

# STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION ONBOARDING

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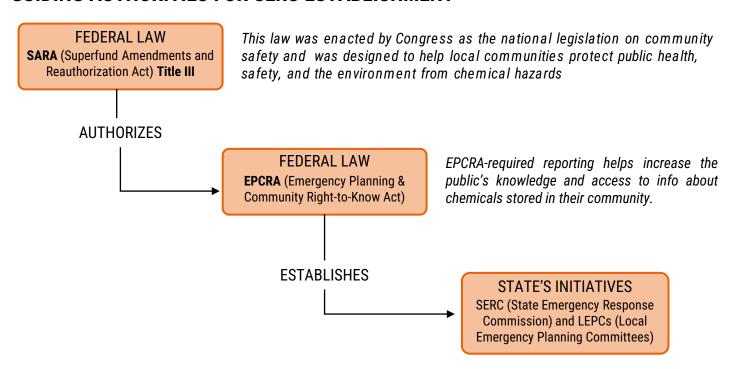
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# **ABOUT THE SERC**

The **State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)** and its **Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)** were established and are federally required as part of the **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)**. These bodies work to mitigate the effects of a release or spill of hazardous materials by collecting data on chemical storage and supporting planning efforts. FDEM provides programmatic support for the **SERC**.

#### **GUIDING AUTHORITIES FOR SERC ESTABLISHMENT -**



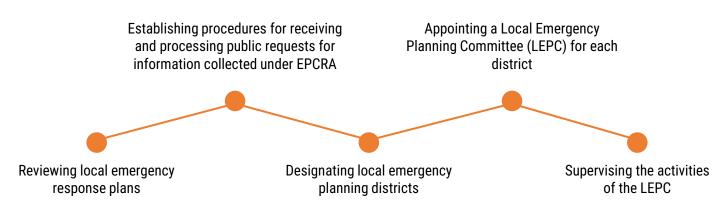
#### DELEGATION



In 1997, Florida became a delegated state by the Federal EPA and created Statute 252 Part II and IV. This established Florida's support of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and Technological Hazards procedures for EPCRA and Risk Management Program (RMP) planning and mitigation.

The **Technological Hazards Unit** was created within the Division of Emergency Management to provide administrative support and expertise to Florida's SERC and LEPCs.

#### SERC RESPONSIBILITIES

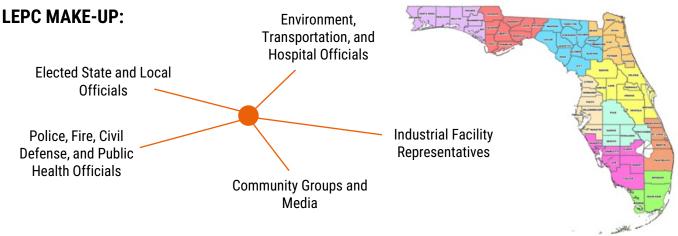


## **SERC ELEMENTS**

## LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEES (LEPC)

These regional bodies act as a conduit to push training and funding to the local first responders. They also support the development of policy and perform outreach functions to increase HazMat awareness. Under the **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)**, **LEPCs** must develop an emergency response plan, review the plan at least annually, and provide information about chemicals in the community to citizens. Plans are developed by **LEPCs** with stakeholder participation and there is one **LEPC** for each of the more than 3,000 designated local emergency planning districts.

## LEPC REGIONS:



## TRAINING TASK FORCE (TTF)

Acts as the advisory committee to the **SERC** and is composed of subject matter experts, fire chiefs, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) responders, environmental companies and technical experts in HazMat response and training. This group utilizes funds collected from Tier II fees to create training for first responders and policy for HazMat response and mitigation throughout Florida. They recommend and counsel the committee on hazardous material training standards, protocol, and mitigation policy.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

#### **SERC QUARTERLY MEETINGS:**

- Attendance is required in person in order to meet quorum for voting purposes
- Receive updates from the TTF and LEPCs
- Nominate/Vote on new SERC members
- Vote on TTF recommendations and training projects
- Recognition of SERC partners

#### **HAZMAT SYMPOSIUM:**

- Conducted in coordination with SERC to provide week-long training events for first responders
- Allows responders from across the state to meet and conduct activities



If you are interested in obtaining reimbursement for travel, please contact the SERC Liaison **prior** to the meeting for assistance.

The SERC utilizes the Division's SharePoint to house documents and resources for SERC members.

 Please reach out to the SERC Liaison to request access to SharePoint.

For additional information, visit

https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/response/te chnological-hazards/serc/

## HAZMAT FILING OVERVIEW

Facilities and companies storing hazardous materials are required to submit a Tier II Form under Section 312 of the **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA)**. The purpose of this form is to provide State, local officials, and the public with specific information on potential hazards, including the location and amount of hazardous chemicals present at the facility during the previous calendar year. Tier II staff at the Division are responsible for hazardous material reporting and annual fee collection for more than 12,000 chemical facilities located across the state.

#### **GUIDING AUTHORITIES FOR REPORTING AND INSPECTION**



SARA Title III (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act) | This legislation authorized Congress to enact EPCRA, requiring each state to appoint a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs). This increased standards for cleaning up hazardous waste.



EPCRA (Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act) | This is designed to help communities protect public health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards. EPCRA required reporting (below) help increase the public's knowledge and access to info about chemicals stored in their community.



**Tier II Reporting** | Yearly reporting requirement from Section 312 of EPCRA. This deals with the reporting of any hazardous chemicals stored at a facility – to include its amount and location. Annual fees accompany this report.



Section 302 Reporting | Reporting requirement under Section 302 of EPCRA. This only relates to Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs) and is required when the EHS is brought on site and when EHS storage information changes.

#### **TIER II REPORTING**

Yearly reporting requirement from **Section 312** of EPCRA.

#### DEADLINE

Tier II filing is required for the previous year by **March 1**st. Section 302 reporting is required any time storage information or EHS quantity changes.

#### **2020 FACILITIES BY COUNTY**



#### **SECTION 302 REPORTING**

Reporting requirement under **Section 302** of EPCRA.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT PLANNING (RMP) PROGRAM**

The **Risk Management Planning (RMP) Unit** is comprised of Inspectors certified by the Environmental Protection Agency that conduct on-site inspections at facilities across the state storing chemicals and hazardous materials. Inspections and audits conducted ensure compliance with state and federal environmental protection laws.



4 CERTIFIED INSPECTORS

#### OUTREACH

The **RMP** team conducts biannual anhydrous ammonia release seminars and regular outreach with stakeholders throughout the state of Florida. The target audience for these workshops are chemical facilities and seminars involve sharing best practices and procedures from other facilities, emergency response plans, working with the local fire department or HazMat units, and ensuring the facility is meeting industry standards for chemical safety.

# **ACRONYMS**

The below acronyms and abbreviations are used throughout this document and in every-day use.

EHS	Extremely Hazardous Substance
EPlan	Data base for Tier II filing
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
НА	Hazards Analysis
HazMat	Hazardous Materials
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
PHMSA	Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
RMP	Risk Management Planning Program (FDEM)
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
Tech Haz	Technological Hazards Unit (FDEM)
TTF	Training Task Force
TRI	Toxic Release Inventory