5	147.285 MHz (+) PL 136.5; 147.345 MHz (+) PL 136.5
Sarasota	146.730 MHz (-)	145.130 MHz (-); 147.390 MHz (+)

Section 8.06 Public Information and Education

A. General

This section guides keeping the public informed about potential hazards present at chemical facilities, emergency responses required to cope with a hazardous material emergency, and protective measures that can be taken to minimize or alleviate adverse public health effects. This section also provides procedures for the timely and accurate collection, coordination, and dissemination of such information to the public.

B. Public Information Officers

Public Information Officers (PIOs) are those persons authorized by their organizations to release news and background information to the media, monitor events and summarize information for distribution to responders and the media, coordinate and verify information from and with all entities, assure support about the timely notification to the public, and assist public information spokespersons maintain records of news releases and public information as well as a log of events. Specific duties to be performed by PIOs include the following:

- Collect, edit, and release information and instructions to the media;
- Establish contact with wire services;
- Assist news media personnel in the performance of their functions, including accreditation and identification;
- Coordinate the release of information with facility representative and county information officer;
- Brief the news media as conditions warrant; and
- Keep concerned staff informed through "in-house" news summary bulletins.

1. Local Public Information Officer

The PIO will be appointed to serve as the official spokesperson of each County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) in an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials. Releases of information to the news media from any local agency will be coordinated through the county PIO and/or Chairman of the BCC.

2. State Public Information Officer

The Governor's Director of Communications is the Public Information Officer for the Governor's Office and will operate from the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) or the local Emergency Operations Center. Releases of information to the news media from any state agency will be coordinated through Emergency Support Function (ESF) #14 and/or the Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR).

The State Division of Emergency Management (DEM) will provide a Public Information Officer who will work from the local Emergency Operations Center or the SEOC, as appropriate.

3. Federal Public Information Officer

When federal agency resources are used, the State PIO will coordinate public information efforts with the federal agency representative and appropriate state and local public information representatives.

4. Facility Public Information Officer

The facility coordinator or designated PIO will serve as a Public Information Officer in cooperation with the local PIO and State PIO.

C. Emergency News Facilities

The county will provide space and equipment for media representatives to disseminate information during an emergency.

1. Emergency Operations Center

The County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is the focal point for news and information releases during an emergency. From this location, public information staff will provide news releases. Spokespersons from each organization will conduct periodic press conferences as conditions warrant. Due to space limitations in the EOC, a press room is provided in the immediate area to accommodate members of the mass media.

The county PIO will be responsible for managing and coordinating media activities. He or she will assure adequate physical accommodations (including space and equipment), schedules for briefings, provision of background information (including press kits), a notice of events such as evacuations or other noteworthy occurrences, security (to include identification procedures), and periodic update releases to wire services.

2. DEM Press Room

Emergency Support Function #14 is in Tallahassee's State Emergency Operations Center. It serves as the primary location for news and information releases about emergency actions taken by the state agencies. ESF #14 will be activated upon the arrival of the State PIO. It will provide telephones, computers with word processing software, and copying equipment to support up to twenty-five media representatives in a designated area.

D. Coordination of Media Releases

As stated, the Emergency Operations Center is the focal point for news releases during a hazardous materials incident. The PIOs from the county, facility, and state will coordinate the dissemination of information to the news media and public. Each PIO will collect information regarding emergency operations and recommend protective actions from their respective personnel in emergency response operations. Upon verification of information, the PIOs will develop a coordinated news release for approval by appropriate decision-makers. Sample media releases are included in Figures 7 through 13.

E. Rumor Control

A Citizens' Information Center for rumor control will be activated to answer public inquiries and assess public attitudes during a hazardous materials incident. As appropriate, normal county telephone services will be available and staffed by county personnel and/or volunteers. These telephone numbers will be released to the general public when needed. When an incident is over, the public will be notified that it is safe to return to their homes or stop sheltering.

F. Public Education

The County Department of Emergency Management will coordinate with Local Emergency Planning Committees and local governments to ensure the provision of information and materials to advise residents and transients of appropriate protective measures during a hazardous materials incident.

Emergency public information (EPI) materials, designed to educate the public about the risks associated with releasing hazardous materials and what protective actions to take, should be made available to the public each year. These materials will address all hazards affecting county residents and property and will be distributed through local newspapers, radio and television stations, special mail-outs, and other means. As a result of the influx of non-English speaking residents and transients into the region, EPI materials should be distributed in both English and Spanish.

In addition to educating the public, the County Department of Emergency Management should undertake efforts to educate the media by conducting, at least annually, media briefings advising the media of emergency plans and procedures, the flow of information, the role of the media during an emergency, and the names of emergency contact persons. This will be accomplished through slide/tape presentations, press packets, and other educational materials developed by the County Department of Emergency Management.

G. Public Access

Under Section 324 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, the following information is

available from the SERC and the eleven LEPCs to the public for viewing during normal working hours:

- Safety Data Sheets;
- Hazardous Chemical Inventory Forms;
- Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Forms (available from the SERC);
- Emergency Follow-Up Notices; and
- LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Plans.

Fire Departments are not required to provide public access to EPCRA information as stated under Section 252.88(3), Florida Statutes.

Rule chapter 9G-14, Florida Administrative Code, outlines applicable fees for reproducing EPCRA public record information.

FIGURE 3: MEDIA RELEASE A: ALERT – NO PROTECTIVE ACTION

The County Department of Emergency Management received a report that

has occurred. It has been determined that no protective actions are required to ensure and maintain public health and safety.

The Department of Emergency Management will continuously monitor and assess the situation to confirm earlier reports. As monitoring results become available, protective actions may be recommended as needed.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

FIGURE 4: MEDIA RELEASE B: IN-PLACE SHELTER NOTICE

The Board of County Commissioners has declared an emergency situation in the vicinity of

This is a warning to all residents within a _____ mile radius of the _____.
You are advised to seek shelter immediately; go indoors...close windows and doors...turn off air conditioners and fans. Stay inside until you receive further instructions. There has been a release of hazardous materials. To avoid exposure, immediately seek shelter indoors, close windows and doors, and turn off air conditioners and fans. Evacuation has not been recommended at this time. Keep your radios and television sets turned on for additional information.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

FIGURE 5: MEDIA RELEASE C: EVACUATION PREPARATION

The Board of County Commissioners has declared an emergency situation in the vicinity of

Should the decision be made to evacuate your area, you should plan to be away from your home _____ for or less. You should now begin thinking about where you would stay and the necessities you may wish to take with you.

You should review any evacuation instructions that local officials may have previously supplied. This station will broadcast instructions if evacuation is ordered.

The following items are recommended as evacuation supplies:

- Two (2) blankets per person or a sleeping bag.
- Change of clothing.
- Important papers (checkbook, etc.)
- Medicine, particularly special medication.
- Toilet articles.

We repeat that evacuation has not yet been recommended. These are only preparatory instructions.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

FIGURE 6: MEDIA RELEASE D: EVACUATION NOTICE

The Board of County Commissioners has issued an order directing the immediate evacuation of

Local emergency management authorities have begun the evacuation of this area. This evacuation order was issued in response to the reported release of hazardous materials by

Persons living in the affected area should follow the instructions given below:

- Take the following items with you:
 - Two (2) blankets per person or a sleeping bag.
 - Change of clothing.
 - Important papers (checkbook, etc.)
 - Medicine, particularly special medication.
 - Toilet articles.
- Lock your home. Turn off electricity, gas, and water.
- Go to _____.
- Follow the evacuation route nearest you. Do not move against traffic.
- Time is important, but move safely.
- Persons not having transportation should notify the _____.
- Persons immediately outside of the affected area are not subject to a direct hazard; however, these persons should remain alert to any possible changes in instructions resulting from wind direction or accident conditions. Stay by your radio or TV. Persons outside the affected area are also asked not to travel on or near routes being used for evacuation. These routes are: _____

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

FIGURE 7: MEDIA RELEASE E: EVACUATION FOLLOW-UP

During the evacuation, law enforcement officers will patrol the perimeter of the evacuated areas to protect homes and businesses. No unauthorized persons will be allowed in the evacuated areas.

County officials will monitor the affected areas continuously. When conditions are determined safe, you will be notified to return home. Transportation will again be provided for those in need.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

FIGURE 8: MEDIA RELEASE F: ALL CLEAR

The Board of County Commissioners has announced that the emergency conditions at _____

have ended. It is now safe to return to your residence and/or business. Repeating...the emergency conditions in the area of _____

have now ended. You may return home and resume normal activities. There is no longer any threat to persons in the area.

If you need additional information, you may contact: _____

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

FIGURE 9: MEDIA RELEASE G: SCHOOL EVACUATION

The Superintendent of Schools, County School Board has issued an order directing the immediate evacuation of _____ School. School authorities have begun the evacuation of children to _____.

Parents of children attending _____ School are advised to pick up their children at _____.

If you need additional information, you may contact: _____.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

The authority of the Board of County Commissioners has issued this message. Additional information may be obtained from: _____.

Date/Time of issue: _____

Issued by: _____

Section 8.07 EMERGENCY FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

A. General

This section describes the emergency response facilities, identifies supplies and equipment designated for emergency response, and identifies the key personnel and organizations anticipated to respond to emergencies.

B. Emergency Response Facilities and Personnel

1. Emergency Operations Centers

a. Sarasota County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The County EOC is located at 6050 Porter Way in Sarasota. The EOC is the center for overall coordination of local response to any major emergency. The EOC has auxiliary power and logistical provisions to support emergency operations. The City of Sarasota EOC is located at 2099 Adams Lane in downtown Sarasota. The County's Emergency Management Department is a division of the County's Emergency Services Department that includes the fire departments, lifeguards, and public safety communications.

b. Lee County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The Lee County EOC is located at 2675 Ortiz Avenue, in the City of Fort Myers between Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (S.R. 82) and Colonial Boulevard. It houses Lee County Emergency Management, which is managed through the county's Division of Public Safety. The EOC is the center for overall coordination of local response to any major emergency. The EOC has auxiliary power and logistical provisions to support emergency operations.

c. Collier County Emergency Operations Center EOC)

The County EOC address is 8075 Lely Cultural Parkway, Naples, Florida 34113. The EOC is the center for overall coordination of local response for all major (levels 2 and 3) hazardous materials incidents. The EOC has back-up power and provisions to support emergency operations.

d. Charlotte County Emergency Operations (EOC)

The County EOC is located at the Charlotte County Airport Complex in Punta Gorda. The physical address is 26571 Airport Road, Punta Gorda. The EOC is the center for overall coordination of local response to any major emergency. The EOC has auxiliary power and logistical provisions to support emergency operations.

e. **Glades County** Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The Glades County EOC is located at 1097 Health Park Drive in Moore Haven, just off U.S. 27. The EOC is the focal point for overall coordination of local response to any major emergency. The EOC has auxiliary power and logistical provisions to support emergency operations.

f. **Hendry County** Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The Hendry County EOC is located at 4425 W. State Road 80, LaBelle, Florida 33935. The EOC has auxiliary power and logistical provisions to support emergency operations.

g. **State Emergency Operations Center**

The Division of Emergency Management is responsible for providing and staffing the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The SEOC is the center for coordination of state responsible for any major emergency. It is located within the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) offices at 2575 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida. During a limited emergency, key personnel will report to the State EOC. Upon declaration of a full emergency condition, the State EOC will be fully activated to coordinate all state operations and establish communications with involved county EOCs.

2. On-Scene Command Post

In an emergency, the first responding unit at the site may establish an On-Scene Command Post. The Incident Commander at the On-Scene Command Post will be the senior responding officer and direct on-scene emergency operations.

C. Equipment and Resources

1. Equipment

The Fire/Rescue Department should have the following equipment, which will be used in response to emergencies involving the release of hazardous materials:

- a. Chemical suits
 - PVC
 - Viton Teflon
 - Chlorinated polyethylene (CPE) Butyl rubber
- b. Air masks and tanks
- c. In-suit radios

- d. Portable hand-held radios
- e. Combustible gas detectors
 - MSA 2A bulb type
 - Draeger detection tube
 - Tritector
- f. Recovery drums
 - 85-gallon drum
 - 55-gallon drum
- g. Vetter bags (assorted)
- h. Chlorine kits
 - Cl2 150 lb. cylinder "A" kit
 - Cl2 1-ton container "B" kit
 - Cl2 rail car "C" kit
- i. Pipe frame simulator
- j. Hand tools (assorted)
- k. Resource manuals (assorted)
- l. Area maps (assorted)

In support of county emergency operations, each of the facilities subject to the requirements of SARA/EPCRA should maintain the following emergency equipment:

- a. Foam (protein, AFFF, and alcohol)
- b. Nozzles and eductors
- c. Reference books
- d. Minimum of two proximity or entry suits
- e. Assorted hand tools
- f. Plug and patch kits
- g. pH meter or tape
- h. Explosive gas meter
- i. Windsock
- j. Self-contained breathing apparatus and spare tanks
- k. Radio (CB, fire, or police)
- l. Area maps
- m. Ladders, hose, forcible entry tools
- n. Gas detectors
- o. Recovery drums, brooms, shovels
- p. Absorbent material
- q. Spare valves, fittings, etc.
- r. Piping materials, drains (PNC pipe), Chlorine kit(s) A, B, C
- s. Safety valve protectors
- t. Paper, tags, pencils, grease pencils, shipping tags, etc.

2. Laboratory Analytical Support

The region is equipped with adequate laboratory and analytical support for emergency operations during a major chemical release. State and private resources would be heavily depended upon.

Should there be an occurrence in which analytical support is needed, the County Director of Emergency Management would be responsible for contacting laboratories for assistance. A list of private contractors capable of providing laboratory support is provided in Figure 14.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has arranged with private response contractors throughout Florida to provide response personnel and equipment, including mobile analytical laboratories for major chemical releases in inland areas of the state and in coastal and navigable waters.

The Department of Health has public health laboratories in Pensacola, Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, West Palm Beach, and Miami. The laboratories provide diagnostic, reference, emergency, and research public health laboratory services to county public health units, program components, physicians, hospitals, and private laboratories.

Facilities responsible for the release often have specialized equipment for monitoring purposes. Air, water, and soil samples may be collected and taken to the facility's laboratory for analysis with sophisticated analytical instruments.

3. Other Technical Support

- a. ATSDR - The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) maintains a twenty-four-hour hotline that links responders with medical professionals who can advise on handling emergencies. ATSDR will provide a link with an emergency response coordinator who can advise on immediate actions. ATSDR also provides access to a Preliminary Assessment Team consisting of toxicologists, environmental health scientists, chemists, physicians, and others as needed. If the incident demands it, ATSDR can send an on-site response team to manage the medical response within eight hours. The emergency response number is (404) 639-0615.
- b. CAMEO - Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) is a computer program developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Hazardous Materials Response Branch. The program provides HMRTs with the ability to:
 - Draw/display detailed maps of geographic areas, facility sites, and floor plans;
 - Access an extensive resident chemical database (approximately 4,000 chemicals);
 - Identify chemicals when only partial information is known or available.

