

1986



**LEPC**

*...safety in knowledge<sup>®</sup>*

# LEPC RESPONSIBILITIES



2016

# EPCRA -- Background



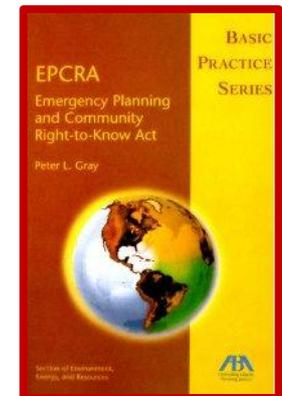
**Union Carbide Disaster – Bhopal, India  
December 2, 1984**

**Union Carbide Release – Institute, WV  
August 11, 1985**



**Development of Chemical Emergency  
Preparedness Program (CEPP)  
June, 1985**

**Passage of the Emergency Planning and  
Community Right-to-Act (EPCRA)  
October 17, 1986**



# EPCRA Statute Responsibilities

- Section 301 – Required establishment of State, LEPC organization / implementation
- Section 302 – Required facilities to report to State, LEPC presence of EHSs
- Section 303 – Required development of LEPC response plan
- Section 304 – Requires facilities to report releases of EHSs / CERCLA substances to LEPC, State
- Section 311&312 – Requires facilities to report inventories of hazardous chemicals to state/local officials
- Section 313 – Requires facilities to report annual emissions of toxic substances to EPA/State

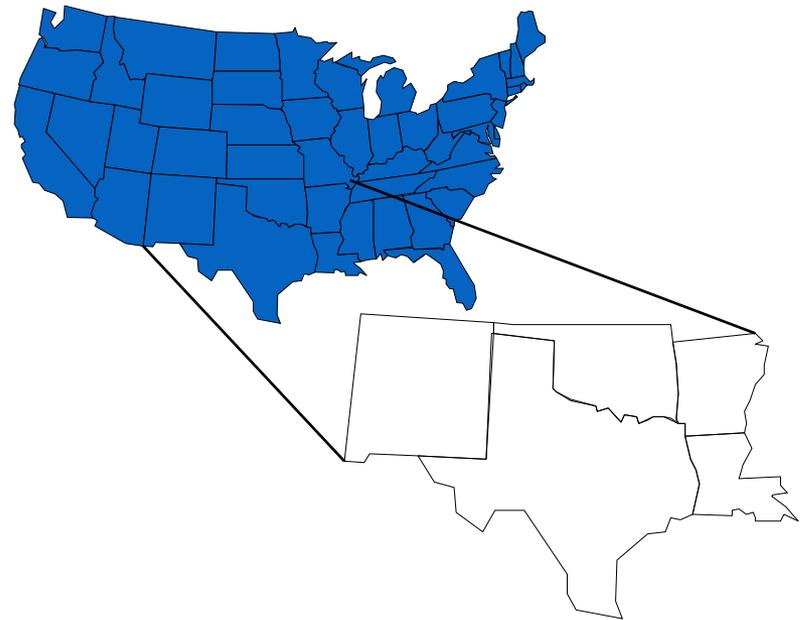
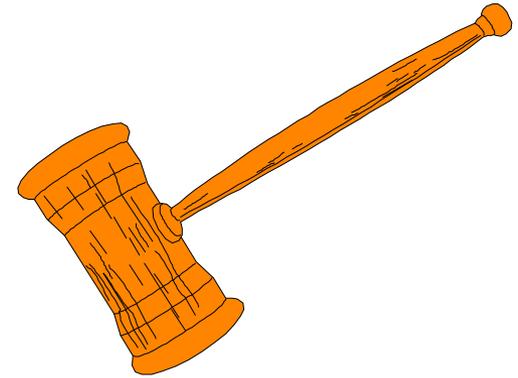
# Where do LEPCs come from ???

## State and local structure

§ 301 of EPCRA required the State to establish Local Planning Districts and appoint an LEPC within each district.

There are approximately 530 LEPCs within Region 6, 3,200 nationwide.

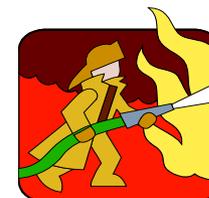
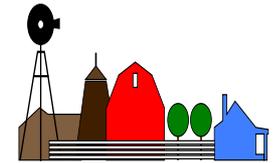
In Region 6, 99% of the LEPCs are based on county/parish jurisdictions



# Representation of the LEPC

Under § 301 of EPCRA, each LEPC will include representatives from each of the following:

- State and local officials;
- Law enforcement, Civil Defense, Firefighting, First aid, Health, Local environmental, Hospital and Transportation
- Broadcast & print media
- Community groups
- Facility owners and operators subject to EPCRA



# Representation of the LEPC

- One member can represent more than one membership group
- One group may be represented by more than one member
- Members who don't have a hazmat background should be encouraged to attend a hazmat awareness course



# Responsibilities of the LEPC

Appoint a chairperson and establish rules by which the committee shall function



The rules shall cover:

- Public notification of the activities of the LEPC
- Dissemination of the emergency plan, including public comments and responses

# Responsibilities of the LEPC

Establish LEPC rules:

- Term of office
- Removal from LEPC
- Authority of LEPC
- Immunity for LEPC members

Notify SERC of changes in members and  
Chairperson's name and LEPC mailing address



# Responsibilities of the LEPC

Establish procedures for receiving and processing public requests for information, including Tier II information

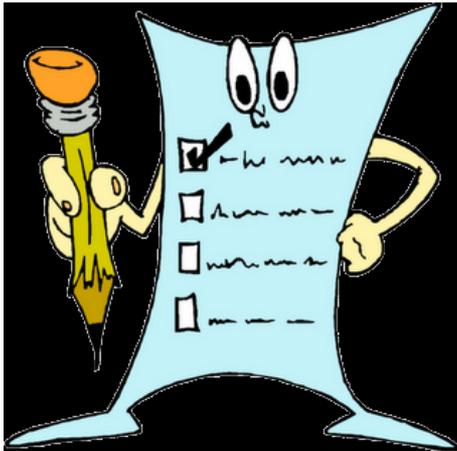


Designate an official to serve as the coordinator for information

- Process requests for public info
- Provide Tier II, MSDS, and other right-to-know information
- Could be Chair, Secretary, or any other person who has access to the LEPC's public information

# Responsibilities of the LEPC

Each LEPC was required to develop an emergency plan by October 17, 1988.



Thereafter, the LEPC is required to review the plan at least once a year to ensure changes in the community are addressed

# Responsibilities of the LEPC

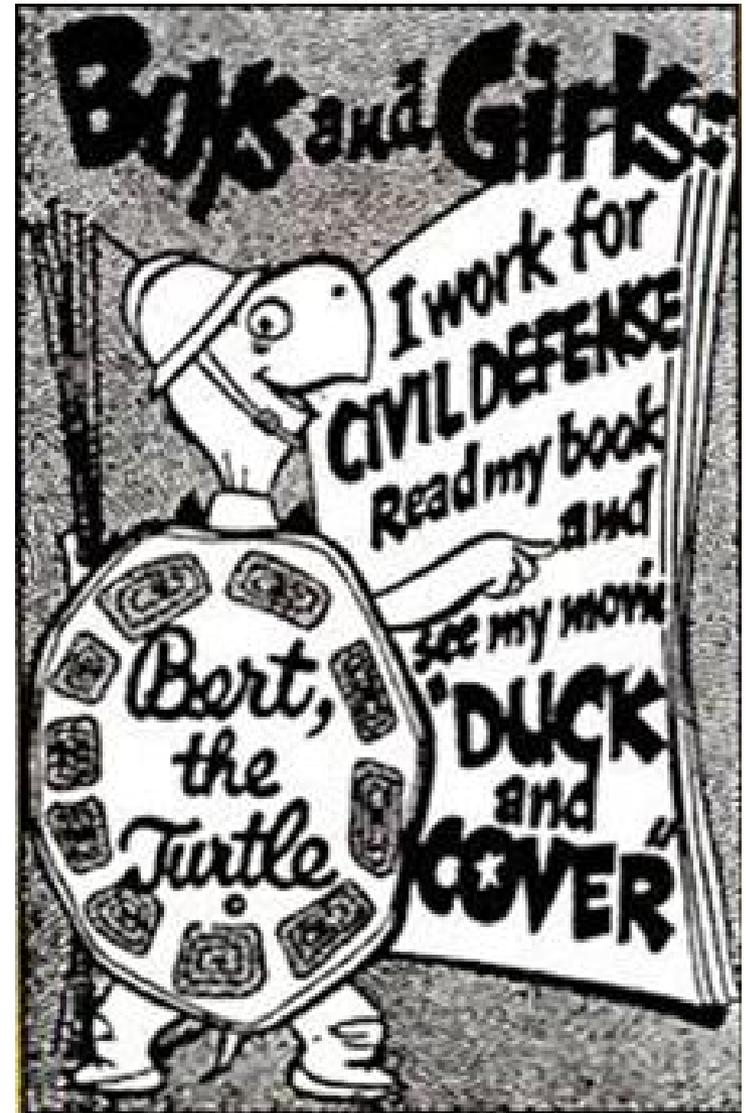
- EPCRA does not preempt State law
- Most states require cities and counties to develop local Emergency Management Plans for all hazards, including chemical releases
- LEPC can adopt the City or County's Emergency Plan if it meets EPCRA requirements (case in all of our states)



