

**SUSSEX COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES FOR  
MAY 14, 2009**

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There were 21 members in attendance.

**Status on Upcoming Exercises-** Joe Thomas, Director of Sussex County EOC, provided an update on the status of upcoming exercises, ranging from several planned tabletop exercises to a full-scale exercise at the Sussex County Airport.

**Tier II Manager-** Shannon Splittorff from DNREC-EPCRA provided the LEPC with the status of the Tier II reporting process.

**Incident Reports-** Tim Cooper of SCEMS reported no emergency responses since the last LEPC meeting. SCEMS participated in training with DNREC at the Biden Center on April 20 and 22. Three paramedics attended the Delaware HAZMAT Conference.

**DEMA Updates-** Art Paul-The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hazardous material Conference was held on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. On Friday night, 150+ people attended the teambuilding dinner at Little Creek Fire Company, with speaker Mr. Greg Noll. On Saturday, all training took place at Delaware state fire School in Dover. There were 8 different courses attended by over 100 people.

The State SERT Plan is complete and has been presented at some county fire chief's meetings.

**Facility visits-**Chip Stevenson, Sussex County LEPC, spoke on the facility visits he had attended with Bob Barrish. The visits included 2 propane facilities in Smyrna, the Town of Milford water treatment sites and the Kent County Wastewater Treatment facility.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Bill Satterfield, Executive Director for Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. (DPI), the trade association for the local chicken industry, spoke about his groups, and the chicken industry's plans to deal with an avian influenza situation. The program is handled through DPI's Emergency Poultry Disease Task Force and is organized according to the Incident Command System. The plan has state and federal government approval in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. Though industry led, key decision makers include state and federal government animal health officials.

**Mr. Satterfield explained the responsibilities of the various sections (Finance, Planning/Surveillance, Procurement/Logistics, Operations/Execution, Safety, and External Communications). Though the structure might not be exactly in the Incident Command System mold, it is tailored to the chicken industry and is ready to be used in case of case of avian influenza on Delmarva. The chicken industry's response will be the same regardless of whether avian influenza virus is found or just antibodies. (Antibodies are produced by chickens exposed to the virus and might be present even though no virus is found). The response will be the same whether the virus is high pathogenic or low pathogenic. Only two types of avian influenza are of concern to the chicken industry; those with H5 or H7 virus.**

**While the chicken industry will lead the communications effort regarding the virus in chickens, human health agencies, in cooperation with the chicken industry, will handle matters related to human health.**

**~~SERT PLAN~~ Jim King, DSFS, presented an informative overview of the updated State Emergency Response Team plan.**

***NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JULY 16TH, 10AM AT THE SUSSEX EOC IN GEORGETOWN.***