



DRAFT

Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Meeting

(Anchorage – BP Energy Center)

May 12, 2009

Draft Meeting Notes

May 14, 2009

1. **Participants:** See attached.
2. **Agenda:** See attached.
3. **Safety Moment:** Sandra Brewer (BP Energy Center) briefed the group on general safety procedures (fire, earthquake, evacuation) as well as provided a general layout of the facility.
4. **Introductions:** The meeting began with an overall welcome followed by introductions. A sign-in sheet was also circulated (see the attached participant list).
5. **Action Items from the Previous Meeting:** The group reviewed the action items for the previous meeting held on February 10, 2008 in Anchorage.
 - a. **Hazmat Activities for the Arctic Shield/Northern Edge Exercise:** Work group members were asked to provide any ideas and suggestions for Statewide Hazmat Team activation and involvement in this event to Larry Iwamoto. Larry will consolidate the list and provide it to DHSEM for consideration during the planning conferences for this event. **(Open – See discussion in these meeting notes)**
 - b. **2010 Alaska Hazmat Symposium:** The symposium is tentatively scheduled for early 2010 in Fairbanks. Work group members were asked to provide their ideas and suggestions for symposium topics to Larry Iwamoto and Tyler Bones. **(Open – See discussion in these meeting notes)**
 - c. **State Hazmat Budget Requests:** Geoff Harben asked members of the Statewide Hazmat Team to provide their budget proposals for next year's budget increment. DEC will review the proposals and allocate funding based on the requests. **(Closed)**
 - d. **Standard Operating Guidelines:** Larry Iwamoto will contact the Juneau Hazmat Team and request a copy of their SOGs. He will then distribute the SOGs to members of the Statewide Hazmat Work Group for their information and possible use/adoption. **(Closed)**
6. **Hazmat Team Updates:**
 - a. **Anchorage Hazmat Team:** Update from Jim Vignola and Wade Strahan.
 - 31 Hazmat responses since the last meeting. Seven natural gas responses inside facilities and 4 outside of facilities, Several responses involved abandoned containers.
 - Recent response to a fire at Anchorage Tank and Welding involved special paints for anti-corrosion.

- Upcoming Training Opportunities: Hazmat IC course. Several Hazmat team members also will be attending courses outside of Alaska. A Hazmat Chemistry course is also planned for October 13-15, 2009 in Anchorage.
 - Working on unknown white powder response guidelines. Draft to be sent out for comments.
 - Hazmat Target Capabilities List: Final version being worked on.
 - LLIS website provides good lessons learned information for further refining standard operating guidelines (SOGs).
 - George Mayberry offered to enroll work group members on the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) which has links to LLIS, APIP, and others. Contact information for George is provided in the attached attendee listing.
- b. Fairbanks Hazmat Team:** Update from Tyler Bones.
- Supported local fire departments in recent structural fires involving combustible materials. Also provided flooding support to the Fairbanks North Star Borough
 - Participating in a Mass Casualty Exercise at North Pole in late May.
 - Briefed on a white powder response to the Federal Building. Per Derek Espeland, the person who sent the letter was a known probationee and the situation was quickly resolved.
- c. 103rd Civil Support Team:** A representative was unable to attend the meeting.
- d. Kodiak Hazmat Team:** Rome Kamai provided the following update.
- Conducting a fuel delivery truck rollover drill on May 29th with fuel delivery companies. The goal of the drill is to implement our “hot tap” technique two of our members learned about at last year at Hazmat Conference in Anchorage. The fuel companies have agreed to provide the stinger, and the Hazmat Team will provide the saw and personnel to enter the hot zone. The drill is limited to the fuel company and the Kodiak Team. Future drills will include other agencies.
 - Hosting the Hazmat Tech Course on July 13-16, and an 8-hour Ammonia Awareness Course on the 17th. Statewide Hazmat team members can contact Rome Kamai for course availability and information. There are openings at this time and the course is free. Attendees will need to bring their own SCBA. Kodiak can fill SCOTT bottles, if an adaptor is needed, you will need to bring one with you.
 - They recently assisted the USCG Fire Department with an oily substance leaking from a transformer/ capacitor shipment received from off island. They provided a team of two to assist with decontamination. The substance was later found to be non-PCB. The assistance was a good opportunity to practice their mutual aid agreement and small team deployment.
- e. Valdez Hazmat Team:** A representative was unable to attend the meeting.
- f. Elmendorf AFB/Ft Richardson Hazmat Team/Bio-Environmental Engineer:** Update from Andy Lambert and Nicole Bradley.
- Responded to minor fuel spills, no Hazmat releases.
 - Sponsoring a Hazmat Tech Course in August; the course is provided thru DOD in-

