



# EP on the Move



Spring 2000

U.S. Department of Energy, Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program

## First STEP

On May 1, 2000, the Subcommittee on Transportation Emergency Preparedness (STEP) will hold its first formal meeting in conjunction with the Training Resources and Data Exchange (TRADE) Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group (EMI SIG) meeting in San Francisco. STEP is a technical working group under the EMI SIG and will play a major role in the DOE Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP).

STEP will be instrumental in the integration of DOE transportation and emergency management activities. The group will address critical transportation emergency preparedness issues and develop tools that can be shared across the DOE complex.

The STEP Steering Committee, composed of representatives from the DOE community, will meet from 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. During this time, the committee plans to adopt a charter, discuss existing and future projects, and review lessons learned from exercises focused on radioactive material (RAM) transportation accidents.

From 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., the STEP working group will convene. Ella McNeil, the HQ TEPP Program Manager, will moderate the meeting. The status of TEPP initiatives and RAM transportation issues will be reviewed during the meeting. Briefings on a Hazardous Materials Notification System (HAZTRAK) and a recent RAM transportation accident in the San Francisco area will also be provided.

For more information about STEP, contact Ella McNeil at [ella.mcneil@em.doe.gov](mailto:ella.mcneil@em.doe.gov) or call (301) 903-7284. ♦

## Vigilant Lion Exercise

In September 1999, Region 1 participated in a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) full-field radiological terrorism exercise at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Annville, Pennsylvania. The exercise, named "Vigilant Lion", involved approximately 250-300 response personnel from 30 local, county, state, and federal response agencies and 100 invited observers.



Vigilant Lion Participants

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency began planning "Vigilant Lion" in October 1998 and focused on the inter-operability of the local fire and law enforcement with the Lebanon County Hazmat Team, Department of Environmental Protection's Emergency Response Team, Pennsylvania National Guard's Rapid Identification Assessment and Detection (RAID) element, and DOE's Radiological Assistance Program (RAP). This was the first exercise that the federally mandated Nuclear Biological Chemical (NBC) response team participated in.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> MSD RAID element is responsible for supporting local and state WMD response in the FEMA Region III. The DOE Region 1RAP team responds to radiological incidents in 11 northeastern states.

The exercise highlighted emergency response as it transitions from a hazardous materials consequence management event into a crisis management WMD event.



Raid Responder



### TEPP Region 2

A plan for TEPP activities has been developed and various tasks are either underway or being considered. Foremost is an exercise with the northeastern region of Arkansas during July 2000.

A regional meeting is being planned to be held in Memphis, Tennessee. In conjunction with the regional meeting, two days of Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation

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## Regional Corner *continued from page 1*

Training (MERRTT) training will be offered. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for June or July 2000.

Interested parties should contact the Region 2 TEPP Coordinator, Brady Lester.

### **TEPP Region 3**

On March 1, 2000, Region 3 and the South Carolina (SC) Emergency Preparedness Division attended the SC Emergency Medical Service Directors (SCEMSD) meeting. Region 3 presented information about TEPP, which included a review of the TEPP planning tools and MERRTT materials.

Region 3 plans to set up and staff a TEPP display which highlights the TEPP planning tools and MERRTT materials at the following conferences:

- National Sheriffs Association Conference in Kansas City, MO on June 17-22, 2000
- Firehouse Emergency Services Exposition in Baltimore, MD on July 18-23, 2000
- Alabama State Firefighters Conference in Dothan, AL on August 3-6, 2000
- Georgia State Firefighters Conference in Valdosta, GA on August 9-13, 2000
- North Carolina Fire and Rescue Conference in Greensboro, NC on August 22-27, 2000

For additional information, please contact the Region 3 TEPP Coordinator, Christina Edwards.

### **TEPP Region 4**

Since October, TEPP staff Anna Bachicha, Stan Anderson, and Rose Wright met with state emergency preparedness and response officials in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. These meetings provided an opportunity to highlight TEPP and other DOE emergency response programs, such as RAP and the Radiological Assistance Program Transportation Emergency Response (RAPTER) training. DOE Albuquerque Operations Office (DOE/AL) offers RAPTER training in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

TEPP representatives also participated in the Tribal/State Summit in New Mexico (NM). Pete Rahn, the State Highway and Transportation Department Secretary, moderated the meeting which is geared to developing better government-to-government relationships between NM and Tribes with land in NM. Participants discussed issues such as: Tribal involvement in highway planning, rights-of-way, and emergency response.

Region 4 plans to inaugurate a semi-annual newsletter to supplement its face-to-face meetings with state and Tribal officials. Participation and support for state sponsored exercises is also planned.

Region 4 plans to work closely with other TEPP regions and programs to develop a synergistic problem-solving approach. TEPP regions may experience similar issues and



concerns, so opportunities to share experiences and lessons-learned with others will add value throughout the complex. For additional information, please contact the Region 4 TEPP Coordinator, Anna M. Bachicha.

### **TEPP Region 5**

Region 5 has developed a Management and Implementation (M&I) Plan which describes the roles and responsibilities of the TEPP Coordinator regarding the DOE, State, Tribal, and local response agencies. It includes information about training and planning products developed for TEPP.

