

**STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION ADVISORY  
AND  
STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION**

**PENDING MEETING MINUTES**

December 11, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.

Division of Emergency Management

Taylorsville State Office Building, Big Cottonwood Room – Second Floor

4315 South 2700 West, Taylorsville, Utah 84129

And Via Google Meet

**SERC Attendance List:**

Watanabe, Judy ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DEM  
Everett, Brent.....Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR

**SERCA Attendance List:**

Bello, Craig ..... Utah National Guard  
Carter, Brock ..... Marathon Petroleum/SERCA Vice Chair  
Hart, John..... EnviroCare/SERCA Representative  
Johnson, Kelly .... Utah County Emergency Management/ SERCA Urban LEPC Representative  
Lund, Ron..... Salt Lake County Health Department/ SERCA Chair  
Mixco, Joaquin ..... Utah Department of Transportation/SERCA Representative  
Skinner, Wade..... Rocky Mountain Power/SERCA Representative

**Also Attending:**

Daniels, Tom..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR  
Hammer, Kim ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DEM  
Hoff, Servil..... Marathon Petroleum  
Jorgensen, Chris ..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DEM  
Millican, Hans..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR  
Mortensen, Amber ..... Utah Department of Transportation  
Murden, Kurtis ..... HF Sinclair  
Nelson, Jennifer..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR  
Phillips, Brandon ..... Marathon Petroleum  
Smith, Elisa..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR  
Williams, Josh ..... Marathon Petroleum

**Via Google Meet:**

Alder, Ann..... HF Sinclair  
Alvord, Scott..... Utah Department of Public Safety/DEM  
Barton, Cody..... SERCA Public Representative  
Bockstahler, Bre..... U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Region 8  
Deyo, Art ..... State Fire Marshal  
Keeler, Robin..... Utah Department of Environmental Quality/DERR  
Needles, Justin. Carbon County Emergency Management/SERCA Rural LEPC Representative  
Sharaf, Ben ..... U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Region 8

Valdez, Carmen.....HEAL Utah/SERCA Representative  
Watkins, Harley.....Utah Highway Patrol/SERCA Representative

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Judy Watanabe**

Judy Watanabe, Deputy Director, Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS), Division of Emergency Management (DEM), welcomed attendees to the combined State Emergency Response Commission Advisory Committee (SERCA) and the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) (herein referred to as “Committees”), meeting and thanked them for their participation. The SERC is represented by Judy Watanabe for DPS Commissioner, Jess Anderson, and Brent Everett, Director, Division of Environmental Response and Remediation (DERR), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), for DEQ Executive Director Kim Shelley.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Approval of the September 17, 2024 Committees Meeting Minutes Judy Watanabe**

Minutes from the September 17, 2024, Committees meeting have been reviewed by the SERCA and SERC. No comments or changes needed to be made and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Everett, and seconded by Ms. Watanabe, and unanimously approved.

**Nominate and Approve New Vice Chair for the Advisory 2025-2027 Judy Watanabe**

A nomination for Vice Chair was made by Brock Carter of Kelly Johnson, which was seconded by John Hart, and unanimously approved by the SERCA. SERC approval is also needed. Mr. Everett made a motion to appoint Ms. Johnson as Vice Chair of the SERCA, Ms. Watanabe, seconded the motion and Ms. Johnson’s appointment was unanimously approved.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**SERCA Updates**

**Ron Lund/Brock Carter**

The Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) Cleanup Guidance Group is continuing work on their action items.

Neil Taylor was unable to create a newsletter for this quarter. Ron Lund encouraged the Committees and other attendees to give submissions to Mr. Taylor for upcoming newsletters.

**LEPC Conference Discussion**

**Kim Hammer**

A discussion was held on possible locations, presentation topics, and SERCA members that can participate on the planning committee, for the 2025 Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) Conference.

**2024 Marathon Mutual Aid Drill Summary**

**Chief Brandon Phillips**

Chief Brandon Phillips presented a summary of the Worst-Case Scenario Level 3 Drill that was held on August 14, 2024. New equipment and techniques were discussed. Marathon Petroleum plans to conduct another drill next year (date TBD) with Chevron as the host.

**EPA Region 8, 9, & 10 Operation Saltshaker Exercise Summary** **Bre Bockstahler**

On November 13-14, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Regions 8, 9, and 10 conducted Operation Saltshaker Exercise, a theoretical earthquake along the Wasatch front. An earthquake along the Wasatch front is the largest scale threat for the EPA, Region 8. Data collection, planning, proper training of new on-scene coordinators, coordination, and team building took place during the 2-day exercise.

