



# Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Meeting

October 16, 2013

## Meeting Notes

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**Participants:** See attached.

**Agenda:** See attached.

**Safety Moment:** Sandra from BP Energy Center briefed the group on general safety procedures (fire, earthquake, evacuation) as well as provided a general layout of the facility.

**Introductions:** Tyler Bone announced that he will be facilitating the meeting as Alan Wien is at a HAZMAT conference in Baltimore. The meeting began with an overall welcome followed by introductions. A sign-in sheet was also circulated (see the attached participant list).

**Review of Agenda and Handouts:** Agenda, Flyer, Activity Schedule

**Action Items from the Previous Meeting:** The following items were carried forward from the previous meeting:

- FBI request to Hazmat Teams for cost breakdown of White Powder Letters incidents.  
**Derek – Juneau request for cost of white powder responses.**  
Tanana, Anchorage – 7 white powder sent to AK in 2011  
Need all charges including aircraft.
- FBI request to Hazmat Teams for information on foam types available for radiation response. Derek used Mat-Su RDT in August.
- Training wants and needs for 2013-2014. Send ideas to Alan Wien and/or Jeff Ennenga. Wrapped up Hazmat course: Fairbanks had 7 or 8. Anchorage had very small number.
- Larry Iwamoto Hazmat Professional of the Year Award – need to develop process & procedure. Draft process they will use. Larry started this meeting and setting up the team. Need to get a selection committee started and nominations.

### Hazmat Team/Other Organization Updates:

- Anchorage Hazmat Team:** Update from : Jim Anchorage  
Jim Dennis will take over coordination. Working with Kevin Walsh.  
Kevin administrative changes, 10 hazmat per shift. 1 medic.  
Pepper spray

Mercury spill medical clinic  
3 Techs rad nukes training  
Homemade bombs and explosives.  
November quarterly training for the department.  
Bring them back up to speed  
ORE (operation readiness exercise) this spring “mustard agent” was the substance.  
More training needed  
Have met with the 103<sup>rd</sup>; built same down range sampling kit.  
FBI offered their services for additional training.

**b. Fairbanks Hazmat Team: Tyler Bones**

Steady previously. Received 8 calls – more supporting forestry.  
Incident command trailer for forestry. Branched out a little more  
Fire side Academy, Pogo Mine Hazmat team, with state issue. Membership  
26 no turnover.

**c. JUNEAU:** Rhys Mateo; steady, team is fire base. In house training. Better working relationship with police dept. City asked confined space training. Cyanide scare. Police found a kit that they thought was open. It was not cyanide – a watering testing kit for cyanide. White powder incident last Friday; after contact the lab. Quick call to manufacturing was packing material. They evacuated the whole state building. 15 active members with new member Cheyenne. Petersburg site survey, Ketchikan hazmat with Juneau went there.

**d. KETCHIKAN:** no report

**e. KODIAK:** Jim Mullican; 3 ammonia calls – 2 boats & 1 cannery, a couple CO calls, a couple gas & Oil. 1<sup>st</sup> boat the 2<sup>nd</sup> one had fire with ammonia level a suited up and took care of it.

**f. 103<sup>RD</sup> Civil Support Team:** Jim, Lt Cor. Wayne Don, Richard Mohammadi; white powder response to National Guard mail room. Coordinate with environmental and will plan for future. Went to 22 members; experienced some turnover.

**g. JBER - Elmendorf AFB/Fort Richardson Hazmat Team:** Steve reported non-hazardous at N.G. Armory. Build up cross training. Beefing up exercises. Available here in Anchorage. Have 30 members avail.

**h. EPA:** No report.

**i. Central Mat-Su Fire Dept.** David: 2 responses. 2 went to Sacramento. Training and dispatch; working with dispatching vehicles for level 1, level 2, etc. Place conexes with spill response equipment around the area. Most things are located in heart of Wasilla. De-con system that regulates the water temp. Trying to get EMS employees Involved – biggest. 60-70% hazmat techs on the team. Fire with chlorine response turned out to be housing complex. Failed 6x8 underground bunker they stored chlorine. Down range luckily there wasn't enough chlorine. Plane crash on road, DEC appreciate Team effort, DEC backfills the stuff used. Coordinate with 103<sup>rd</sup> – decon Team and learn some of their techniques. Defense team is a B or C rated.

