



2025 SERC/LEPC CONFERENCE

May 19-22, 2025

Chinook Winds Casino Resort

Lincoln City, Oregon

Supported by the US Department of Transportation, HMEP Grant

May 19:

2:00 - 5:00pm **Registration**

3:00 - 5:00pm **LEPC Legal Overview** [Mary Ann Christian, OSFM]

This session will explore the state and federal laws that give structure to the work of the SERC and LEPCs.

May 20:

7:00 - 8:30am **Registration; Breakfast and Networking**

8:30 - 9:00am **Welcome**

9:00 - 10:00am **Bhopal – 40 Years Later** [Tim Gablehouse, Mark Johnston]

The 1984 Bhopal chemical release resulted in the immediate deaths of over 10,000 people. It was an industrial accident on a scale not previously imagined. Even though not politically popular, the incident, and a related incident in Institute West Virginia, resulted in the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. Despite that passage of time, the conditions that lead to the Bhopal and West Virginia releases still exist across the US. Important lessons about community preparedness, facility safety practices and individual responsibility have been lost in the wake of other events. This presentation will review the incident, the causes, lessons learned and how Oregon is approaching these issues.

10:00 – 10:20am **Break**



2025 SERC/LEPC CONFERENCE

10:20 – 11:50pm **Understanding Hazards – Haz Mat Response Capabilities** [OSFM]

The OSFM hazardous material team will make a presentation and provide a hand-on look at hazardous material trucks and gear. This session will also be made available to local high school and college students.

12:00 - 1:00pm **Lunch**

1:00 – 2:10 **Hazardous Material by Rail**, Dan Giles, OSFM

Extremely hazardous substances are transported by rail across Oregon. The Hazmat by Rail program provides first responder training and assists with community planning efforts to respond to emergencies involving hazardous material releases that occur on rail lines. This session will provide an overview of the Haz Mat by Rail program including strategies and resources available to increase preparedness.

2:15 – 3:40 **Lithium Ion Batteries**, Rick Heuchert, OSFM

Lithium ion batteries power vaping devices, cell phones, tablets, laptops, e-bikes, electric toothbrushes, tools, hoverboards, and scooters, just to name a few common items. While they offer many benefits, they also pose unique risks to communities and first responders. This session will examine those risks and discuss possible responses to those risks.

3:40 – 3:50 **Break**

3:50 - 5:00pm **Building Hazmat Capabilities through Preparedness Activities** [Robert Campbell, PE, Alliance Solutions Group, Inc]

During this session, the preparedness cycle will be introduced, specific preparedness activities LEPCs can use will be explored, and how it can be used to develop action plans to enhance Hazmat preparedness will be presented.



2025 SERC/LEPC CONFERENCE

May 21:

7:00 - 8:30am **Registration opens, Breakfast**

8:30 - 9:00am **Welcome**

9:00 - 10:15am **Risk Communication/Improving Communication**

[Monty Elder, National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO)]

This session will discuss how communication barriers can impact planning and response.

10:15 - 10:30am **Break**

10:30 - 11:45am **Are we really reaching everyone? Tips and Tools**

[Jeff Gilbert, ODHS, Office of Resilience and Emergency Management]

This panel will address the coordination of essential human services for all individuals impacted by emergencies including food, water and shelter, assistance with requests for medical equipment, transportation, communication, and translation services. Particular attention will be given to outreach to the unhoused and to those whose first language is something other than English.

11:45 - 12:45pm **Lunch**

12:45 - 2:00pm **HSEEP and Emergency Planning**

[Robert Quinn – Oregon Emergency Management]

The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) provides a set of guiding principles for exercise and evaluation programs. Using HSEEP, the whole community can develop, execute, and evaluate exercises that address preparedness priorities. This session will provide an overview of HSEEP and discuss its role in emergency planning



2025 SERC/LEPC CONFERENCE

2:10 - 3:25pm **Panel: State Emergency Response Commission/Local Emergency Planning Committees**

Members of the SERC and different LEPCs will discuss their various roles, responsibilities and challenges.

3:25 - 4:35pm **Breakout Sessions**

Option 1: CHS Manager: Data and Tools for Emergency Response Planning [Todd Raska, OSFM]

CHS Manager provides centralized information about regulated hazardous materials throughout the state. It is a critical part of all hazardous material emergency response activities. This session will provide a hands-on opportunity to learn to use this powerful tool. Attendees, other than observers, should bring a laptop and have an account on CHS Manager.

Option 2: How do we pay for all of this? [Michelle Slay and Shaun Parkman, OSFM]

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grants are a great way to pay for emergency response plans, trainings and exercises. This session will review what a good HMEP application looks like, discuss grant timelines, and how to get reimbursed once a grant is awarded.

4:35 – 5:00pm **Final Thoughts**

May 22:

8:00 – 12:30pm **Mock Tabletop Exercise** [Robert Campbell, PE, Alliance Solutions Group, Inc]

Working in small groups attendees will participate in a mock Tabletop Exercise. The facilitator will provide them with a Situation Manual to use during the exercise and a list of best practices at the end of the exercise.

-Conference Concludes-