- Determine the area likely to be affected by a release. It can aid in predicting the direction and concentration of plumes resulting from airborne releases.
 - Provides detailed information on hazards, response information, and properties for numerous hazardous substances.
- c. CHEMTREC - The Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTREC) is operated by the Chemical Manufacturers Association. It provides information and/or assistance to emergency responders. CHEMTREC will contact the shipper or producer of the material to obtain detailed information or on-scene assistance. The CHEMTREC telephone number is (800) 424-9300 (emergency calls only).
- d. E-Plan – E-Plan collects information required by the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986, also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). E-Plan presents facility and chemical hazards data in a rapidly accessible, concise format that puts critical information first. E-Plan has been operational and available to authorized emergency responders since 2010, and is currently hosted by the University of Texas at Dallas in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- e. Florida Poison Information Center - The center has a trained staff of poison information specialists and toxicologists and an extensive database (TOMES) concerning the medical effects produced by extremely hazardous substances. In addition, staff can provide first responders with technical support relative to the properties of hazardous chemicals and has faxing capability. Staff are on-duty 24 hours a day. The center can send information concerning the released chemicals to area hospitals in preparation for receiving patients. The telephone number is (800) 282-3171.
- f. Manufacturers Technical Bulletins - Manufacturers' technical bulletins are the best single source of general information about the chemical in question. They also contain the most recent data about the chemical.
- g. Safety Data Sheets - Facilities using or storing a hazardous material in the state of Florida must have and make available, upon demand, a Safety Data Sheet on each chemical at that facility. This applies to fixed facilities only. This sheet provides information on contents, health and safety, fire, reactivity, disposal, spill control, clean-up procedures, and other information that is invaluable to responders.
- h. OHM-TADS – The Oil and Hazardous Materials Technical Assistance Data Systems (OHM-TADS) is a collection of interactive computer programs that can provide the necessary technical support for assessing potential or actual dangers encountered due to the release of a hazardous substance. OHM-TADS can be accessed at the ten EPA regional offices, EPA headquarters in Washington, and the Coast Guard Marine Safety Offices. OHM-TADS can provide either information on specifically requested properties of a material or can print all the information in its files for that material.

FIGURE 10: EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONTRACTORS/TESTING LABORATORIES

1. A & S Oil Recovery of Florida
4635 8th Avenue South Saint Petersburg, FL, 33711
(727) 321-2602
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

2. AOTC Environmental (Formerly AAG Environmental)
25207 NW 8th Ln,
Newberry, Florida 32669
(352) 472-7295, (855) 674-0408
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

3. Alpha-Omega Training and Compliance, Inc.
7712 E Broadway Ave, Tampa, FL 33619
(321) 445-9845
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

4. AARCO Environmental, Inc.
400 N Ashley Dr, Tampa, FL 33602
(866) 276-2272, (631) 586-5900
Hazardous Wastes, Petroleum Wastes

5. American Compliance Technologies
1875 West Main Street
Bartow, FL 33830
(813) 641-7000, (863) 533-1991
Hazardous Wastes, Petroleum Wastes, Explosive Wastes, Radioactive Wastes

6. Cliff Berry, Inc.
4314 Raleigh Street, Tampa, FL 33619
(813) 626-6533, (800) 899-7745
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste, Radioactive Wastes

7. Diversified Environmental Services
1201 N 22nd St, Tampa, FL 33605
(863) 533-6111, (800) 699-8916
Petroleum Waste

8. EnviroTrac Ltd.
5309 56th Commerce Park Blvd, Tampa, FL 33610
(813) 626-8443
Petroleum Waste

9. E.Q. Florida
7202 East Eighth Avenue
Tampa, FL 33619
(800) 899-4672
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste, Mercury

10. Haz Mat Special Services, LLC
3690 West Lake Hamilton Drive
Winter Haven, FL 33881
(855) 429-6289
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste, Explosive Waste, Radioactive Waste

11. HEPACO
5371 Hartford St,
Tampa, FL 33619
(800) 888-7689
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste, Explosive Waste, Radioactive Waste

12. Howco Environmental Services
3701 Central Ave,
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
(727) 327-8467
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

13. Hull Environmental Services
4390 28th St N,
St. Petersburg, FL 33714
(727) 610-2080

14. Incident Management Solutions, Inc.
13415 Sullivan Rd
Minneola, FL 34715
(352)242-9621
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

15. Longleaf Environmental (Formerly Land Environmental Services)
10515 SW 104th Avenue,
Gainesville, FL 32608
(352) 682-0526
Petroleum Waste

16. US Liquids

7202 E. 8th Ave.
Tampa, FL 33619
(813) 623-5302, (800) 624-5302
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

17. WRS Infrastructure & Environmental, Inc.
221 Hobbs Suite 108
Tampa, Florida 33619
(813) 620-1432
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste, Explosive Waste, Radioactive Waste

18. Triumvirate Environmental
10100 Rocket Blvd.
Orlando, FL 32824
(888) 834-9697
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste, Radioactive Waste

19. Warren Environmental, Inc.
189 SE 867th Ave,
Suwannee, FL 32692
(352) 542-0005

20. OHM Remediation Services, Corp
45 Citrus Tower Rd.
Clermont, FL 34711
(800) 552-2038, (352) 241-2210
Hazardous Waste, Petroleum Waste

21. The following URL will allow you to access the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and its list of contractors: <https://floridadep.gov/dleer/oer/content/contractor-list>.

FIGURE 11: GUIDELINES FOR CALLING CHEMTREC

1. TELEPHONE 1-800-424-9300
2. WHEN TO CALL CHEMTREC:
 - a. Unfamiliar or unidentified materials are involved.
 - b. Unidentified shipper.
 - c. Verification of technical information is needed.
 - d. An incident of significant proportions has occurred.
 - e. Two or more chemicals are mixed in uncontrolled conditions.
3. INFORMATION REQUIRED BY CHEMTREC:
 - a. Names of Product(s)
 - Names of hazardous materials involved.
 - Physical description of chemicals (powder, liquid, gas, etc.)
 - The quantity involved (gallons or pounds only).
 - Container type and condition of container (barrel, cylinder, can, etc.)
 - Container material(s) (steel, aluminum, plastic, cardboard, wood, fiberglass, rubber lined tanks, epoxy lined tanks, etc.)
 - Are additional hazardous materials involved/exposed by the incident?
 - b. Problems
 - Type of incident (fire, explosion, leak, spill, etc.).
 - Time of incident (time incident started).
 - Number and types of injuries to people/animals/plants.
 - Threat to the environment.
 - c. Contact Information
 - Caller's name, organization, and location (city/state).
 - Call back numbers (give at least two phone numbers).
 - d. Location (city/state)
 - Weather and temperature conditions. Indicate if the weather is expected to change in the next four hours and what change is expected to be.
 - Is the incident in a populated or open area (urban/rural)?
 - e. Shipping Information
 - Carrier and mode (railroad, truck, barge, ship, airplane, etc.).
 - Number off carrier vehicles (rail car number, truck trailer number, aircraft ID number, vehicle tag/state, ship ID number/name, etc.).
 - Destination (who the shipment is being sent to, consignee).
 - Origin (where the shipment came from, consignor).
 - Bill of lading/waybill/consist/manifest/etc. Number.
 - f. Other
 - Placards, labels, or other warnings are displayed.
 - Any identifying markings, container shapes, names or numbers on containers, colors of containers, etc.

Section 8.08 ACCIDENT ASSESSMENT

A. General

This section describes responsibilities and procedures for assessing the off-site impacts of an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials and its effects on the health and well-being of the residents and visitors to each county.

B. Initial Assessment

The facility owner/operator will perform the initial accident assessment as soon as possible after the accident. The assessment results will be reported immediately to local and state emergency response organizations per this plan. Until off-site emergency response personnel arrive, the facility owner/operator will assess actual and potential off-site consequences and provide the results of this assessment to the county's twenty-four-hour warning point.

Upon arrival by off-site emergency personnel, the lead local agency will assume responsibility for assessing the impacts or potential impacts of a release. The designated incident commander may be operating from an on-scene command post or the local fire/hazmat personnel.

The lead agency's assessment should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Identification of the nature, amount, and location of released materials;
- Determine the probable direction and time of travel for released materials;
- Identification of possible exposure pathways for humans and the environment;
- Evaluation by the County Health Department (or Department of Children and Families) of the threat to human health;
- Identification of potential impacts on safety, the environment, natural resources, and property;
- Identification of priorities for protecting public health, safety, and the environment; and
- Identification of potentially responsible party(s).

C. Assessment and Monitoring

1. Resources and Capabilities

Assessment and Monitoring. The County Health Department will (to the best of its abilities) conduct an assessment within the vulnerable zone surrounding the facility from which hazardous materials were released. These assessments may be by personal interviews with potentially exposed residents in the areas of the release. The County Health Officer of this agency will then assess public health concerns. Additional assistance, including monitoring and support in assessing the environmental and public health consequences of releasing hazardous materials, if needed, will be provided by the State's Departments of

Environmental Protection and Department of Health, respectively. The Hazardous Materials Team on-site may provide additional data. The County Department of Emergency Management will maintain a current listing of local, state, federal, and private resources capable of assessing and monitoring the effects of a hazardous materials release. Since capabilities in this area are limited in each county, at least some of these additional resources would likely be called upon in the event of a major hazardous materials emergency. Laboratory support and equipment available for use by field monitoring personnel are identified in Section 9.07, Emergency Facilities and Equipment, of this plan.

2. Activation of Field Teams

Upon receipt of notification of an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials, the county Department of Emergency Management will contact the incident commander or the lead responding agency to verify the existence of an emergency. Upon verification, the Emergency Management Director may contact the County Health Officer to discuss appropriate assessment actions. More often than not, county health departments are not made aware of hazardous materials releases since the vast majority are small and do not leave the facility where the release occurs.

The County Health Officer will use existing information per established procedures to evaluate the potential for off-site exposure and determine the adequacy of any protective actions. Based upon the results of the above, the County Health Officer will recommend whether to activate assessment and monitoring personnel. The decision to deploy assessment and monitoring personnel will be made by BCC's Chairman after consultation with County Health Officer and Emergency Management Director. The facility from which hazardous materials are released provides technical support to local, state, and federal monitoring teams.

3. Coordination of Assessment and Monitoring Activities

The mission of the County Health Departments and other supporting organizations in the event of a hazardous materials emergency will be to:

- Evaluate the potential exposure projections to persons off-site, which may result from the emergency;
- Make recommendations to the Chairman of the BCC regarding appropriate protective actions;
- Assess data collected by the Hazardous Materials Team through field monitoring to prepare and/or confirm projections;
- Evaluate potential exposure resulting from contamination of materials in the vulnerable zone surrounding the facility;
- Assist the Safety Office, if requested, to Evaluate exposure to emergency personnel resulting from operations related to the emergency;

- Assist the Hazardous Materials Team in establishing appropriate operational dose limits and verify that permanent records of the dose received are maintained; and
- Assist the Safety Officer, if requested, in evaluating exposure and appropriate limits for recovery, reentry, and post-accident operation.

When assessment and monitoring personnel reach their assigned location, accident assessment will be based on field monitoring results, current meteorological conditions, facility condition, facility prognosis, and any other relevant information.

Data collected in the field will be transmitted to the EOC to be evaluated by the County Health Officer and any other qualified personnel. These evaluations will be provided to the Chairman of the BCC at the EOC for use in decision-making and as a basis for recommendations for protective actions. Summaries and recommended protective actions will be forwarded to the State EOC and surrounding counties.

Monitoring of the affected area(s) and recommendations for protective actions will continue until exposure levels have decreased to the point that recovery and reentry are considered safe.

4. Additional Assessment and Monitoring Support

When it is determined that a hazardous materials emergency cannot be adequately controlled with resources available to County response personnel, a request will be forwarded to the Governor for the additional resources needed. The request will contain the following information:

- Description of the problem;
- Type of resources needed;
- Where the resources need to be delivered;
- Clear direction to an assembly point or point of delivery;
- Estimated time the resources will be needed; and
- If resources include people, what arrangements have been made for housing and food?

If the Governor concurs with the need for assistance as requested, he will direct the State Division of Emergency Management to locate the resources and request the specified assistance. If it is determined that the requested assistance is not available at the state level, the Governor may request federal assistance through the appropriate federal agency.

Section 8.09 EXPOSURE CONTROL FOR EMERGENCY WORKERS

A. General

This section establishes the means and responsibilities for controlling hazardous materials exposure to emergency workers. Local emergency response organizations will limit exposure to emergency workers by:

- Limiting the amount of time spent in hazardous areas;
- Limiting entry into hazardous areas to the maximum extent possible; and
- Using protective clothing and equipment.

Because they are frequently the first on the scene, firefighters and law enforcement personnel should use proper safety precautions when approaching a hazardous materials incident. First-response personnel should have copies of the most current edition of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Emergency Response Guidebook and know how to use it to interpret shipping manifests.

B. Exposure Monitoring

After notification that a release has occurred, monitoring and assessing its impact, both on-site and off, is crucial. A detailed log of all sampling results should be maintained, and health officials should be informed of the situation. Decisions about response personnel safety, citizen protection, and use of food and water in the area will depend upon an accurate assessment of spill or plume movement and concentration.

Both initial and periodic monitoring is required in hazardous materials incidents. Initial monitoring must be conducted to identify any immediate dangers to life or health (IDLH) concentrations or other dangerous situations, such as flammable atmospheres, oxygen-deficient environments, and toxic contaminants. Once chemicals have been identified, standard information sources such as NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards and CHEMTREC (Chemical Transportation Emergency Center) should be consulted to identify potential hazards, recommended exposure limits (RELs), permissible exposure limits (PELs), emergency action, personal protective equipment, and first aid procedures. SDSs should be consulted for information including manufacturer's name, chemical synonyms, trade name, chemical family, hazardous ingredients, physical data, fire and explosion hazard data, health hazards, reactivity data, spill or leak procedures, special precautions, and special protection information.

Local governments should institute a medical surveillance program for all emergency workers who are or may be exposed to hazardous substances or health hazards above the established recommended exposure limits (RELs) for thirty or

More days in twelve months, or who wear respirators thirty days or more a year. Medical examinations must be available for all emergency workers who may have been exposed to

concentrations of hazardous substances above the recommended exposure limits. An accurate record of medical surveillance must be retained. The County Medical Director is recommended to serve as the custodial agent for these records.

1. EPA Levels of Protection

Based on the preliminary evaluation results, personal protective equipment must be selected and used. The selection process is aided by consulting the Department of Transportation's most current edition of the Emergency Response Guidebook and CHEMTREC. No combination of protective equipment and clothing can protect against all hazards. Generally, the greater the level of personal protective equipment used, the greater the risk to the worker from such hazards as heat stress, physical and psychological stress, impaired vision, mobility, and communication. Therefore, equipment should be selected that provides adequate protection but not over-protection.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified four levels of protection for emergency workers.

- a. **Level A** (Chemical Protective Clothing and Equipment) will protect the wearer against the specific hazard for which it was designed. The special clothing may afford protection only for certain chemicals and may be penetrated by chemicals for which it was not designed. Do not assume any protective clothing is fire resistant unless the manufacturer specifically states it. Full-encapsulated protective clothing (cocoons) can be used for no-fire spills and leaks requiring evacuation of people but offer little or no thermal protection.

Level A Recommended Personal Protective Equipment includes:

- Positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or positive pressure supplied air respirator with escape SCBA;
- Fully encapsulating, chemical-resistant suit;
- Inner chemical-resistant gloves;
- Chemical-resistant safety boots/shoes;
- Two-way radio communications; and
- Optional: cooling unit, coveralls, long cotton underwear, hardhat, disposable gloves, and boot covers.

- b. **Level B** (Firefighters' Protective Clothing - structural) protects by restricting inhalation of, ingestion of, or skin contact with hazardous vapors, liquids, and solids. This clothing may not protect from poisonous vapors or liquids encountered during hazardous materials incidents. This is the minimum level recommended for initial site entries until the hazards have been completely identified.

