

## **Monroe County, Illinois Local Emergency Planning Committee**

### **Community Right To Know**

Every resident of Monroe County has the right to know the chemicals to which they may be exposed in their daily living. Right-to-know laws provide information about possible chemical exposures. In 1986 Congress enacted EPCRA, establishing requirements for federal, state and local governments, tribes, and industry regarding emergency planning and "community right-to-know" reporting on hazardous and toxic chemicals. The community right-to-know provisions help increase the public's knowledge and access to information on chemicals at individual facilities, their uses, and releases into the environment. States and communities, working with facilities, can use the information to improve chemical safety and protect public health and the environment.

In accordance with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Monroe County, Illinois Local Emergency Planning Committee (MoCo LEPC) is instrumental in fulfilling the purpose of the Community Right-To-Know laws to increase the protection of the community from exposure to chemicals produced, used, stored, and/or transported within the County.

The MoCo LEPC maintains inventory reports of hazardous chemicals for all facilities in Monroe County Illinois.

Community Right-To-Know involves four activities.

#### **Emergency Planning**

There are requirements that facilities that use, handle, store, or manufacture extremely hazardous substances develop an emergency plan. MoCo LEPC continues to identify and monitor all known sites within the County.

#### **Emergency Release Notification**

MoCo LEPC monitors what needs to be done in the event of an accidental release of a toxic chemical. There are two (2) lists that are consulted under this activity. The first is the list of extremely hazardous substances (EHS). The second is the established under section 102(a) of the Comprehensive Emergency Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA). If there is a release of a chemical on either of these lists that has the potential to go off site and exceeds the reportable quantity (RQ), the local fire department, the Illinois EPA, the LEPC, and the National Response Center must be notified.

#### **Hazardous Chemical Inventory Reporting**

This area requires both the initial and annual reporting of chemical inventory. The reporting requirements apply to any facility that must maintain material safety data sheets (MSDS) in accordance with OSHA. The hazardous chemical inventory report must be submitted if a hazardous chemical present at the facility meets or exceeds the threshold. The reporting thresholds refer to the total amount of chemical on site, in storage and in process, at any one time.

Minimum Thresholds:

- For Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs)(40 CFR part 355 Appendix A and Appendix B), either 500 pounds or the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ), whichever is lower.
- For gasoline (all grades combined) at a retail gas station, the threshold level is 75,000 gallons (or approximately 283,900 liters), if the tank(s) was stored entirely underground and was in

compliance at all times during the preceding calendar year with all applicable Underground Storage Tank (UST) requirements at 40 CFR part 280 or requirements of the State UST program approved by the Agency under 40 CFR part 281.

- For diesel fuel (all grades combined) at a retail gas station, the threshold level is 100,000 gallons (or approximately 378,500 liters), if the tank(s) was stored entirely underground and the tank(s) was in compliance at all times during the preceding calendar year with all applicable UST requirements at 40 CFR part 280 or requirements of the State UST program approved by the Agency under 40 CFR part 281.
- For all other hazardous chemicals: 10,000 pounds.

Tier II Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory reporting is required to be submitted annually by March 1st of every year to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and local fire department. The information must be made available to the public. The MoCo LEPC monitors all businesses in the County to ensure proper reporting requirements are satisfied.

Tier II forms require basic facility identification information, employee contact information for both emergencies and non-emergencies, and information about chemicals stored or used at the facility.

The Tier II form includes:

- The chemical name or the common name as indicated on the MSDS
- An estimate of the maximum amount of the chemical present at any time during the preceding calendar year and the average daily amount
- A brief description of the manner of storage of the chemical
- The location of the chemical at the facility
- An indication of whether the owner of the facility elects to withhold location information from disclosure to the public

### **Toxic Chemical Release Inventory**

The Toxic Chemical Release Inventory provides information about the quantities of toxic chemicals released (routinely and accidentally) into the environment during a year. Those industries that need to file Toxic Chemical Release Inventory report must submit it to the SARA Title III office and US Environmental Protection Agency by July 1st of each year.