house resources.

g. Ketchikan Hazmat Team: Update from Jim Hill.

- Working an issue with ADF&G on a 25-year old bottle, half-filled (approximately 250 ml) of diethyl ether. They have made contact with DPS and DOD for assistance.
- Responded to a fire in a single family dwelling; however, the owner had posted an explosives placard on the front of the home which delayed the response until it was later deemed to be a hoax.
- Andy Tighe is working with ERT for specialized training and they are exploring possible funding sources.
- First Defender instrument has arrived; personnel are using it to identify substances.
- Three people attended the Ammonia Training held in Juneau.
- Participated in the marine mass casualty exercise held in April in Ketchikan; triaged simulated casualties.

h. Juneau Hazmat Team: Update from Eric Mohrmann.

- Hazmat Team is nearly ready for a Level A response. They will be conducting a Hazmat response exercise and the Ketchikan Hazmat Team will serve as evaluators.
- Two recent responses: one involved an oil spill from a day tank on an upper floor of the Gold Belt building. The other involved a suspected white powder incident at the Federal Building in Juneau. The FBI and 103CST were called and assisted.
- The Ammonia Training course held in late March went very well.
- capable for provided Larry with a summary of activities as follows:

i. EPA: Update from Matt Carr and Michele Sherwood.

- Participated in an earthquake exercise on April 21-22. EPA Region 10 assumed control over the simulated response effort in Salt Lake City.
- Michele Sherwood is the new EPA Planner, replacing Mary Goolie.
- The new FOOSC will be starting work on May 27th. Bob Whittier, formerly with the State of Maine, will be assuming Matt Carr's area of responsibility. Matt will assume Carl Lautenberger's area of responsibility (North Slope and Trans Alaska Pipeline).
- EPA's START Contractor, Ecology and Environment, is continuing to conduct training every two weeks at the EPA warehouse. Contact Len Marcus (257-5000) for information on the training courses.

j. FBI: Update from Derek Espeland.

- Introduced Jackie DeCou who will be filling in for Derek while he attends bomb school over the next 6-7weeks.
- FBI will be hosting a small scale exercise (probably radiological) during the first week of August. The first day will be a tabletop exercise, followed by a field response exercise on the second day. The likely location for the exercise is Ft Richardson.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal support: The Army's 176 EOD unit is statewide deployable.

k. Alaska Railroad: Update from Jim Seeberger.

