

New Hanover County LEPC  
Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2003

**The following persons were in attendance:**

Allen, Matt	GE Global Nuclear Fuels
Babb, Jeff	NHC Emergency Management
Blake, Suzanne	UNCW
Dunn, Page	NHC Health Department
Forestell, John	NH Regional Medical Center
George, Mike	NHC Emergency Management
Harrison, Robert	SSC
Harts, Stan	UNCW
Lee, Warren	NHC Emergency Management
Parkin, Michelle	PPD
White, Lisa	KoSa
Wingenroth, Kristen	NHC Emergency Management

**Welcome and Introductions:**

The meeting, held at Hoggard Hall on the UNCW campus, was called to order at 1300 hours by John Forestell. The July 9, 2003 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Membership Announcements:**

August 23, 2003 there will be an exercise at the Wilmington Regional Airport involving all first responder county agencies. The exercise will consist of weapons of mass destruction aboard an aircraft and there will be biological agents involved. The exercise will be large scale but not full scale.

New Hanover County Emergency Management has received a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$493,000.<sup>00</sup>. This will allow for the county to complete the order for personnel protective equipment for the counties first responders. The first round of equipment ordered with the 2002 grant has been received.

NHC EM working with UNCW on the installation of a 800 MHz conventional repeater on the UNCW campus.

### **Old Business:**

In response to the group's confusion on how to properly use the LEPC website and the site's capabilities, Mike George presented an overview of the LEPC site with hands on instruction. The presentation was very informative.

### **New Business:**

Warren Lee, Director of NHC Emergency Management spoke on the LEPC's role in the county. Mr. Lee stated that the challenge for the LEPC is membership and active participation by all members. The lack of members and recruitment of new members has historically been a problem for all LEPCs, not just ours. He felt that possibly having our meetings at lunchtime rather than first thing in the morning would make it easier for members to attend. He suggested having the meetings at the hospital as it is centrally located. He suggested we look at meeting quarterly rather than once a month and use the time in between full LEPC meetings for the subcommittees to meet and work. He noted that in review of the past meeting minutes that the current subcommittees have not been active and there are requirements per regulation that the LEPC must address such as the annual review of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan. We must rejuvenate the subcommittees. Mr. Lee spoke about things the LEPC could do better, the one he mentioned were:

- Tier II compliance – the LEPC can help identify facilities that have the potential for being subject to Tier II.
- Citations for non-compliance with Tier II
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection – the county hasn't had one in some time. These days benefit the not only the county but also the environment. He understands that these collection events can be costly but feels it is a worthwhile effort and goes along way in helping with public out reach and education.

Mr. Lee encouraged active participation by each member of the LEPC. He would also like to see the LEPC participate in county wide planning, once the LEPC is back up to speed and has completed the items it is currently charged with.

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup> at UNCW. This will be a joint meeting with the Community Advisory Counsel and the SARA Title III information for county industry will be presented. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 5:30 pm and dinner will be provided. Please check the web site for details on the exact location.

### **Open Forum:**

None