Level B Recommended Personal Protective Equipment includes:

- Positive pressure, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), or positive pressure supplied-air respirator with escape SCBA;
 - Chemical-resistant clothing (either overalls and long-sleeved jacket, hooded one- or two-piece chemical splash suit, or disposable chemical-resistant one-piece suit);
 - Inner and outer chemical-resistant gloves;
 - Chemical-resistant safety boots/shoes;
 - Hard hat;
 - Two-way radio communications; and
 - Optional: Coveralls, disposable boot covers, face shields, and long cotton underwear.
- c. **Level C** protective equipment provides the same level of skin protection as Level B but a lower level of respiratory protection. The atmosphere must contain at least 19.5 percent oxygen when using this equipment.

Level C Recommended Personal Protective Equipment includes:

- The full-facepiece, air-purifying canister-equipped respirator;
- Chemical-resistant clothing (either overalls and long-sleeved jacket, hooded one- or two-piece chemical splash suit, or disposable chemical-resistant one-piece suit);
- Inner and outer chemical-resistant gloves;
- Chemical-resistant safety boots/shoes;
- Hard hat;
- Two-way radio communications; and
- Optional: coveralls, disposable boot covers, face shield, escape mask, and long cotton underwear.

- d. **Level D** protective equipment provides no respiratory protection and only minimal skin protection. This level should not be worn in the Exclusion Zone.

Level D Recommended Personal Protective Equipment includes:

- Coveralls;
- Safety boots/shoes;
- Safety glasses or chemical splash goggles;
- Hard hat; and
- Optional: gloves, escape mask, face shield.

2. **Exposure Records**

The on-scene Safety Officer should be fully aware of all who enter the “hot zone” via check-in and check-out. The senior medical provider on site is responsible for ensuring that exposure a record for each emergency worker who enters the “hot zone” is forwarded to the

appropriate agency medical director for long-term storage and maintenance. Additionally, each emergency worker should follow up to ensure that an exposure record form detailing his/her exposure is processed at the end of the emergency. All emergency worker exposures will be made a part of his/her permanent record, with a copy of the final report returned to the worker. A hazardous materials exposure form is provided in Figure 16.

C. Authorization of Exposure in Excess of Protective Action Guides

If necessary, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners will authorize the exposure of county emergency personnel to exposure levels over established recommended exposure limits (RELs). This authorization should only come after extensive consultation with the Incident Commander, the Medical Director, and the Safety Officer, in addition to CHEMTREC. These situations would be limited to lifesaving actions requiring the search and removal of injured.

Persons or entry to protect conditions that would probably injure large numbers of individuals and to less stressful circumstances where it is desirable to enter a hazardous area to protect facilities, prevent further release, or control fires. Authorized exposure will not exceed OSHA Ceiling Concentrations (C) at any time.

D. Decontamination

Trained fire department personnel, per established standard operating procedures, will perform decontaminating. All persons suspected of being exposed must be decontaminated when leaving a contaminated area. Since methods to be used change from one chemical to another, shippers and medical authorities should be contacted to determine the most appropriate way of decontamination. All equipment and clothing from a contaminated area should be stored in a controlled area near the incident site until decontamination or proper disposal.

Contaminated equipment, such as buckets, brushes, tools, etc., should be labeled in containers. Partially decontaminated clothing should be placed in plastic bags pending further decontamination or disposal. Respirators should be dismantled, washed, and disinfected after each use.

Water used for tool and vehicle decontamination will be allowed to run into suitable collection ditches, holding ponds, and other secure areas. Areas used for decontamination will be monitored for residual contamination. Any contaminated site will be sealed off under the control of the county public health department and county law enforcement agencies. These sites will be decontaminated with the assistance of Department of Environmental Protection personnel and other appropriate federal and state agencies.

Personnel injured in the affected area of a hazardous material emergency will be treated as contamination victims until a positive determination can be made. Emergency medical personnel will take precautions to prevent the spread of contamination on an injured person, to medical support personnel and medical equipment until the injured person can be transported to a medical facility with decontamination capabilities.

FIGURE 12: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EXPOSURE FORM

NAME: _____

DEPT/AGENCY: _____

AGE: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____

EXPOSURE DATE: _____

EXPOSURE LOCATION: _____

HAZARD EXPOSURE: _____

DURATION OF EXPOSURE: _____

Section 8.10 PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

A. General

This section aims to establish the range of protective actions available to state and local governments for the protection of the public. Protective actions that may be initiated to provide for the safety of the public may include any or all of the following:

- Notification of affected residents and transients to seek immediate in-place shelter;
- Evacuation of transients and residents within designated sectors exposed to a plume of hazardous materials to shelter areas outside the affected area;
- Control of entrance into affected areas;
- Implementation of procedures to prevent the consumption and distribution of contaminated food and water supplies; and
- Implementation of procedures to decontaminate persons exposed to hazardous materials.

B. Vulnerable Zones

A vulnerable zone is an estimated geographical area that may be subject to concentrations of an airborne extremely hazardous substance (EHS) at levels that could cause irreversible acute health effects or death to persons within the area following an accidental release. Vulnerable zones are based on estimates of the quantity of an EHS released into the air, the rate of release to air, airborne dispersion, and the airborne concentration that could cause irreversible health - effects or death.

C. Levels of Concern

A level of concern (LOC) is the concentration of an EHS in the air above which there may be serious irreversible health effects or death due to a single exposure for a relatively short period. The precise LOC for each EHS is in Appendix A, List of Extremely Hazardous Substances and Data for the Hazards Analysis.

For this plan, a LOC has been estimated by using one-tenth (0.10) of the "Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health" (IDLH) level published by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), or one-tenth of an approximation of the IDLH from animal toxicity data. Toxicity guidelines for EHSs are found in Appendix C.

D. Evacuation

The authority to issue an immediate evacuation order for any vulnerable zone is delegated to the incident commander (on-scene) within a given jurisdiction if the health and safety of persons within the critical evacuation area are in imminent danger. Evacuation of all or any part (i.e., downwind) of a vulnerable zone will be by geographic boundaries.

All evacuation routes will lead citizens toward registration centers. Once at the centers, citizens will be screened for conditions requiring immediate medical attention, transported to medical facilities if necessary, and assigned to a shelter.

Strict traffic control measures will permit the ingress and egress of ambulances, fire/rescue, and other emergency vehicles and equipment. County and municipal law enforcement personnel will control traffic along evacuation routes. Law enforcement personnel will block state roads as needed to prevent unauthorized use. Law enforcement personnel will use periodic patrols of evacuation routes to maintain order, assist disabled evacuees, and report route impediments to the County EOC.

Traffic control points and barricades will be used to expedite traffic flow. Police officers and Florida Highway Patrol will monitor traffic routes. Should breakdowns occur, wreckers will be dispatched to the scene.

1. Evacuation Routes

Evacuation routes from each facility are identified in the facility-specific hazardous analysis in the Appendixes.

2. Evacuation of the General Public

Private automobiles will be the primary means of evacuating residents and transients from the vulnerable zones. Households with more than one vehicle will be encouraged to take only one car to minimize traffic congestion. Announcements will be made via the broadcast media requesting that car-pooling arrangements be made to accommodate those without their own transportation. Residents without transportation will be picked up by buses and transported to the nearest decontamination/ reception center. The counties will depend largely on the school systems and other transportation authorities.

3. Evacuation for Special Needs

The Emergency Management office will keep a list of special needs populations within each county. This list is updated quarterly and would be used to identify the numbers and locations of persons requiring special care should an emergency evacuation be ordered. Methods used to transport those with special needs include; private vehicles, volunteer groups, county and municipal vehicles, and school buses.

4. Schools

If evacuation is ordered during school sessions, all school children located within the vulnerable zone will be placed on school buses and taken to pick-up areas to be designated.

All children will remain under the control of school personnel until turned over to the parents at some point in the evacuation chain. School personnel will supervise the children on buses and during the waiting period. At the pickup point, children will be monitored and decontaminated if necessary. School personnel will list the number of children picked up and report this information to the County EOC every thirty minutes.