- j. **Sitka:** Joe: Ammonia: had a few; one in June had a fatality. EOD cleaning out father's shed was old dynamite. DOT came down with unit to office. Go to Sitka and do some level B training. Do some training next spring. FBI: is bomb tech available for assistance?
- k. **FBI:** Derek; we have a threat assessment process. AWWU still has chlorine. Trying to get information of stock piles in the state. Cyanide is used a lot in gold mining. Responding to white powder; trying to get return address. Contact they can assist. Uranium 235 in Anchorage Los Alamos was radium 226; post blast. White powder letters. Law enforcement and hazmat are working together. RDD FTX and Matsu – training exercise bomb squad gets called to that. Identified a device with radium; containment foam cube – disrupted. Would like to get together TABLE TOP exercise with fire chiefs, troopers, mayor's office, etc. To education them for future incidents. Gamma knife coming to AK Regional Hospital. National improvised explosive chemical outreach workshop- next spring, most likely Anchorage. Wrangell's best RAD equipment is from the 1980's is there any grant money available?
- l. **U.S. Coast Guard:** no report
- m. **Alaska Railroad:** no report
- n. **DHSS: (PH Lab, Rad, etc.)** Turnover of personnel in the bio hazard division. Did walk thru this summer. Janet participated in an on-site drill. Funding is tight. They are not routinely sending out sampling kits. Testing: RAD issues, Evaluation chemistry, RAD specialist but testing is limited. Chlorine and fluorine acetates – testing - they can test for those compounds. Cyanide testing available. Clyde Pierce is the RAD guy available.
- o. **DEC:** *Mark Sielaff report (see HAZMAT Working Group Summary April-Oct/2013)*  
**See Mark's notes attached.**  
Sitka plans to install 6 ammonia detectors around the processing plants. So they will know how far to evacuate the area(s).
- p. **DOL&WD:** no report
- q. **DHS&EM:** Jeff: Response to Galena. Sitting on the edge of a decommissioned military contaminated site. Sewers overflowed. Fuel evaporated off. Jeff went there with Forestry team w/o hazmat experience. They had contingency plan and contractor but level B clean-up.
- r. **[Industry]: (AK West, Tesoro, etc.)** Tyler Bones: A lot of activity up north. Lynden is buying out another freight company. Samson will start service to the SE.

#### Drills and Training:

Review: Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Activity Schedule (see attached) was distributed to the group to review.

Drills and training needs/desires for 2013-2014. Continue to provide your needs to Alan and Jeff.

Alaska Shield 2014: Still in the planning stages.

DHS&EM: Jeff Ennenga - HAZMAT Training/Exercise Plan  
HAZMAT grant – went to Sitka. Tech course 22 people attended. USCG to go to Nome and did a small hazmat exercise. Same delivered in Unalaska. This winter: Petersburg, Prince of Wales Island. Calling it the roadshow. Trying to do the course in Juneau this winter. Bringing in Sitka or Wrangell in to this class.

Continuing Challenge every other year.

UAA developed a portable on-line class – Powerpoint presentation: Hazmat Awareness.

Purchased new books – to be mailed out before the symposiums.

Sent 11 people for marine firefighters and had some hazmat training.

Hazmat incident management class possible Feb 2014.

AK Shield First day: 1<sup>st</sup>: general 2<sup>nd</sup>: ammonia 3<sup>rd</sup> Drill day

Tech class in April 2014.

Eva Edwards is the person who applies for training. She has the info from FEMA records that can show what is available. She will send back certificates for courses taken. How can they help coordinate and support for training, ISC and NIMS, they have a monthly training by national training partners. Contact her for information or to sign up for the courses.

Two categories: 1. Local government 2. Incident management teams. All hazards task book will eventually be coming out. EMI site: Independent study course. Evaluation type: so we will know what the team's capabilities. This group will be a great asset.

**Special Powerpoint presentation:**

**Kodiak Ammonia Response Incidents: Jim Mullican Kodiak Hazmat.**

Dec 31, 2012 HAZMAT Response to Ammonia Spill from F/V Pacific Producer.

**Statewide Hazmat Budget Status:**

- a. **ADEC CIP Funding Status for Hazmat Teams:** Ok for now.
- b. **Federal Funding:** (ODP, MMRS, HMEP Funding, etc) Jeff Ennenga (DHS&EM) Statewide: 105, HMP grant lost \$15,000. Will probably become annually \$15,000 deduction.

**Additional Items for Discussion: None**

**Recap Action Items: from this Meeting: None**

**Informational Items:** Just a reminder, meeting notes, work group member listing (including phone numbers and email addresses), photos from past activities, etc. are posted at the following website: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/hazmat.htm>

**Other Informational/Action Items: None**

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled February 11, 2014 in Anchorage at the BP Energy Center. Following this meeting at 1:00 p.m. the FBI will present a session on: FBI presentation to start @ 1:30pm.

Meeting adjourned.

