



## New Year Cheer

From the

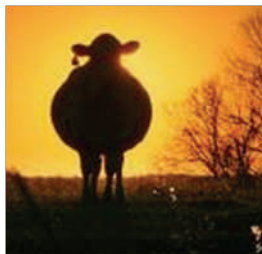
# State Emergency Response Commission

February 2009

## EPCRA Rule Change for Livestock and Poultry

Written by the UNL Water Division - Air Quality Team

“On December 18, 2008, the US EPA published a final rule that clarified which livestock facilities must report air emissions from their facilities. Animal agriculture was granted an administrative exemption from reporting air emissions that normally occur from raising farm animals under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).



Additionally, farms that are not large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) according to NPDES permitting rules, are exempt from reporting under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Without this exemption, much more wide-spread and rigorous reporting would be required.

Rule Changes Affected Livestock Producers, First Responders and LEPCs across Nebraska.

CERCLA requires that the person in charge of a facility must notify the federal government whenever there is a known release of a hazardous substance; EPCRA requires that notice be given to state and local emergency responders. Therefore, Nebraska producers are being required to submit information to the local responders and not EPA.”

Producers affected by this change were required to submit initial reports to their LEPC by phone and a written report within 30 days. LEPCs are asked to maintain the reports with their regular EPCRA information.

*More information can be found:*

UNL Water Department web site at: <http://water.unl.edu/emissionsrule>

### Special points of interest:

- EPCRA Rule Change for Producers
- SERC Elects 2009 Officers
- Newly Revised LEPC Member Application
- Hazmat Technician Refresher Course Being Offered—April 09

SERC is accepting applications - see NEMA web site for more information

### 2009

#### Risk Management Plan Workshop Dates Set

**Beatrice**  
February 24  
Beatrice Public Library

**Hastings**  
February 25  
Hastings Police Department

**Kearney**  
February 26  
Kearney Vol Fire Department

**Omaha**  
March 25  
Bellevue Fire

## HazMat Awareness Week— How is your LEPC going to participate?

SERC, in conjunction with the Nebraska Hazardous Materials Association (NHMA), is co-sponsoring the HazMat Awareness Week - March 23 -27 ending with the Nebraska Hazardous Materials Symposium March 28 & 29. LEPCs are encouraged to contact their local first responders, outreach to industries and educate citizens on the importance of hazmat awareness.

Possible activities include: educational outreach using the *Stop Leave it Alone* CD provided by the SERC, informational booths in public buildings, public service announcements in local papers/radio stations, and exercises with local first responders.

Contact the SERC or your Local Emergency Planning Committee for ideas.



## 2009 Hazmat Symposium - Hastings

The 2009 Nebraska Hazardous Materials Symposium will be held March 28th & 29th at the Hastings Quality Inn Convention Center, 2205 Osborne Drive East.

NHMA will host its annual meeting Friday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room - Everyone Welcome.

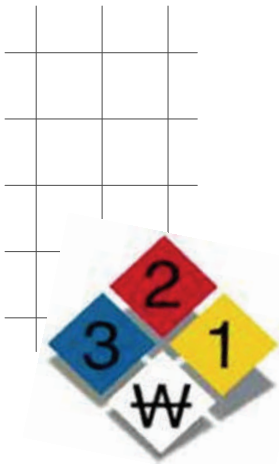
The Symposium will kick off at 8:00 on Saturday with opening remarks. Participants will enjoy a Saturday lunch with Nebraska's Lt. Governor & Homeland Security Director, Rick Sheehy and enjoy "Disaster & Desserts" with William Wright from the US Chemical Safety Board on Saturday night.

Breakout sessions include: *Hazmat IQ* instructed by Cris Aguirre & Joe Gorman, *Understanding Tank Cars* by Union Pacific RR, *HAZWOPER Refreshed* by Hydro Klean, *Radiation Detection* by NEMA, *Air Monitoring and Haz Mat Response* by McKinzie Environmental, *Rural Decon* by Center for Biopreparedness, *Ethanol Emergencies* by Hydro Klean and *Cargo Tanks* by NSP Carrier Enforcement.

For more information or to register for the symposium check the NHMA web site at [www.nebraskahazmat.org](http://www.nebraskahazmat.org)



We're on the web  
[www.nema.ne.gov](http://www.nema.ne.gov)



### Looking for a LEPC project?

Support your local fire department by posting the NFPA 704 diamond on all industries in your county.

Contact Tonya for more information.  
Tonya Ngotel  
Coordinator—SERC  
(402) 471-7176  
[tonya.ngotel@nebraska.gov](mailto:tonya.ngotel@nebraska.gov)

## LEPC Basics

### Attention: County Elected Officials, County Emergency Managers, Sherriff's and Fire Personal.

Under Nebraska Statute 81-15, 191 to 81-15, 235 every county in Nebraska shall be represented by a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) - *does your county have a LEPC?*

There are several minimum requirements set forth under this statute; each LEPC must establish rules and procedures, review and update hazmat plan, provide annual notice of meetings, meet annually and designate a public entity for hazmat plan review.

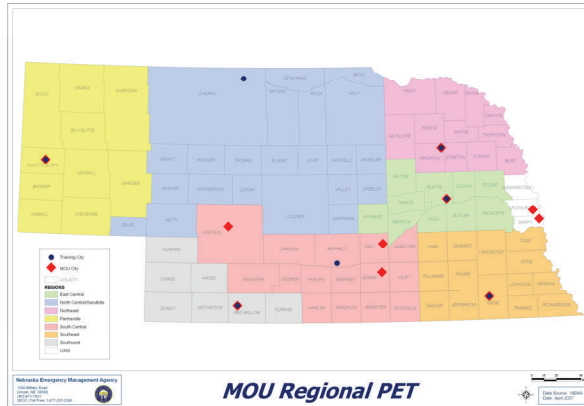
- SERC has developed a new LEPC member application that can be found on the NEMA web site. There are also new and improved mini-grant forms.
- TIER II information is **due** March 1 - contact NDEQ Mark Lohnes at [mark.lohnes@nebraska.gov](mailto:mark.lohnes@nebraska.gov) with questions.
- LEPC Annual Reports are **due** to the SERC April 1st - contact Tonya Ngotel at [tonya.ngotel@nebraska.gov](mailto:tonya.ngotel@nebraska.gov) with questions.
- SERC Meeting Dates - April 7, 2009 & July 7, 2009  
Meetings will take place at the NETV building on the UNL East Campus (33rd and Holdrege streets)

# NHIT & SERT Teams Tour Nucor Steel

In the unlikely event of an incident at a large industry in Nebraska, be assured the Nebraska Hazardous Incident Team (NHIT) and State Emergency Response Team (SERT) are ready to respond.

In January the members of the NHIT and SERT met in Norfolk to tour Nucor Steel. The teams discussed updates to the NFPA standards, presented by Charlie Wright, they reviewed lessons learned from hazmat responses and were given a presentation on the Nebraska Fusion Center and the Hazmat Fusion Center supported through the USDOT.

The two teams come together at least once a year to discuss response tactics, brainstorm equipment needs and plan out future training/exercise goals. They are planning a second meeting for 2009 where they will discuss grant funding, response capabilities and training needs assessment.



## Dates to Remember:

- SERC Meeting April 7  
NET—UNL East Campus
- Hazmat Tech Refresher  
April 6-10  
Location TBD
- Regional LEPC Conference  
August 7-9  
Kansas City

If you would like more information on Hazmat Resources check the NEMA web site at [www.nema.ne.gov](http://www.nema.ne.gov)

Hazmat Harry says:  
*Be Safe - Be Aware  
You Have The Right To  
Know*

## Upcoming Events - 2009 and Beyond

- Hazmat Symposium March 27 - 29  
Quality Hotel and Conference Center  
Hastings, NE  
[www.nebraskahazmat.org](http://www.nebraskahazmat.org)
- 2009 Regional LEPC Conference  
Save the Date  
August 6 -9  
Sheraton Sports Complex  
Kansas City, MO  
[www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc/](http://www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc/)
- Hazmat Technician Refresher Course  
April 6 -9  
Location TBD  
[www.nema.ne.gov](http://www.nema.ne.gov)
- 2010 Nebraska LEPC Conference  
Fall of 2010  
Location TBD  
Submit topic ideas to SERC
- 2009 SERC Meeting Dates:  
April 7 1:00 p.m.  
NET Lincoln  
July 7 1:00 p.m.  
NET Lincoln  
October 6  
2nd Annual SERC Retreat  
Location TBD

Contact the SERC at:

State Emergency  
Response Commission  
1300 Military Road  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
68508  
(402) 471-7421