"No doubt you're asking yourself, what are hatches? And how the heck does one go about battening them down?"

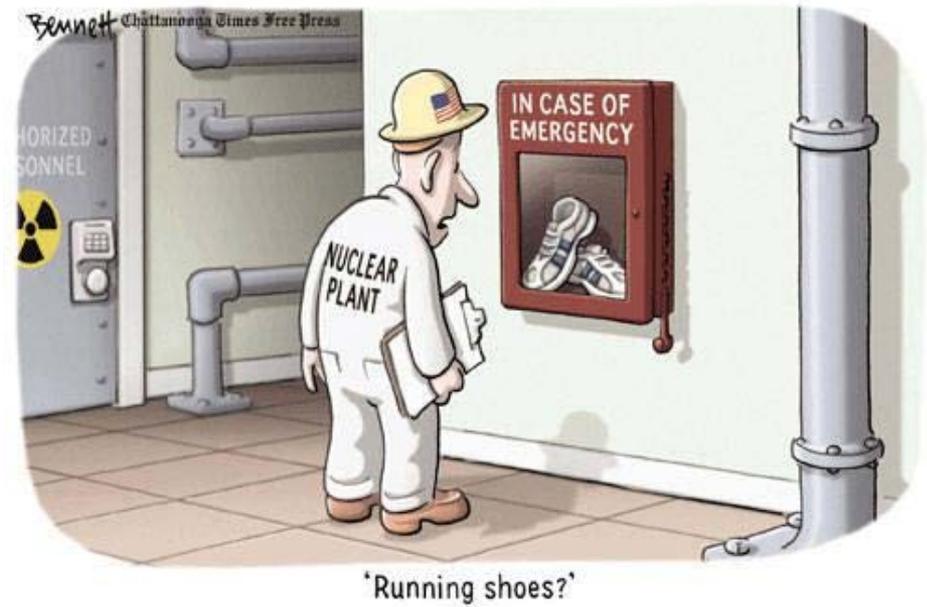
# The Emergency Plan must contain:

1. Identify facilities and hazmat transportation routes (aviation, marine, pipeline, rail, truck)
2. Describe response procedures
3. Designate Community Emergency Coordinator and Facility Emergency Coordinator
4. Outline notification procedures
5. Describe methods to determine a release has occurred and probable affected areas and population



# The Emergency Plan must contain:

6. Describe community and industry resources, equipment, facilities, and person responsible for them
7. Outline evacuation plans
8. Describe training program for emergency response personnel (including training schedules)
9. Present methods and schedules for exercising Plan with police, fire, EMS, etc.



# Preparing for all hazards just makes sense!

LEPC's are the perfect forum for all hazards.

- They are already organized
- Most of them have subcommittees established.



- Planning, Response and Service Organizations coordinating activities
- Encouraged to address the issues associated with all hazards
- Plans developed by all directly involved in mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts

# Responsibilities of the LEPC

Establish a community emergency coordinator to receive emergency notifications (initial and follow-up) by facilities