- Railroad services were temporarily disrupted when a half-mile of track was impacted by the on-going Spring flooding. The rockslide at Whittier also created problems with regard to road access. The State ferry had approximately 80 vehicles that required transport from the port to the Anchorage side of the Whittier tunnel. The railroad required a waiver to accommodate the situation; however, the waiver was denied.
 - The railroad is also interested in participating in the Arctic Shield/Northern Edge exercise to fulfill their regulatory requirements for participating in exercises.
- I. Public Health Lab (DHSS):** Update from Eileen Nickoloff.
- DHSS staff responding to the Novel H1N1 (formerly known as swine flu) outbreak in the US. No suspected or confirmed cases in Alaska thus far.
 - DHSS will be hiring a new Chief Medical Examiner in June and a new Deputy Medical Examiner in July.
 - Stephanie Massay presented a poster on biological sampling at a recent Public Health conference.
 - DHSS is looking for a chemist to hire.
- m. Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM):** Update from George Mayberry.
- Unified Command established for the Novel H1N1 flu outbreak as well as the Spring flooding event. State has responded to flooding events at several communities.
 - Developed the spreadsheet for anti-viral drug (Tami-Flu) distribution for the State, using National Strategic Stockpile assets.
 - Cautioned that anyone with a high fever should seek medical care. There is a two-day diagnosis period. Potential exists for the virus to mutate and result in spikes in the outbreak trend.
- n. Coast Guard:** Update from Paul Moyer and Brian Shay.
- Capt Kenyon is the new interim commander for Sector Anchorage. Steve Pearson will serve as the deputy.
 - CG spill responders still working on the Husky II vessel incident.
- o. Central MatSu Hazmat:** Update from Randy Newcomb.
- Participating in the upcoming MatSu Regional Hospital's mass casualty exercise. Scenario will involve a Hazmat release from a multiple vehicle accident.
 - Pursuing future training with the Alaska Railroad and the FBI.
- p. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation:** Update from Mark Sielaff.
- Expressed kudos to the Anchorage Fire Department for the rapid response and spill containment for the recent fire at the Anchorage Tank and Welding facility. Anchorage Fire Department secured all the storm drains, contacted ADEC, and created berms/containment to keep oil and hazardous material from entering the storm water system.
 - Provided an update on DEC's spill response to the MatSu townsite. 15 drums were over-packed. 1,026 gallons of oil, glycol, and contaminated water mix of the two was removed from Mat-Su Townsite along with the drums, 15 leaking drums of hazardous

materials were over packed to stop the continued contamination into the environment. ADEC is working with EPA and adjacent land owners to remove the remaining drums.

- Bob Mattson mentioned the call-out process to the DHSS epidemiology staff for the recent suspected H1N1 case on a cruise ship in Southeast Alaska.
- Bob also mentioned the status of DEC's budget request for additional funds to support the Statewide Hazmat Team. The budget request passed thru the State legislature and is awaiting the Governor's decision.

7. Drills and Training: Larry provided an updated Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Activity Schedule for the group to review. An updated schedule is attached.

a. Ammonia Training.

- Held in Juneau from March 26-28, 2009. Included two days of academic training (including a live ammonia release demonstration) and a functional exercise.

b. Arctic Shield/Northern Edge 2010.

- Continued interest in having the Statewide Team respond to a simulated Hazmat release as part of the overall exercise scenario which appears to be a natural disaster impacting Southcentral Alaska.
- Southeast Alaska will also participate by marshalling response assets in Juneau.

c. Hazardous Materials Training Courses.

- Environmental Management Inc. (EMI) now approved by EPA to conduct the Health and Safety 40-hour course in Alaska. The course scheduled for May 18-22 was cancelled due to lack of student enrollment.
- EMI will next seek EPA's approval to conduct the Hazmat Technician course as well. Anchorage Hazmat will host an EPA-funded course in April 2009.
- Kodiak will host the Hazmat Technician Course in July 2009 through the use of HMEP grant funds provided by DMVA/DHS&EM. A one-day ammonia awareness course will also be provided. The course is free and space is available in both courses for additional students. Potential students include Anchorage Hazmat (2-3); Fairbanks Hazmat (2-3); Juneau Hazmat (2); and Ketchikan Hazmat (2).

d. Alaska Hazmat Symposium.

- Tentatively scheduled for early 2010 in Fairbanks. Work group meeting will be scheduled in the near future to begin planning for this event.
- Suggested agenda inputs include liquid methane and LNG training and hydrogen peroxide awareness and response procedures.

e. Other Items of Interest.

