



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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In reply, please refer to:
File:

23-051 sll

HAWAII STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION
MEETING # 129

Friday, March 17, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Red Conference Room located at 2385 Waimano Home Road, Pearl City, HI 96782

Attendees

Voting: Elizabeth Galvez for Kathleen Ho, Deputy Director of Environmental Health; Darwin Okinaka for Gerald Kosaki, Hawaii County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chair; Carlton Yamada, Honolulu LEPC Chair; Jeff Kihune, Maui County LEPC Chair; Abraham Mohr, Kauai LEPC Chair; Dr. Yuanan Lu, Thompson School, Social Work & Public Health; Kimberly Fuller, Dept. of Land and Natural Resources; Chris Takeno, Dept. of Transportation; Jonathan Chin, Dept. of Business Economic Development & Tourism; Greg Takeshima, Dept. of Agriculture.

Non-Voting: Grace Simmons, Sharon Leonida, Isaiah Kela-Pacheco, Adam Teekell, Ramon Mendoza, Terry Corpus, David Goto, Allison Hutto, Thomas Gilmore, Dept. of Health, Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER) Office; Bill Jones, United States EPA; Gen Tamura, James Cruz, Dept. of Homeland Security; William Marhoffer, United States Coast Guard; Shawn Carrier, Navy; Eric Jensen, Tetra Tech; ENS Diamond Web, USCG; David Cox, Pepsi, Cameron Black, Dept. of Business Economic Development & Tourism

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am. Kathy has appointed Liz Galvez to take her place at the HSERC meeting for today; as she has to attend another meeting.
 - 1.1 Introduction of attendees on Zoom and in person.
 - 1.2 Motion to approve minutes from meeting #128, accepted pending changes. Motion to accept by Jeff Kihune, seconded by Carlton Yamada
2. LEPC Updates:
 - 2.1 Hawaii County: Chief Darwin Okinaka for Gerald Kosaki, LEPC Chair
 - 2.1.1 No major incidents.
 - 2.1.2 LEPC received request to help with funding for radiation equipment. It was approved by the Committee.

Civil Defense discussed the after action report for the recent eruption .
Hamakua Energy is replacing their Naphtha Fuel line. The company is researching using Urea instead of Anhydrous Ammonia.
BEI has not assigned anyone to be on the LEPC as a member.
Puna Geothermal is continuing to drill a new injection well, KS21. They have a production well, it cannot be used until injection well is complete. It could be completed this month, March 2023.

2.2 Kauai County: Abraham Mohr, LEPC Chair

2.2.1 No major Hazmat calls.

2.2.2 There was a three-day training with the United States Coast Guard. It was similar to a Tabletop. The discussion pertained to capabilities that the County and the Coast Guard have in case of a spill in the harbors. Captain Abreu talked to Liz about getting supplies, like booms and training. There are concerns about having spills in the different harbors. Five personnel were scheduled to attend Lithium-Ion Battery Training on Maui; however they failed to attend due to a flight delay of several hours. The annual Hazmat Refresher Course was completed. Each station conducted pre-planning training for Tier II facilities. Captain Mohr would like to start teaching their own Hazmat Technician Class. He has talked to his training Captain and all of the chief staff and has received approval. Funds have been requested from the LEPC to help with expenses. Captains Mohr and Kalani Abreu would be the personnel to attend OSHA's Train the Trainer Class. They would then be able to train the next recruit class and work towards training the rest of the fire department.

2.3 Maui County: Jeffrey Kihune, LEPC Chair

2.3.1 December 22,2022 was the last LEPC meeting.

2.3.2 Jeff thanked Harold Lao for the funding of the Lithium-Ion Battery training.

2.3.3 There was one incident which was a nuance odor. Maui Paving Company has a liquid asphalt machine that heats the material used for paving. It was left on and produced an odor that could be detected all over Kahului. Company was contacted and their personnel turned the heater off. Lithium-ion battery fire at Woody Harrelson's shed. A second fire was with a Lithium-phosphate battery. Both fires were the result of an attempt to put together a make-shift power source. Jeff is trying to work on a system to report and track these type of batteries and how to put them into a separate category. Should these types of fires be reported to the HEER Office? Liz would like these types of fires to be reported to the office. Is there a way for the fire department to keep a count of how many incidents with Lithium-Ion batteries occur?

If they could organize a system to compile these reports state-wide, these reports could be used to do a report to the Legislature.

Terry Corpus shared a report on a spill that was reported on Molokai in January. This occurred on Hawaiian Homes Land property. He is still completing the clean-up.

Liz reported on the 700 gallons of jet and diesel fuel mix spill that happened at the Space Force Facility at Haleakala. HEER is still waiting for the test results. This incident in particular is a reminder of the cultural sensitivity that we need to be aware of.

2.4 Honolulu County: Carlton Yamada, LEPC Chair

2.4.1 Next LEPC meeting will be March 21, 2023.

2.4.2 Lithium-Ion Battery Training was done on three days; each class was held for eight hours each day. Attendees were: seventy-five HFD personnel, six from the State Fire Crash section, six from Federal Fire, six from the National Guard, five from the HEER Office.

Carlton would like more training on this subject in the future.

Hazmat 1 and Hazmat 2 both attended a 3-day training with the State Department of Energy, Radiology Assistance Program.

Trainings were held at the Dept. of Health Building in Halawa Valley and at Kalaeloa.

2.4.3 Carlton has talked to Honolulu Fire concerning a way to track the incidents of Lithium-Ion fires.

There is a work group with the Records Management System. They have been reaching out and working with a national system on how to track and organize information for Lithium-Ion batteries. If other counties would like to receive information, Carlton will arrange to have the Captain, who is the State Program Manager for the Records Management System, contact them.

3. Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Disposal Program: Adam Williams

Slides were used in the presentation. Mr Williams is an inspector and investigates the sale and use of pesticides. He is the project manager for the Pesticides Disposal Program. This program entails writing and designing The Request For Proposals, which developed the project framework.

The presentation covered topics such as how to identify a pesticide and the different ways it can be released into the environment.

Pesticides disposal is important, spills and leaks can impact surface and groundwater sources and can pose a danger to people and the environment.

There were videos showing inspection on sites with improper disposal of pesticides and pesticides that were reported at a storage unit.

This Pesticide Disposal Program is available, affordable and is an environmentally friendly mechanism for commercial pesticide applicators to properly dispose of waste pesticide.

The goal of the program is to minimize the health and environmental impacts on future generations, proper storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste pesticides. The program is to be started on Oahu later this year. Programs for the other islands are in the planning stage.

There is a list of professions who can use the program, also a list of pesticides that will be accepted.

Materials not accepted are also listed.

Cost is free up to 250 pounds max, per eligible participant.

Future plans are to reduce the need for disposal using Integrated Pest Management (IPM). This includes, reduce amount of pesticide needed, use old products first and calibrate equipment.

The department is working on future events in conjunction with the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC), and Pesticide Exchange Program and also doing collaborative disposal event with the City and County of Honolulu HHW program. Their Agriculture Lab has the ability to detect unknown chemicals. Disposal will be done at an EPA approved site.

4. Alternative Energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems; Jonathan Chin, Cameron Black
Jon Chin is the Energy Assurance Program Manager. Slides were used for the presentation “Lithium-Ion Battery Use in Hawaii for Electrical Transportation”. Mr. Chin is attached to DBED, he explained the mission for his office. Slides listed what goals the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative assigned to his office to achieve and how they are planning to provide assistance to the private sector. His office has a team dedicated to Energy Data and Analytics. An Energy Data Portal is available on their website.
Cameron Black gave a presentation on Battery Use in Hawaii. He gave a history of Lithium-Ion Battery use in Hawaii and the different projects. Slides showed projects in operations and projects under development. Many projects are with Hawaiian Electric such as a program to encourage private homeowners to get battery systems.
The large solar projects are using Lithium-Ion and Lithium Iron Phosphate batteries. Slides showed the projects and type of batteries used. Pictures showed how battery storage for projects are arranged differently.
There will be a problem of disposing batteries and equipment used in the solar industry. Report to the Legislature – Act 92, 2021 titled, “Final Report on Recommendations on Waste Management of Clean Energy Products in Hawai’i” addresses this problem. Dr. Michael Cooney is the lead author.
5. Updates on Chemical Safety Days; Liz Galvez
The dates for the Safety Days focusing on Lithium-ion batteries for each islands are:
June 13, 2023 Kauai June 15, 2023 Oahu

June 19, 2023 Maui June 21 and 22 Hawaii (Big Island), Kona and Hilo
LEPCs are being requested to provide locations for the training.

6. USEPA Updates: Bill Jones US EPA Region 9
The idea for having a Chemical Safety Day in each county for the Lithium-Ion Battery Training came from last year's (June 2022), Chemical Safety Day. Participants flew in from the other islands.
The training will have several federal On-Scene Coordinators and instructors as part of the workshops in the morning and a tabletop exercise in the afternoon.
Agencies partnering to hold the training include Federal Department of Transportation, PHMSA (Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration), Industry partners, DOH (Department of Health), EPA.
ORRT – Oceania Regional Response Team, meeting will be held on June 28; December meeting will be a Hybrid. It will be in Hawaii, in person and virtual. Plans are to include a radiation training; other trainings will be announced.
7. HMEP Grant: David Goto for Harold Lao HEER Office
For the FY 2024 HMEP amount will be \$105,739. \$100,000 can be used for training purposes and \$5,739 can be used for planning. This grant proposal will be submitted next week. For FY 2023, \$55,000 goes to Haz Tech Training and remaining monies go toward the Battery Training in February.
David requests the number of attendees for each of the trainings.
8. Updates on Health Department: Liz Galvez
Liz spoke to Kathy on Thursday March 16, 2023. With this year's legislative session, there are no bills that are affecting HSERC or LEPCs. The Legislature is having the "crossover" of the bills".
There is a meeting of the Senior Leadership for Red Hill and Kathy had to attend that meeting today. She asked Liz to chair HSERC. Target date for defueling of Red Hill is June 20, 2024. DOH is encouraging Navy to move up the date for defueling.
Dr. Kenneth Fink, acting Director of Health and Susan Fernandez, acting Deputy Director of Health do not have a date set to have their confirmation hearings.
Liz announced that the Dept. of Health has openings, and anyone can apply.
Liz encouraged the county LEPC's to deposit the checks they received from the Tier II Budget as soon as they arrive.
9. Other Business: HSERC
Big Island has asked the 93rd CST for additional Hazmat Training.
Liz has talked to the Radiation (Indoor and Radiological Health Branch) Office for the training in December.
Motion to adjourn by Carlton Yamada, seconded by Greg Takeshima.
10. Next HSERC Meeting: June 16, 2023, at HEER Office and on ZOOM.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:44 am.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon L. Leonida, Environmental Health Specialist IV

DRAFT