Once the students are safe, the school buses may be directed to pick up residents without transportation. Any school children not picked up within six hours after arriving at the reception center will be taken to shelter and will remain under the supervision of County School Board personnel.

5. Medical Facilities

If required, medical facilities will be evacuated to facilities outside the vulnerable zone using hospital transportation supplemented by other available vehicles. The nearest hospital that could accommodate the additional patients would be used.

6. Incarceration Facilities

Prisoners and inmates of incarceration facilities will be evacuated to temporary housing. County transportation will be provided.

E. Reception and Care

Reception centers will be established to expeditiously clear evacuee traffic from the evacuation routes, initial screening of evacuees for contamination, and provide food service and health and medical care to evacuees.

After a previously agreed-upon temporary shelter stay, evacuees will be mobilized and moved to other shelter locations or temporary housing. When the emergency subsides, evacuees can reenter the affected area by established procedures.

Following the initial screening and any required decontamination, a preliminary registration consisting of name, address, and telephone number will be conducted. Evacuees will then be assigned to shelters and provided with maps and routing instructions.

A second, more detailed registration of evacuees will be accomplished at shelters. American Red Cross representatives will collect personal data on evacuees on registration forms following established procedures. Registration data will be tabulated and submitted to the county Emergency Operations Center.

Shelters are identified as primary and secondary, and capacity is based on forty square feet per occupant. School shelter capacity is further identified in terms of non-classroom and total. Non-classroom areas would permit the continuance of classroom schedules on a

modified basis and the hosting of evacuees simultaneously. Total capacity reflects the capability of the facility to shelter evacuees with the suspension of classroom activities.

F. Sheltering (In-Place)

Suppose a toxic cloud has become airborne and immediately threatens persons attempting to evacuate. In that case, the decision to recommend taking shelter indoors instead of evacuation may be made by the Incident Commander. Residents will be notified to go indoors immediately, close windows and doors, turn off air conditioners and fans, and remain inside until they receive further instructions. This decision will be made based upon the advice of the director of the County Public Health Department, time permitting. Notification to take shelter indoors will be issued by public address siren system, radio and television broadcast, and police, fire, and emergency personnel using loudspeakers and other available means. Protective actions for special needs facilities will be given separate consideration. The Incident Commander will request the County Department of Emergency Management to activate EAS and disseminate such instructions through the electronic media and will issue protective action instructions.

Further information concerning In-Place Sheltering can be found at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council Web Site. Access this information at <http://www.swfrpc.org>.

Section 8.11 MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORT

A. General

This section describes the arrangements made for medical services for individuals who become victims of hazardous materials incidents. This section includes provisions for emergency care and transportation of victims of chemical releases, sudden illness, and medically incapacitated persons among the population affected by evacuation and relocation during a hazardous materials incident.

Personnel from the County Health Department, County Department of Emergency Management, County EMS Director, and the State Department of Health will coordinate the delivery of medical support services to victims of hazardous materials incidents. The Florida Department of Health has adopted the Regional Domestic Security Task Force region framework to facilitate coordination with regional response personnel. The Department of Emergency Management will notify the Department of Health Duty Officer, who will then notify the Regional Emergency Response Advisor (RERA).

B. Medical Support

A hazardous materials release can present actual or potential health hazards to individuals within the affected area. Capabilities must exist for treating exposed individuals. An ongoing capability for emergency care and transportation of victims of accidents and sudden illness and special needs populations during evacuation must also exist.

During disaster-related medical and rescue operations, the Fire/Rescue Dispatch Unit will direct and coordinate all participating medical/rescue units using emergency radio and other available communications systems, including commercial telephone lines.

The Fire/Rescue Dispatch Unit, under the supervision of the Operations Section Chief, will establish and maintain two-way radio communications between the medical/rescue units and the hospitals, coordinate and dispatch vehicles and personnel to the areas requiring on-site medical assistance, coordinate all ambulance and fire/rescue vehicles during emergency medical operations, and coordinate patient transport to available medical receiving facilities.

Under emergency conditions, ambulance and other emergency medical vehicle resources will be controlled by the Director of Emergency Management or the County Health Department until the need no longer exists. Resources over the needs of the County will be released to their respective agencies.

All medical/rescue agencies will operate from their normal bases as long as possible during the emergency period. They may disperse their vehicles and personnel as they see fit, provided the Director of Emergency Management or the County Health Department is informed of each vehicle's location and status. In the event of imminent hazard to medical services personnel, they

will seek safe shelter for themselves and their equipment. Following the shelter period, all personnel will return to their bases of operation and report their status to the Director of Emergency Management or County Health Department for assignment.

Ambulance and medical/rescue units performing on-site duties in a jurisdiction other than their own will, unless otherwise directed by proper authority, operate under the tactical control of the ranking Fire/Medic officer in whose jurisdiction the operation is located. Suppose there is no Fire/Medic officer. In that case, the on-site senior Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic will be responsible for patient care until the Fire/Medic officer becomes available.

Hospitals in and available to each county, if used, will keep the County Health Officer and Emergency Management Director informed of the number of bed spaces and the levels of service, including mental health, available in each hospital.

Coordinating the delivery of all state medical and health support services to the victims of hazardous materials incidents is the responsibility of the Department of Health. Each county health department must assure the Secretary of the Department of Health that adequate medical and health support services exist for treating and transporting victims of hazardous materials incidents to medical support facilities.

1. Hospitals and Ambulance Services

Those hospitals and other emergency medical service facilities capable of providing medical support for exposed individuals are identified in Figure 17.

2. Mental Health Care

The various counties' Public Health Departments provide emergency mental health services and care for victims, family members, and emergency responders.

Each agency should have a plan to deal with temporary mental health treatment primarily for their first responders and local citizens who may suffer from some form of mental trauma. Each agency should be familiar with the Critical Incident Stress Debrief procedures and have trained personnel on staff (or available in the community) to address issues that may arise after a particularly devastating event.

FIGURE 13: SOUTHWEST FLORIDA LEPC AREA HOSPITALS

1. Charlotte County

- a. Bayfront Health Port Charlotte
2500 Harbor Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL 33952
P: (941) 766-4122
- b. HCA Fawcett Memorial Hospital
21298 Olean Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL 33952
P: (941) 629-1181

2. Collier County

- a. David Lawrence Centers For Behavioral Health
6075 Bathey Ln
Naples, FL 34116 P:(239)455-8500
- b. Landmark Hospital of Southwest Florida
1285 Creekside Blvd East
Naples, FL 34109
P: (239) 529-1800
- c. NCH Florida Urgent Marco Island (Urgent Care)
40 S Heathwood Drive
Marco Island, FL 34145
P: (239) 624-8540
- d. NCH Baker Hospital Downtown
350 7th Street, North
Naples, FL
P: (239) 263-5151
- e. NCH North Naples Hospital
11190 Health Park Road
Naples, FL 34110
P:(239) 513-7000
- f. Physicians Regional Medical Center-Collier Blvd
8300 Collier Blvd
Naples, FL 34114
P:(239) 354-6000

- g. Physicians Regional Medical Center-Pine Ridge
6101 Pine Ridge Road
Naples, FL P:(239) 348-4000
- h. The Willough at Naples (Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse)
9001 Tamiami Trail, E
Naples, FL 34113
P:(239) 688-3063

3. Glades County

- a. Glades General Hospital
1201 South Main Street
Belle Glade, FL 33430
P: (561) 996-6571
- b. Raulerson Hospital
1796 Hwy 441 North
Okeechobee, FL 34972
P: (863) 763-2151

4. Hendry County

- a. Hendry Regional Medical Center
524 West Sagamore Avenue
Clewiston, FL 33440
P: (863) 902-3000

5. Lee County

- a. Cape Coral Hospital
636 Del Prado Boulevard
Cape Coral, FL
P: (239) 574-2323
- b. Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida
9981 S. Health Park Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33908
P: (239) 343-5437
- c. Gulf Coast Medical Center
13681 Doctor's Way (Metro Parkway & Daniels Road)
Fort Myers, FL
P: (239) 343-1000