- Joint training scheduled between the Juneau and Ketchikan Hazmat Teams and the 103rd CST in the July/August timeframe.
- The Anchorage Fire Training Center is not scheduled to be available until sometime next summer.
- Paul Moyer to check on the possibility of having the Coast Guard provide a training course on container inspections during their visit to Alaska.

8. Statewide Hazmat Budget Status:

a. State Budget Information. Update from Geoff Harben.

- Handout provided; roughly \$20,000 remaining in State Hazmat budget after funding disbursed to Hazmat teams. Agreements need to be signed and returned to Geoff. Funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis, after invoices are submitted by each Hazmat team.
- DEC has applied for another Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to offset Statewide Hazmat Team expenses. The CIP has been approved by the legislature as part of the State proposed budget and is currently awaiting final approval by the Governor's Office. If approved, funds will become available beginning July 1, 2009.

b. Federal Grants.

- DMVA/DHSEM (Wanice Cowles) provided information to Larry Iwamoto in an email. Next year's Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant funding to the State of Alaska will be \$139,696.00 (Planning \$64,978.00 and Training \$74,718.00). Suggested spending priorities need to be submitted to Wanice by May 27th.
- Larry will put together a draft priority listing and distribute to the work group members for comment.

9. Additional Items of Discussion:

a. Mongolia Hazmat Initiative. Update from George Mayberry and Jim Seeberger.

- Alaska National Guard has established a program to partner with Mongolia on emergency response issues. NEMA is Mongolia's equivalent of US FEMA.
- While the Mongolians lack resources, they are quite capable in terms of initiative, professionalism, dedication, and good ethical standards.
- The overall visit included ICS training, a presentation on Alaska's Statewide Hazmat Response Team, response to a simulated incident involving an ammonia release, and other general support. The exercise involved roughly 500 people from the different emergency response sectors.
- Next scheduled visit to Mongolia will be in March/April 2010, and the scenario for next year's exercise will be a mining disaster.
- Jim Seeberger is working with the Mongolians on an emergency response plan.
- Anyone desiring to provide serviceable equipment to the Mongolians should contact George Mayberry.

b. Tier Two Reporting.

- Eric Mohrmann raised the topic of electronic Tier Two report submission.
- This issue was addressed by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) several years ago. The Municipality of Anchorage served as a pilot project to determine the feasibility of using the Tier Two Submit program.
- Other issues included problems with electronic signature validation, plus whether this would become a mandatory versus voluntary program for reporting facilities.
- The other issue is limited staffing for accepting and maintaining electronic Tier Two forms as well as hard copy forms, plus data entry into CAMEO.
- Larry will provide Eric with additional background on this topic.

10. Action Items:

- a. Hazmat Activities for the Arctic Shield/Northern Edge Exercise:** The initial planning conference was scheduled at the same time as the Statewide Hazmat Work group meeting. Work group members were receptive to the idea of including Statewide Hazmat Team activation and involvement in this event. Work group members attending the exercise planning conference were asked to promote the idea of a Hazmat event requiring response by the Statewide Hazmat Team.
- b. 2010 Alaska Hazmat Symposium:** Work group members were asked to provide their ideas and suggestions for symposium topics to Larry Iwamoto and Tyler Bones. An initial planning meeting will be scheduled in the near future. Tyler is checking on possible venues for the symposium.
- c. State Hazmat Budget Requests:** Geoff Harben provided final memoranda of agreement to those Hazmat teams who requested funding from DEC. All three original copies will need to be signed and returned to Geoff.
- d. Standard Operating Guidelines:** Larry Iwamoto will provide the Juneau Hazmat SOGs to work group members.
- e. Container Inspection Training:** Paul Moyer (USCG Sector Anchorage) will check on the status of the training and feasibility of providing this training to different locations in Alaska.
- f. Tier Two Reporting:** Larry Iwamoto will provide Eric Mohrmann with background information on the Tier Two reporting issue.
- g. Hazmat Initiatives for Federal HMEP Grant Funding:** Larry Iwamoto will prepare a draft proposal and circulate to work group members for comment.

11. 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>

12. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2009 in Anchorage at the BP Energy Center. The WMD Work Group will convene in the afternoon at the same location.

Encl: Final Agenda
Attendee Listing
Updated Schedule of Activities



STATEWIDE HAZMAT WORK GROUP MEETING

BP Energy Center – 900 E. Benson Blvd

Anchorage, Alaska

May 12, 2009

Final Agenda

9:00 am **Introductions**

- **Safety Moment (BP Energy Center)**
- **Review Agenda for any Additions/Changes**
- **Review Status of Action Items from Previous Meeting (See attached)**
- **Team Updates/Lessons Learned /Capability Enhancements**
 - Anchorage Hazmat Team
 - Fairbanks Hazmat Team
 - 103rd Civil Support Team
 - Kodiak Hazmat Team
 - Valdez Hazmat Team
 - Elmendorf AFB/Fort Richardson Hazmat Team
 - Ketchikan Hazmat Team
 - Juneau Hazmat Team
 - EPA
 - Others (FBI, CG, ARRC, DHSS, DEC, DMVA/DHSEM, Central MatSu FD, Others)
- **Drills and Training**
 - Schedule of Hazmat Activities
 - Ammonia Training Course (Juneau)
 - Hazmat Technician Course – In-State assets, certification
 - Other Training Opportunities (LNG and Liquid Methane Training)
 - Alaska Shield/Northern Edge Exercise – Spring 2010
- **Statewide Hazmat Budget Status**
 - DEC CIP Funding Status for Hazmat Teams (Geoff Harben)
 - Federal Funding (ODP, MMRS, HMEP Funding)
- **Additional Items for Discussion**
 - Mongolia Hazmat Initiative (George Mayberry, Jim Seeberger)
 - Tier Two Reporting (Eric Mohrmann)
- **Recap Action Items**
- **Next Meetings:**
 - August 11, 2009 (BP Energy Center)**
 - November 17, 2009 (BP Energy Center)**
 - February 9, 2010 (BP Energy Center)**
- **Adjourn**
- **WMD Working Group (Meeting will begin at approximately 1:30 pm)**
 - Anthrax Investigation/Forensic Collection Methodologies (Dr. Beecher)

STATEWIDE HAZMAT RESPONSE WORK GROUP-ATTENDEE LIST (May 13, 2009)

Individual	Agency	Email Address	Phone /Fax	Status/Other
Larry Bethel	EMI	lbethel@emi-alaska.com	272-8852/272-4159	
Tyler Bones	Fairbanks Hazmat	tyler.bones@fhr.com	488-5180/488-0095	
Nicole Bradley	EAFB Hospital, Bio-Env Engineer	Nicole.Bradley@Elmendorf.af.mil	552-3953/552-3985	
Matt Carr	EPA	Carr.matthew@epa.gov	271-3616/271-3424	
Jacqueline DeCou	FBI	Jacqueline.decou@ic.fbi.gov	265-8125	947-9274 (cell)
Derek Espeland	FBI	Derek.Espeland@ic.fbi.gov	947-3724/265-8131	
Young Ha	ADEC	Young.ha@alaska.gov	269-7544/269-7648	230-8242 (cell)
Geoff Harben	DEC	Geoff.harben@alaska.gov	465-5234/465-2237	321-3426 (cell)
Jim Hill	Ketchikan Hazmat	JIMH@city.ketchikan.ak.us	225-5940	617-1291 (cell)
Larry Iwamoto	DEC PERP (Anc)	Larry.iwamoto@alaska.gov	269-7683/269-7648	440-0812 (cell)
Andrew Lambert	EAFB Fire Dept	Andrew.Lambert@ELMENDORF.af.mil	552-9479	223-2166 (cell)
Bob Mattson	DEC PERP (Jnu)	Bob.mattson@alaska.gov	465-5349/465-2237	321-3425 (cell)
George Mayberry	DMVA DHSEM	George.mayberry@alaska.gov	428-7000	
Eric Mohrmann	Capitol City Fire & Rescue	Eric_Mohrmann@ci.juneau.ak.us	586-0261/586-8323	723-8190 (cell)
Paul Moyer	CG Sector Anchorage	Paul.A.Moyer@uscg.mil	271-6735	
Randy Newcomb	Central Mat-Su Fire Dept	Randall.Newcomb@matsugov.us	378-8826/378-8800	355-1518 (cell)
Eileen Nickoloff	DHSS	Eileen.Nickoloff@alaska.gov	334-2114/	
Jim Seeberger	Alaska Railroad	Seebergerj@akrr.com	265-2476/242-2406	
Bryan Shay	CG Sector Anchorage	Bryan.a.shay@uscg.mil	271-6741	
Michele Sherwood	EPA	Sherwood.michele@epa.gov	271-5083/257-5007	
Mark Sielaff	DEC PERP	Mark.sielaff@alaska.gov	269-7532/269-7648	240-2517 (cell)
Jim Stevenson	DEC PERP (Anc)	Jim.stevenson@alaska.gov	344-7380/344-8647	529-9269 (cell)
Wade Strahan	Anchorage Fire Dept	strahanwc@ci.anchorage.ak.us	267-5088/	223-1870 (cell)
Jim Vignola	Anchorage Fire Dept	VignolaJF@ci.anchorage.ak.us	267-5052/	355-7965 (cell)

STATEWIDE HAZMAT RESPONSE WORK GROUP – ACTIVITY SCHEDULE (as of: May 13, 2009)

Activity	Type of Event	Date	Location	Sponsor/ Coordinator	Point of Contact	Participating Agencies
Emergency Response to Ammonia Incidents	Training	Mar 26-28	Juneau	Capital City Fire & Rescue	Eric Mohrmann	First responders, industry, Federal and State agencies
Ammonia Training and Technical Assistance Visit	Training, Assistance	TBD	Wrangell	DEC	Larry Iwamoto	Wrangell first responders, seafood processors
Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Mtg / WMD Work Group Mtg	Meeting	May 12	Anchorage – BP Energy Ctr	DEC	Larry Iwamoto	All Statewide Hazmat Response Wk Gp Members
EPA Health and Safety 40-Hour Course	Training	June 22-26	Anchorage EMI Facility	EMI	Larry Bethel	First responders, industry, Federal and State agencies
Hazardous Materials Technician Course, and Ammonia Training	Training	July 13-17, 2009	Kodiak	Kodiak Fire Department	Rome Kamai	Hazmat Team Members
Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Mtg / WMD Work Group Mtg	Meeting	August 11	Anchorage – BP Energy Ctr	DEC	Larry Iwamoto/ Alan Wien	All Statewide Hazmat Response Wk Gp Members
Alaska State Firefighter's Association Conference	Conference	Fall 2009	Anchorage	Anchorage Fire Dept	Anchorage Hazmat	First responders, industry, Federal and State agencies
Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Mtg / WMD Work Group Mtg	Meeting	November 17	Anchorage – BP Energy Ctr	DEC	Larry Iwamoto/ Alan Wien	All Statewide Hazmat Response Wk Gp Members
Alaska Hazmat Symposium	Training, Exercise	2010	Fairbanks	Statewide Hazmat Wk Gp	TBD	First responders, industry, Federal and State agencies
Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group Mtg / WMD Work Group Mtg	Meeting	February 9	Anchorage – BP Energy Ctr	DEC	Larry Iwamoto/ Alan Wien	All Statewide Hazmat Response Wk Gp Members
Arctic Shield/Northern Edge Exercise	Exercise	April-May 2010	Statewide	DMVA	TBD	First responders, industry, Federal and State agencies

= Past Event