



State of Connecticut Emergency Response Commission

Minutes of Regular Meeting May 15, 2025

The meeting was held **online**.

1. The meeting came to order at 13:35.
2. The March 2025 Meeting Minutes were approved, on a motion by Robert Araujo, seconded by Jeffrey Morrisette.
3. Introductions and welcomes-

Announcements made of three new members added to the routine SERC meeting (Rodrigo Aviles, CISA/Nicole Vilardi, DEHMS, Region 2/Jeremy Coy, DEHMS, Region1). Jeremy Coy was on the call and introduced himself. Farewells to Charles Colley and Fran Patno of the US Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) as they exit federal service for retirement. Fran expressed his gratitude to the entire state emergency response commission community for all they have done and continue to do.

4. Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Training Activities Update-

Jeffrey Morrisette reported that requests are being prepared for reimbursement for CT Fire Academy hazardous materials training funded by the HMEP grant. Planning in progress for the 2025 SERC training event funded by the HMEP grant. Ryan Santos reported that DEEP is in the process of drafting the FFY25-27 application, though the notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is currently under review and has not yet been issued, though US DOT has said they expect the NOFO to be issued and allocations to states completed. An invitation to bid to complete an updated commodity flow study did not receive any responses. Therefore, an activity request will be submitted to US DOT to reprogram the planning funds. The planning funds are proposed to be used for a risk management geospatial planning tool for hazardous materials facilities and infrastructure facilities in the Groton/New London area. A future presentation on this planning tool will be scheduled for the September and/or November SERC meeting.

5. Planning for 2025 SERC Exercise in DEHMS Region 2 in Spring 2025 [tent. August/September]

Bill Seward reported on the progress of the 2025 SERC exercise planning. A planning meeting was held on May 1st with multiple stakeholders, including DOT, DEEP, Yale Health, local fire departments, etc. One goal of the exercise is to help build emergency responses by multiple

stakeholders, including the healthcare system (Yale Health). Details of the training scenario (i.e. chemical type, type of transportation, dry decon, etc.) are being worked out by the group. Jeffrey Morrisette reported no updates regarding the PSA with the vendor organization, as they are awaiting a response from OPM. A reminder was given that Region 5 volunteered to host the 2026 SERC exercise.

6. Summary of Tier II Reports for 2024 and Summary of Releases Reported in 2024

Diane Duva presented a summary of the 2024 EPCRA Tier II chemical inventory reports, as well as a summary of CY2024 releases reported to DEEP. Statistical analysis of this data was presented, and suggestions were given on how to use Tier II reports when planning for exercises, as well as information and maps on the DEEP and SERC websites. There was also group discussion on using existing data to look for trends. There was brief discussion on the LEPC planner tool, that was demonstrated at the March 2025 SERC meeting.

7. Updates on LEPC status and plans:

- a. Discussion of any LEPC designations needed
- b. Ongoing review of updated [LEPC map](#) and the [LEPC Chairperson database](#)
- c. These are dynamic and anyone with updates please direct them to the DEEP.CTEPCRA@ct.gov email.
- d. Discussion of LEPC Plan online platform launching this year [a module in the same platform used to manage EPCRA Tier II Report submittals in Connecticut]

William Turner provided an update that DEHMS is in the process of filling an emergency management planning specialist position to assist in the LEPC program and planner tool development. Refinements to the planner tool will help streamline the LEPC's efforts to develop plans for community preparedness for release and response efforts. There were follow up discussions related to identifying LEPCs with/without plans, future outreach to LEPCs related to the planner tool, how the data will be shared with the emergency response community, and other logistics related to LEPCs and the planner tool.

8. EPCRA Updates and Information sharing between Agencies and partners; Updates on Current Issues; Ideas and requests for future meeting topics; New Business.

Jason Coite, CTDOT, commented that the state roads catch basins/drainage systems maps have been updated (GIS format). Tentative plans for CTDOT to present on these updates during a future SERC meeting. Diane Duva and Ryan Santos explained that Ryan will be taking over the SERC meetings moving forward, as Diane has moved to a different position at DEEP. Robert Araujo, on behalf of Chairman Goudreau and the Commission, thanked Diane for her excellent service.

9. Public Comments (opportunity for comments from any members of the public present)

There were no public comments.

10. Next Meeting July or September?

A motion was made to cancel the July SERC meeting, by Robert Araujo, seconded by Jeffrey Morrisette. The next meeting will be held in September via TEAMS platform. A new invite will be sent to the TEAMS meeting, replacing the current Zoom calendar appointment.

11. Adjournment 14:25 on a motion by Robert Araujo; seconded by Bill Perkins.

DRAFT

Attendance	Commission Members
n	Gerard P. Goudreau – Chairperson, Facility member
y	Diane W. Duva , Assistant Division Director, Remediation Division, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection [<i>also Lori Saliby, Ryan Santos</i>]
y	Jeffrey Morrisette , State Fire Administrator CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
y	David Kallander , Ph.D. , Toxicologist; Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment Program/Preparedness CT Department of Public Health
y	Jason Coite Environmental Compliance, Bureau of Engineering and Construction, CT Department of Transportation [<i>also Diana Palmer, Steven Jamele</i>]
y	William Turner , Director, Emergency Management, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
n	Jeff Saltus , CONN-OSHA CT Department of Labor
y	Matthew LaFayette , Budget Analyst, Budget and Financial Management Division CT Office of Policy and Management
y	Lauri Volkert , State Fire Marshal, Office of State Fire Marshal, Division of Construction Services CT Department of Administrative Services
y	COL Joseph Roden , Connecticut Military Department for COL Benjamin Neumon
y	Chief John C. Littell , Tolland Fire Department, Volunteer Fire Department

	member
y	Chief Edward N. Richards , Enfield Fire Department, Municipal Fire Department member
y	Robert J. Araujo , Facility member
y	Robert Kovach , Public member
n	Lisa Morrissey , Facility member
n	Robert Ross , Public member
n	Anthony Salvatore , Town Manager, Cromwell, Public member
n	Kyle Zimmer, Jr. , Public member

Also present:

Bill Seward, CT Fire Academy; **Francis Patno**, DHS/CISA; **Bill Perkins** and **Glenn Buonanducci**, CREPC/CRCOG; **Michael Paradis** and **Jeremy Coy**, DEMHS; **Steven Jamele**, CT DOT; **Jean McInnis**, Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut