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Non-Competitive Division

US Civil Rights Act - EPCRA Hazardous Materials Planning

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), requires state and local governments to establish local chemical emergency preparedness programs for their communities. These include Hazardous Materials Response Plans and incorporating Local or Regional Emergency Planning Committees.

The US Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlaws discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex and national origin. The intersection of these two important and divergent regulations falls upon the Emergency Manager to incorporate all aspects of both into emergency planning, specifically Hazardous Materials plans. This poster will show an Incident Command system compliant add-on to any local or state EOC to make sure all populations are being considered during hazardous materials responses. The plug and play organizational chart can be an appendix to any emergency plan allowing the communities to be compliant with both the US Civil Rights Act and EPCRA for whole of community emergency planning.

Presentation Theme: The presentation theme is based on whole community approach to emergency planning and to align with EPCRA requirements so communities with hazardous materials plans are incorporating all aspects of the community while inviting and collaborating with private sector elements to support the overall plan. The items proposed in the poster have been proof of concept tested in (2) Massachusetts Regional Emergency Planning Committees plans.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: Tri-Epic Regional Emergency Planning Committee.
Blackstone Valley Regional Emergency Planning Committee.