# Responsibilities of the LEPC

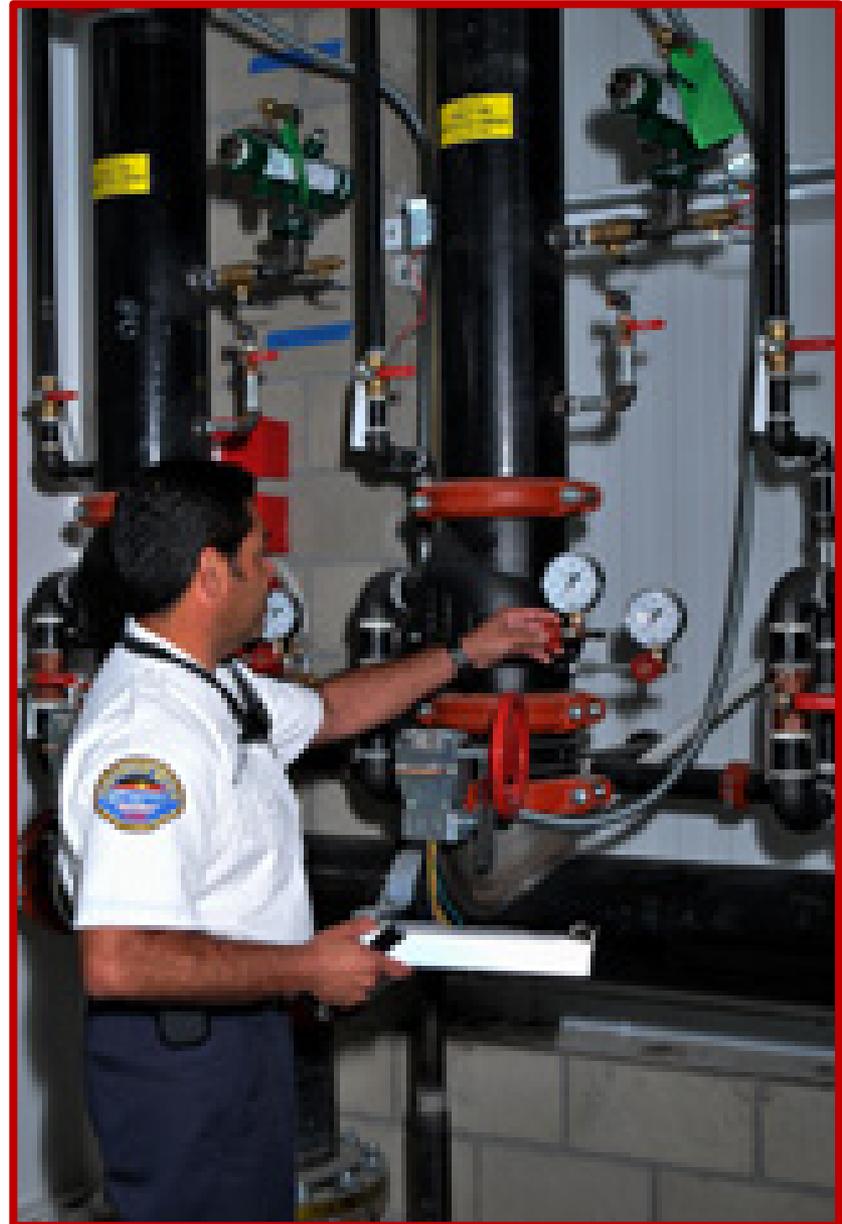
Upon request, make available Tier II information, MSDSs, or emergency notification follow-ups for a specific facility within 45 days of the request



This information shall be made available during normal working hours at designated location

# Responsibilities of the LEPC

The fire department shall have on-site inspection capabilities for any facility filing Tier II information



# Responsibilities of the LEPC

Annually publish local newspaper notice on where information can be reviewed

Social media can be used for this requirement.

- Website
- Facebook
- Twitter

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Pursuant to 42 USC #11044**

The Worth County Local Emergency Planning Committee hereby notifies the public that emergency response plans, hazardous materials data sheets and inventory forms have been submitted pursuant to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. These materials along with any follow up emergency notices may be reviewed at 320 S. Lyon Avenue, Grant City, Mo. upon appointment. Contact (660) 564-3544 to schedule an appointment.

# Responsibilities of the LEPC



Ability to take civil action against any facility which does not file required information

# Questions to ask Your LEPC

- Are all your responders who will respond to a hazmat incident trained to the appropriate HAZWOPER level ?
- How do you ensure responders from other jurisdictions are appropriately trained in the middle of a response ?
- Who is ultimately responsible to determine that all responders are appropriately trained ?

# Other Questions Only Your LEPC can Answer

- Is your LEPC active ?
- How often should the LEPC meet ?
- How many people should be on the LEPC ?
- Has the LEPC assessed / prioritized all the risks in the community ?

## Other Questions Only Your LEPC can Answer

- Who ensures the LEPC is active ?
- Does your all-hazards plan meet all the requirements under EPCRA for LEPC plans ?
- When has the LEPC met all the requirements it needs to ?

# Two Things Every LEPC Should Do

- Ensure first responders and local officials have information on chemical properties, hazards, and response tactics – not just chemicals on-site
- Ensure first responders have appropriate HAZWOPER training for response actions to be taken