Region 5 is planning an exercise later in FY 2000. Contact the Region 5 TEPP Coordinator, Noelle Kostecki, for more information.

### **TEPP Region 6**

On April 11, 2000, Region 6 met with the State of Montana emergency planning personnel to finalize drill and training objectives for a TEPP tabletop drill scheduled for May 2, 2000. The drill will include Region 6 RAP assistance and will be held in Great Falls, Montana. Malstrom Air Force Base (AFB) is participating in the planning meeting and the drill. The drill is being conducted to identify state and local training needs and to test the draft Montana TEPP Plan.



*Rocky Flats*

On March 22, 2000, Region 6 TEPP met with DOE Rocky Flats Energy Technology Site (DOE-RFETS) to discuss the State of Colorado TEPP needs and to identify activities necessary to develop a Colorado TEPP Plan. Region 6 and DOE-RFETS plan to meet with Colorado emergency response personnel to perform a needs assessment and to identify the steps necessary to enhance Colorado's transportation emergency planning and response capability. For more information, contact Region 6 TEPP Coordinator, Stacy Madson. ♦

## **Vigilant Lion Exercise** *continued from page 1*

The responders who participated in the exercise received extensive nuclear, biological, and chemical training. The Ft. Indiantown Gap Police Department and fire departments attended and beta tested the awareness and operations level of MERRTT materials.

For additional information contact Steve Centore. ♦

## MERRTT Train-The-Trainer

On February 23, 2000, the first formal MERRTT Train-the-Trainer session was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. About 50 representatives from emergency response organizations throughout TEPP Region 4 attended the session. DOE/AL TEPP Program hosted the training at the DOE Energy Training Complex located on Kirkland AFB.

“We were overwhelmed with the response,” said Anna M. Bachicha, the TEPP Region 4 Coordinator. “In fact, there was such a great response to our training announcement, that we had to request additional instructors and run three classes concurrently.”

The diverse audience represented over 20 organizations from Arizona, Idaho, Kansas, New Mexico, Vanajo, Potawatom Tribe, and the Tohono O’Odllam Nation.

The MERRTT Train-the-Trainer program gave the participants a demonstration on how to teach the modules, briefly reviewed the complete content of the training materials, and concluded with a hands-on practical exercise which allowed each individual to be an instructor and give a segment of the modules.

“We received a lot of positive feedback,” Bachicha said, “with many of the participants saying they could definitely use all or some of the modules within their own organizations in providing training.”

TEPP Region 4 is now looking forward to expanding the distribution of the course and implementing the Needs Assessment.

MERRTT Train-the-Trainer sessions are planned for each TEPP region in FY 2000. ♦

## TEPP Coordinators

Region	TEPP Regional Coordinator	Phone Number/Email
1	<b>Steve Centore</b> Brookhaven Area Office	(631) 344-7309 Centore@BNL.gov
2	<b>Brady Lester</b> Oak Ridge Operations Office	(865) 576-8354 lesterb@oro.doe.gov
3	<b>Christina Edwards</b> Savannah River Operations	(803) 725-1791 christina.edwards@srs.gov
4	<b>Anna Bachicha-Reynolds</b> Albuquerque Operations Office	(505) 845-5653 ABACHICHA@DOEAL.GOV
5	<b>Noel Kostecki</b> Chicago Operations Office	(630) 252-2398 Noelle.Kostecki@ch.doe.gov
6	<b>Stacey Madson</b> Idaho Operations Office	(208) 526-1532 MADSONSL@ID.DOE.GOV
7	<b>Mike Cornell</b> Oakland Operations Office	(925) 422-0138 mike.cornell@oak.doe.gov
8	<b>Kathy Beecher</b> Richland Operations Office	(509) 376-8519 Kathleen_A_Beecher@rl.gov
	<b>Ella McNeil</b> HQ TEPP Program Manager	(301) 903-7284 ella.mcneil@em.doe.gov



## Upcoming Events

April 16-20, 2000

**Cooperative Hazardous Materials Enforcement  
Development Spring Conference**

Orlando, FL.

Contact: Jan Axson, (202) 366-4339

May 1-4, 2000.

**DOE Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group  
San Francisco, CA.**

Contact: Dorothy Manning (865) 576-2007

June 17-21, 2000

**National Sheriffs Association Conference  
Kansas City, MO.**

View: [http://www.sheriffs.org/annual\\_confhtm](http://www.sheriffs.org/annual_confhtm)

July 16-21, 2000

**Contractor's Transportation Management Association  
Meeting**

Seattle, WA.

Contact: Jim Portsmouth, (509) 376-7164

July 18-23, 2000

**Firehouse Emergency Services Expo**

Baltimore, MD.

View: [www.firehouseexpo.com/](http://www.firehouseexpo.com/)

July 25-27, 2000

**Transportation External Coordination Working Group  
Meeting**

Location TBD.

Contact: Judith Holm, (505-845-4767) .

November 8-11, 2000

**National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians  
Reno, NV.**

Call: 1-800-646-2368



### MERRTT Training Materials Available

The latest version of the Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training (MERRTT) materials (version 1.6) is available for distribution. Contact your region's TEPP Coordinator for copies. ♦



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