- d. Health Park Medical Center
9981 Health Park Circle
Fort Myers, FL 33908
P: (239) 343-5000
- e. Lee Health Coconut Point
23450 Via Coconut Point
Estero, FL 33928
P: (239) 468-0000
- f. Lee Memorial Hospital
2776 Cleveland Avenue
Fort Myers, FL 33901
P: (239) 343-2000
- g. HCA Florida Lehigh Hospital
1500 Lee Boulevard
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936
P: (239) 369-2101
- h. NCH Internal Medicine Bonita
3501 Health Center Blvd #2190
Estero, FL 33928
P: (239) 948-4479

6. Sarasota County

- a. HCA Florida Sarasota Doctors Hospital
5731 Bee Ridge Road
Sarasota, FL 34233
P: (941) 315-8460
- b. HCA Florida Englewood Hospital
700 Medical Boulevard
Englewood, FL 34223
P: (941) 270-4222
- c. Lakewood Ranch Medical Center
8330 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
P: (941) 782-2100
- d. Sarasota Memorial Hospital
1700 South Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34239
P: (941) 917-9000

Section 8.12 RECOVERY AND REENTRY

A. General

This section provides general guidelines for recovery and reentry operations to be followed when a hazardous materials emergency has been brought under control, and no further significant releases are anticipated. Decisions to relax protective measures implemented in a hazardous materials emergency will be based on an evaluation of chemical concentrations at the time of consideration and on the projected long-term exposure, which may result in dose commitments to residents and transients in the affected area.

B. Recovery

Recovery operations may be coordinated and directed from the County EOC or the on-scene command post.

1. Environmental Analysis

Before allowing public access to potentially contaminated areas, the Director of Emergency Management, the County Health Department, and the State Department of Environmental Protection will evaluate the environmental conditions in the affected areas by conducting direct measurements and collecting environmental samples for laboratory analysis. Environmental sampling will proceed from the perimeter of affected areas to the interior.

In-state laboratory analysis of collected samples may be performed at any of the laboratories identified in Section 7.0 or by independent contractors made available by the State Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Containment and Cleanup

At any release where the lead agency determines a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment, the lead agency may take appropriate action to prevent, mitigate or minimize the threat to the public health, safety, or the environment. In determining the appropriate extent of action to be taken at a given release, the lead agency should first review the preliminary assessment and current site conditions.

The following factors should be considered in determining the appropriateness of removal actions:

- Actual or potential exposure to hazardous substances by nearby populations, animals, or food chain;
- Actual or potential contamination of drinking water supplies or sensitive ecosystems;
- Hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants in bulk storage containers that may pose a threat of release;

- High levels of hazardous substances or contaminants in soils, largely at or near the surface, that may spread;
- Weather conditions that may facilitate the spread or release of hazardous substances;
- The threat of fire or explosion;
- The availability of other appropriate state or federal response mechanisms; and
- Other situations or factors may threaten public health, welfare, or the environment.

Suppose the lead agency determines that a removal action is necessary. In that case, actions shall be taken as soon as possible to prevent, minimize or mitigate the threat to public health, welfare, or the environment. The following removal actions are, as a general rule, appropriate in the following situations:

TABLE 27: CONTAINMENT AND CLEANUP REMOVAL ACTIONS

Action	Situation
Fences, warning signs, or other security or site control precautions	Where humans or animals have access to the release
Drainage controls	Where precipitation or runoff from other sources may enter the release area
Stabilization of berms, dikes, or impoundments	Where needed to maintain the integrity of the structures.
Capping of contaminated soils or sludge	Where needed to reduce the spread of hazardous substances into soil, groundwater, or air.
Using chemicals or other materials to retard the spread of release or to mitigate its effects	Where use of such chemicals will reduce the spread of the release
Removal of contaminated soils from drainage or other areas	Where removal will reduce the spread of contamination
Removal of bulk containers that hold hazardous substances	Where it will reduce the likelihood of spillage, leakage, exposure to humans, animals, or food chain, or fire or explosion
Provision of alternative water supply	Where it will reduce the likelihood of exposure of humans or animals to contaminated water

Where the responsible parties are known, an initial effort will be made to have them perform the necessary removal actions to the extent practicable under the circumstances. Where responsible parties are unknown, an initial effort will be made to locate them and have them perform the necessary removal actions to the extent practicable under the circumstances.

Remedial actions, consistent with a permanent remedy, may be necessary to prevent or minimize the release of hazardous substances so that they do not spread or cause substantial danger to public health, safety, or the environment. However, before any remedial action is taken, the lead agency should determine the nature and threats presented by the release and

evaluate proposed remedies. This may involve assessing whether the threat can be prevented or minimized by controlling the source of the contamination at or near the area where the hazardous substances were originally located (source control measures) and/or whether additional actions will be necessary because the hazardous substances have spread to other areas (management of migration).

The following factors should be assessed in determining whether and what type of remedial and/or removal action is to be considered:

- Population, environmental, and health concerns at risk;
- Routes of exposure;
- Amount, concentration, hazardous properties, and form of substances present;
- Hydrogeological factors;
- Current and potential groundwater use;
- Climate;
- The extent to which the source can be adequately identified and characterized;
- Whether substances at the site may be reused or recycled;
- Likelihood of future releases if the substances remain on-site;
- The extent to which natural or manmade barriers currently contain the substances and the adequacy of those barriers;
- The extent to which the substances have spread or are expected to spread from the area and whether any future spread may pose a threat to public health, safety, or to the environment;
- The extent to which state and federal environmental and public health requirements apply to the specific site;
- The extent to which contamination levels exceed established state and federal requirements, standards, and criteria.
- Contribution of the contamination to an air, land, water, and/or food chain contamination problem;
- The ability of the responsible party to implement and maintain the remedy until the threat is permanently abated;
- Availability of appropriate enforcement mechanisms; and
- Any other appropriate factors.

Alternative actions should be developed based on this assessment and screened to determine the most appropriate action. Criteria to be used in the initial screening include cost, effectiveness, and acceptable engineering practices. The appropriate remedial action will be cost-effective, effectively mitigate, minimizes, and adequately protect public health, safety, and the environment.

The following remedial actions are, as a general rule, appropriate in the following situations:

TABLE 28: CONTAINMENT AND CLEANUP REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Action	Situation
Elimination or containment of contamination to prevent further contamination	Contaminated groundwater
Treatment and/or removal to reduce or eliminate contamination	Contaminated groundwater
Physical containment to reduce or eliminate potential exposure to contamination	Contaminated groundwater
Restrictions on use to eliminate potential exposure to contamination	Contaminated groundwater
Elimination or containment of contamination to prevent further pollution	Contaminated surface water
Treatment of contaminated water to reduce or eliminate its hazard potential	Contaminated surface water
Actions to remove, treat or contain soil or waste to reduce or eliminate its hazard potential	Contaminated soil/waste

3. Documentation and Follow-Up

During all response phases, documentation should be collected and maintained to support all actions taken under this plan and form the basis for cost recovery. In general, documentation should be sufficient to provide the source and circumstances of the condition, the identity of responsible parties, accurate accounting of local or private party costs incurred, and impacts and potential impacts to public health, welfare, and the environment. Evidentiary and cost documentation procedures and requirements to be followed will be those specified in the USCG Marine Safety Manual (Commandant Instruction M16000.3) and 33 CFR Part 153.

A final report of the incident should be prepared by the lead response agency that includes, at a minimum, the following information:

- Time and date of incident;
- Name and address of affected facility;
- Name of facility owner/operator;
- Hazardous material(s) involved;
- Nature and source of release;
- Summary of actions taken by emergency response agencies and organizations;
- Summary of actions taken to protect public health/safety, the environment, and other property;
- Summary of injuries and property damage;
- Documentation of costs; and
- Need for additional actions.

The information and reports obtained by the lead agency for response actions shall, as appropriate, be transmitted to the LEPC Chairman and the SERC for Hazardous Materials Chairman.

C. Re-entry

The BCC's Chairman will decide to relax protective actions in consultation with the County Health Officer, Director of Emergency Management, and the on-scene commander. Reentry operations will be coordinated from the County EOC or on-scene command post. Reentry will be considered when chemical concentrations in air, water, and ground are below established levels of concern in the affected areas (downwind portions of the vulnerable zone). Upon the determination by the County Health Officer that the environmental conditions in the affected areas are safe for public access, protective actions will be relaxed, and reentry will be authorized.

The county emergency management director will coordinate local reentry activities from the County EOC and inform the State EOC. After trained HAZMAT personnel have verified that the area is safe, the public can only re-enter a cleared area defined by geographic boundaries (i.e., highways, streets, and canals).

Section 8.13 EXERCISES AND DRILLS

A. General

Exercises and drills must be conducted periodically to evaluate the adequacy of the hazardous materials emergency plan and the skills of the emergency response personnel. The results of exercises and drills provide a basis for changes in the response plans, implementing procedures, and future training scheduling for emergency response personnel.

B. Exercises

An exercise is an event that tests the integrated response capability and major elements within emergency preparedness plans. The emergency preparedness exercise will simulate an emergency, resulting in local authorities releasing hazardous materials and responding. Regional LEPC Exercises will be conducted biennially and will be evaluated by qualified observers.

For an emergency plan to remain useful, it must be kept up to date through a thorough review of actual responses, simulated exercises, and new data collection. As key assumptions and operational concepts in the plan change, the plan must be amended to reflect the new situations.

1. Full-Scale Exercise

A full-scale exercise is designed to fully demonstrate the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of appropriate county agencies and organizations. Mobilization of local emergency personnel and resources will be demonstrated.

2. Functional Exercise

A functional exercise is designed to demonstrate one or more functions or capabilities specified in the emergency plan. Mobilization of local personnel and resources will be limited.

3. Tabletop Exercise

A tabletop exercise is a simulation in which response activities are discussed. There is no mobilization of emergency personnel and resources.

4. Scheduling and Scenario Development

The facility owner/operators and the County Emergency Management officials will schedule exercises jointly. The facility owner/operator and the County Emergency Management Directors will develop and prepare exercise objectives and scenarios jointly.

Scenarios will be varied from year to year such that all major elements of the plan and preparedness organizations are tested within five years. The scenarios will include but not be limited to the following:

- Objectives of the exercise and appropriate evaluation criteria;
- Dates, time period, places, and participating organizations.
- The simulated events;
- A time schedule of real and simulated initiating events;
- A narrative summary describing the conduct of the exercise; and
- A description of arrangements for advance materials to be provided to observers.

5. Critique and Reports

The LEPC will use the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) methodology to plan and evaluate exercises. In addition, HSEEP guidelines will be followed when writing the After-Action Report (AAR) and Improvement Plan (IP). A hot wash will be conducted after each exercise to evaluate the capability of participating emergency agencies and organizations to implement emergency plans and procedures. Participating agency evaluators will be requested to submit written comments as input to develop the AAR/IP.

The LEPC Staff will continue to assist county agencies throughout the region with the design, development, evaluation, and documentation of any exercise conducted within our area.

C. Drills

A drill is a supervised instruction period to develop, test, and monitor technical skills necessary to perform emergency response operations. A drill may be a component of an exercise. The coordinator for that particular drill will evaluate each drill.

In addition to the required exercise, drills will be conducted at the frequencies listed below.

1. Communications Drills

Communications between the facility owners/operators and state and local governments will be tested as described in Section 5. Communications with federal emergency response organizations will be tested quarterly. Communications between the facilities, state and local EOCs, and on-scene personnel will be tested annually. The test of communications with on-scene teams will be part of the exercises.

2. Medical Drills

Medical emergency drills involving a simulated contaminated injury and participation by appropriate local emergency medical services will be conducted as part of the exercise.

3. Chemical Monitoring Drills

Monitoring drills for state and appropriate county hazardous materials monitors will be conducted as part of the exercise. These drills will include the collection and analysis of sampling media, provisions for communications, and record-keeping.

Section 8.14 TRAINING

A. General

This section outlines requirements for a training program that will ensure that hazardous materials emergency response training is provided for emergency response personnel responsible for decision-making, planning, and response.

B. Annual and Refresher Training

Each local governmental entity within the county ensures that local emergency response personnel receive adequate hazardous materials training annually. Each County agency will maintain records of personnel completing training courses. These records will be updated periodically to reflect refresher training. The type of training required by each emergency response agency/organization is identified in Table 29.

In 40 CFR 311, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted training rules promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in 29 CFR 1910.120 which require specific training for all "public employees" who respond to hazardous materials incidents, effective March 6, 1990. Different levels of training are required for first responders hired after the effective date of this rule, depending on the duties and functions performed by each. However, all employees must complete the training or demonstrate competency at their respective level of response. These levels include:

- First Responder Awareness Level
- First Responder Operations Level
- Hazardous Materials Technician
- Hazardous Materials Specialist
- On-Scene Incident Commander

The Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee continues to help emergency responders acquire the training and equipment necessary to do their jobs and to find sources to present training within their areas of need.

Training is provided to our local businesses in conjunction with Hazards Analysis (HA) Inspections and Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste (SQG) inspections. These inspections and training sessions are crucial to our local small businesses' compliance.

C. Schedule and Availability of Training

The State Division of Emergency Management, in cooperation with the State Fire College and the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, has developed a hazardous materials emergency response-training program. This program is designed to improve the capabilities of local governments to respond to emergencies involving hazardous materials effectively.

The State Emergency Response Commission provides training materials to local governments and the ten Local Emergency Planning Committees designed to satisfy the training criteria for Levels One and Two. The EPA is sponsoring tuition-free courses in designated sites in Florida that will partially satisfy the training requirements for Levels Three, Four, and Five.

Courses will be scheduled contingent upon the availability of funding. The State Division of Emergency Management will prepare and disseminate a training schedule to each county emergency management agency, law enforcement agencies, and fire departments. Each County's Department of Emergency Management will recruit participants from local emergency response agencies and organizations for these courses.

The Southwest Florida LEPC provides training assistance to the counties as funds are available and requests are presented. Classes are scheduled in such a manner as to have a limited impact on the availability of emergency personnel to perform their normal duties.

TABLE 29: TRAINING FOR EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

Training Need	HAZMAT Team	Fire Rescue	Law Enforcement	Emergency Medical	Public Health	Emergency Management	Support Agencies	School Board	Hospitals	Facility Operators
First Responder Awareness Level	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
First Responder Operations Level	X	X				X				X
Hazardous Materials Technician *	X									
Hazardous Materials Specialist	X									
On-Scene Commander	X	X	X	X				X		
Safety Operations	**	X	X	X		X		X		
Use of Protective Clothing and Equipment	**	X		X		X			X	
Decontamination Procedures	**	X		X	X				X	
Treatment of Contaminated Patient Injuries		X		X	X				X	

* Training required for personnel carrying out operational management responsibilities.

** NOTE: These training modules are covered in the Hazardous Material Technical Training Level and are required for supervisory personnel needing additional training beyond First Responder Levels. All training must be SERC approved.

Section 8.15 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A. Appendix A: List of Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs) and Data for the Hazard Analysis

PLEASE NOTE: The list of extremely hazardous substances can be found online at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/consolidated-list-lists>. The Consolidated List of Chemicals is subject to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), and Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act.

B. Appendix B: Hazard Analysis

PLEASE NOTE: The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council conducts the Hazard Analysis Inspections for Lee and Collier Counties. Records for these counties are on file at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. Records for Charlotte, Glades, Hendry, and Sarasota Counties are maintained separately by each County respectively, and a copy of their data is located at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council office.

ⁱ *Ibid.*, pg. 1-21.

ⁱⁱ *Ibid.*

ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid.* pg. 1-25.