**STATEWIDE HAZMAT RESPONSE WORK GROUP – ACTIVITY SCHEDULE** (as of: October 16, 2013)

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Type of Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Sponsor/ Coordinator</b>	<b>Point of Contact</b>	<b>Participating Agencies</b>
Statewide Hazmat Work Group Mtg / WMD Work Group Meeting	Meeting	October 16	Anchorage BP Energy Center	DEC FBI	Alan Wien Derek Espeland	All Statewide Hazmat Response Wk Gp Members
Community Hazmat Training / Exercise – Mass Rescue	Training/ Exercise	Dec – Feb (TBD)	Petersburg & POW (Tentative)	DHSEM / USCG	Jeff Ennenga	LEPC, FD, City & Borough, USCG
Hazmat Incident Management	Training	Nov – Feb (TBD)	Juneau, AK	DHSEM / TEB	Jeff Ennenga	CBJ, Southeast FD, KGB
Alaska Shield 2014 Hazmat Symposium and Exercise	Training/ Exercise	April 1-3, 2014	Kodiak, AK	DEC & ADQ Hazmat	Alan Wien Jim Mullican	All Statewide Hazmat Response Teams & Support
Ammonia Awareness (AK Shield Symposium)	Training	April 2, 2014	Kodiak, AK	DHSEM	Jeff Ennenga	All Statewide Hazmat Response Teams & Support
Hazmat Technician Course	Training	April 2014 (TBD)	Anchorage FD	DHSEM	Jeff Ennenga	All Statewide Hazmat Response Teams & Support

# HAZMAT WORKING GROUP SUMMARY April-Oct/2013:

## City of Galena Flooding:

PERP is the lead to the hazmat response and recovery & continues to coordinate the overall ADEC response to the 2013 Spring Flood Event.

Approx 50 transformers were identified during field surveys & over flights. ADEC & Emerald Alaska developed a plan to remove transformers from the lagoon and test them for presence of PCB's. Over 1,900 containers containing hazardous liquids ranging in size from 55-gallon drum to aerosol cans have been brought to a secure collection area by cleanup crews and Galena residents. Field crews continued to remove contaminants identified during over flights and field surveys. Cleanup of contaminated soil will begin as staff becomes available.

Since April/2013-October/2013 ADEC had approx 142 Hazardous responses throughout the State of Alaska where the primary substances spilled was Glycol/antifreeze followed by corrosion inhibitor and methanol.

Since April/2013-October/2013 ADEC had approx 16 Extremely Hazardous responses throughout the State of Alaska where the primary substances spilled was NH3 followed by H2SO4 and Chlorine.

Overall in Alaska NH3 accounts for approx 70% of all extremely hazardous responses. We have found the best attack of NH3 releases on vessels (reefers, catchers, and processors) is to remove/tow the vessel away from town to a secure area where it can be properly ventilated and no affect the community.

June 24, 2013 an accidental NH3 release on board a tender boat in Sitka caused one person to die and six people to seek medical attention.

Incident occurred while oil was being drained from the ships ammonia tank in the engine room. Person operating valve Patient A (**who died from the exposure, also less than 1ft fm release**) accidentally opened the valve too quickly causing roughly 50 lbs of NH3 to be released directly in the engine room. Note, though the amount may not seem much it is being discharged in a very confined space which is located on most vessels. The captain Patient B (less than 5 ft away, burns, cough, difficulty breathing, headache). Neither had proper PPE on. Patient A & B was assisted by Patient C (less than 10 feet away, who also had burns, cough, difficulty breathing, and headache) who was wearing wrong cartridge, (carbon filter respirator). Tender was towed away from the community and vented. Patient D less than 20 ft away had difficulty breathing, nausea, and vomiting. Patient E, F & G less than 100 ft away had eye and respiratory irritation.

Lessons learned:

- (1) Prompt actions from patient C probably saved patient B.
- (2) Need for proper safety control mechanisms, ex self closing emergency stop valves in pipeline.
- (3) Having proper PPE (full face SCBA and appropriate outer wear).
- (4) Have at least 5 gallons of clean water, squirt bottle of water or eye station &/or shower.
- (5) Hazmat training and community response plans need to address such a response.
- (6) Health care providers and first responders need to report chemical releases to the public as soon as possible, identifying impact to public health.
- (7) Add what you want. ☺

**METH LABS**

- (1) Meth lab was busted 6/8/2013 at North Pole, AK. Meth lab in an appt complex which leaves us with the problem of the adjacent apartments connecting by the air ducting.

We had no other meth lab busts since 04/03/2013 meth lab bust in Wasilla, AK