

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

March 15, 2012

PRESENT: Anthony Schirillo, Chairman; Linda Barlow, Sikorsky Aircraft; Christopher Borowy, Sikorsky Aircraft; Jude Ade, Sikorsky Aircraft; Amanda Fauser, Sikorsky Aircraft; Nick Gentile, Sikorsky Fire Dept.; Russ Toetura, Sikorsky Fire Dept.; Ed Ogle, Cray Valley USA, LLC; Paul Plouffe, Service Master; Michael Abramowitz, ARES; John Turbeville, Ashcroft, Inc.; Steve Woods, American Red Cross; Ed Zygmant, Westport Fire/Ffld County HazMat; Crystal Rogers, Sacred Heart University; Lynn D'Aurio, Straton Industries; Maureen Whelan, Stratford Health Dept.; Andrew Anderson, Stratford Health Dept.; Bernice Bova, Stratford Health Dept.; J.P. Sredzinski, Town of Stratford; Brian Carey, Town of Stratford; Chief Robert J. McGrath, Stratford Fire Dept.; Asst. Chief Douglas Reitmeyer, Stratford Fire Dept.; Brian Lampart, Stratford Fire Marshal; Lt. Bob Daniel, Stratford Fire Dept.; Lt. Mark Hennequin, Stratford Fire Dept.; Lt. Kevin Lantowsky, Stratford Fire Dept.; Lt. Paul DosSantos, Stratford Police Dept.; Lt. Robert Sampson, Stratford Police Dept.; Donna Best, Stratford EMS

CALL TO ORDER: Director Schirillo called the meeting to order at 9:08 am. The minutes of the meeting conducted Dec 15, 2011 were approved unanimously.

Director Schirillo introduced Inspector Todd Nichols and Inspector Andrew Baiter of the Department of Homeland Securities/Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Program. Mr. Nichols and Mr. Baiter reported the following:
Under Section 550 of the Department of Homeland Securities Appropriations Act of 2007, Congress directed the Department of Homeland Securities to identify and secure chemical facilities that present the greatest security risk. In 2007 the Department of Homeland Securities issued the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS).
The Department requires all chemical facilities to comply with regulatory requirements. The process includes:

- completing a screening process (or Top-Screen) for potentially dangerous materials,
- identifying vulnerabilities through a security vulnerability assessment,
- and developing a site security plan.

High-risk chemical facilities are assigned one of four risk-based tiers ranging from Tier One (highest risk) to Tier Four (lowest risk).

There are 326 chemical listed on the Chemical of Interest (COI) list. The COI does not determine if a facility falls under the CFATS regulations but it sets the threshold. This list is currently under review and changes to it will occur in the near future.

If a company or facility has one of the chemicals on the CFATS list, in a certain quantity, they are required to file a Top-Screen. It is then determined by the Department if the company/facility falls under the CFATS regulations. Not just large chemical manufacturers but also colleges, universities, laboratories, distributors, warehouses, semi-conductor manufacturers and paint manufacturers all fall into this category because they have Chemicals of Interest on hand. Facilities that are regulated by other government agencies are exempt.

The Risk Based Performance Standards (RBPS) are the foundation of the program and set the security standards for the facilities. Companies are given guidance under the RBPS standards to set their own regulations. They submit their site security plan with the security measures they

have to protect the chemicals. The Department then determines if the security measures are adequate and will issue a letter explaining what problems might exist to help the company become compliant with CFATS.

There are eighteen Risk Based Performance Standards. Numbers 9 and 11 directly impact the First Responders. Facilities are encouraged to develop and exercise an emergency plan to respond to security incidents both internally and with the assistance of local law enforcement and First Responders. RBPS standards require companies to submit information from fire and law enforcement agencies regarding response times, special equipment and training.

Chemical Terrorism Vulnerability Information (CVI) protects companies and the public so that information is not leaked out. Facility information submitted to CFATS is safe and is not subject to FOI. The purpose is to keep information from terrorists.

CVI certification is available through an on-line certification course. Then, in an emergency situation, “need to know” information could be released to a certified individual. Having CVI certification does not mean you automatically have a “need to know”.

New England is known as Region One. There are six CFATS inspectors and a Regional Commander in Region One. Nationally there are ten regions. CFATS covers forty facilities in Connecticut. There are about forty five hundred nationally.

Information can be obtained at dhs.gov/chemicalsecurity.

DHS/NPPD/OIP/ISCD/I&E Region 1 – New England Personnel

Charles I. Colley – Regional Commander
202-302-6367
charles.colley@hq.dhs.gov

Todd Nichols – Inspector
202-617-0118
todd.nichols@hq.dhs.gov

Andrew Balter – Inspector
202-821-9034
andrew.balter@hq.dhs.gov

Fran Patno – Inspector
202-557-6390
francis.patno@hq.dhs.gov

Ryan Hirt – Inspector
202-821-8790
ryan.hirt@hq.dhs.gov

Paul Tassej – Inspector
202-617-0987
paul.tassej@hq.dhs.gov

Scott Mellor – Inspector
202-821-9780
scott.mellor@hq.dhs.gov

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Laurie Goodsell, secretary