**SERCA Representative Updates**

**Utah Department of Transportation**

**Joaquin Mixco**

Joaquin Mixco introduced Amber Mortensen, the Statewide Emergency Management Officer for the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), and discussed her qualifications and experience with UDOT.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Utah Transportation Conference was held November 5-7, 2024. Mr. Mixco invited the Committees to present at next year's conference.

Mr. Mixco discussed the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Coalition. The goal of the TIM Coalition is to focus multiagency, multidiscipline attention on training together to reduce secondary crashes and save lives of first responders such as law enforcement, fire, towing companies, UDOT employees, and others that risk their lives while managing traffic during a crash, construction, work zone, or maintenance activities.

UDOT will be participating in the April 17, 2025, Great Utah ShakeOut.

**Local Health Departments**

**Ron Lund**

On November 7, 2024, Salt Lake City Fire, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Division of Health and Human Services, and the DEQ held a full-scale earthquake exercise. Mr. Lund discussed the role of local health departments during this exercise.

**Hazardous Chemical Transportation Industry**

**Ladd Kennington**

Not in attendance.

**Environmental Clean-Up Contractors**

**John Hart**

EnviroCare responded to incidents in residential areas where overnight delivery trucks were delivering hazardous materials (HazMat) and experienced packages leaking in their trucks. A discussion was held regarding these incidents along with a disconnect of Rural LEPCs reporting incidents to the incident notification hotline.

**Fixed Site Regulated Industries**

**Brock Carter**

No incidents to report at this time.

Marathon Petroleum will be holding the Industrial Rescue Games again in 2025.

**Public**

**Cody Barton**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Urban LEPC Representative**

**Kelly Johnson**

Weber County is holding an LEPC Peer Exchange on January 8, 2025.

Ms. Johnson relayed questions and comments from the Davis County LEPC to the Committees. A discussion regarding Tier 2 reporting requirements was held. Davis County created an LEPC brochure to help educate businesses. Davis County hosted an Earth, Wind, and Fire full scale exercise on November 21, 2025. Details of the exercise were shared.

Utah County held a tabletop exercise on October 17, 2024, of a simulated crash on I-15 involving anhydrous ammonia and a diesel fuel truck. The response required life-saving measures, traffic management, medical surge, appropriate evacuations of universities and LEPC industries, and clean-up.

**Rural LEPC Representative**

**Justin Needles**

Justin Needles left the meeting but noted that he had nothing to report.

**Established Environmental Interest Group**

**Carmen Valdez**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Utah National Guard**

**Craig Bello**

A World War I era chemical munition was found in a Grantsville residence. The munition was turned over to the Department of Defense (DOD) and taken to Camp Williams. A team has been dispatched to x-ray the munition to see if there is any product contained within it. Craig Bello will report additional information as it becomes available.

**Utah Highway Patrol**

**Harley Watkins**

The Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) continues to monitor the transportation of lithium-ion batteries through the state.

**DEQ Updates**

**Tom Daniels/ Robin Keeler**

The DERR participated in Operation Saltshaker. Takeaways from this exercise were discussed.

The incident notification database is operational. The searchable public portal can be accessed from the DEQ homepage. Details and functions of the public portal were discussed.

There has been a significant drop in notifications made to the spills notification hotline. In the summer, an average of 70 spills per month were recorded; currently, it's an average of 35 to 36. A slowing of construction for the season and the end of harmful algal bloom season are the suspected reasons.

A contractor has been selected to rebuild the Tier 2 database and submission portal. The portal should be developed by next September. Aspects of the portal and the DERR's role were discussed.

**DPS Updates**

**Art Deyo**

Art Deyo left the meeting before reporting.

**EPA Updates**

**Bre Bockstahler**

The EPA Regional Response Team meeting was held in November.

EPA, Region 8, will be speaking at the Salt Lake County Tier 2 Conference in January 2025.

The Western States SERC/TERC (Tribal Emergency Response Committee) meeting will be held in Salt Lake City in January 2025. Details of the meeting were shared.

The EPA is continuing to finalize the South Area Contingency Plan. Details of the plan were shared.

The EPA has regulations that are expected to become effective in May of 2027: The Safer Communities by Chemical Accident Prevention (SCCAP), and the Clean Water Act Facility Response Plan Rules. Any changes due to the new administration will be communicated to the Committees.

**OTHER ITEMS**

**Calendar – Proposed Schedule of 2025 Meetings**

March 18, 2025

June 17, 2025

September 16, 2025

December will be discussed by the SERC. Options are Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Other Items of Discussion**

Mr. Everett thanked Mr. Lund on his years of service to the SERCA.

Mr. Carter would like direction from the SERC on rules, boundaries, and expectations of the SERCA. Mr. Everett proposed this for the March 18, 2025, Committees meeting.

**Next Meeting**

**Judy Watanabe**

March 18, 2025

**Adjourn**

**Judy Watanabe**

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.