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**DRILLS, EXERCISES, TRAINING, ETC. PERFORMED AND/OR CONDUCTED FOR  
THE NORTHEAST SUB-AREA CONTINGENCY PLANNING AREA DURING THE  
PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2002 THROUGH JANUARY 24, 2003**

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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI attended the Northeast County Task Force meetings held at Monroe County Public Safety Office in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania on July 10, August 14, September 30, October 28, and November 20, 2002. The above agency's were present to provide support in area planning such as what type of emergency response equipment would be needed, the proper training required to operate the equipment and any other issues that would arise during the task force meetings. This task force had been organized by PEMA several years ago and had met sporadically. It includes 8 of the 11 counties in the Northeast PA IACP Sub-Area: Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton, Pike and Susquehanna. EPA OSC and Tetra Tech EMI attended a several of these meetings throughout 2001 and 2002. After the terrorist attacks, the Task Force decided to meet on a monthly basis, on the second Wednesday. EPA is committed to attend these meetings and provide assistance.

The USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI attended the East Central County Task Force meetings held at Schuylkill County Emergency Management Agency Office in Pottsville, Pennsylvania on June 25 and September 26, 2002. The June and September meetings have been the only East Central County Task Force meetings held during this reporting period. This task force includes the remaining 3 counties (Luzerne, Schuylkill and Wyoming Counties) not included in the Northeast task force mentioned above. The EPA OSC is committed to attending these meetings as available.

The USEPA and contractor Tetra Tech EMI will continue to attend and provide support for the East Central and Northeast County Task Force meetings that are held on a monthly basis. The USEPA will provide training to agencies upon request.

On July 25, August 29, September 26, October 31, and December 18, 2002, the USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI attended the PADEP Emergency Response Team monthly meeting at the PADEP Northeast Regional Office located in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The EPA OSC is committed to attending these meetings as available.

On November 7, November 21 and December 17, 2002, USEPA, PADEP and contractor Tetra Tech EMI met in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to discuss and prepare a syllabus for a 1-day OSHA 8-hour Refresher Course to be held for the PADEP Northeast Regional Office on December 18, 2002. On December 18, 2002, the USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI assisted the Northeast Region PADEP in conducting their annual 8-hour Refresher Course.

On July 17, 2002 in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, the USEPA, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), contractor Tetra Tech EMI and Schuylkill County EMA Director had a meeting, to discuss the East Central County Task Force training needs. The USEPA and contractor Tetra Tech EMI met on June 24, 2002, to discuss upcoming tasks and the specific needs for

revising the existing Northeast Pennsylvania Sub-Area Contingency Plan. As part of the Sub-Area ACP revisions, USEPA OSC sent a letter to each of the eleven counties requesting a copy of their County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) on August 7, 2003. Obtaining copies of each county's EOP would aid in the updating and revising process of the Sub-Area ACP by providing more county specific information. In addition to the letter sent to the Northampton County EMA Director, on August 28, 2002, USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI met with Nick Tylanda, the Northampton County EMA Director, to discuss and obtain a copy of the Northampton County EOP.

USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI met on August 7, 2002 to discuss an outline for a presentation that will be given at the Eastern, Pennsylvania EMS Council's 8<sup>th</sup> Pocono EMS Conference on October 25, 2002. USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI developed a 1 ½ hour power point presentation on Responding to Hazardous Materials. This presentation was presented on October 25, 2002 at the Pocono Manor in Pocono, Pennsylvania.

On September 18 through September 20, 2002 contractor Tetra Tech EMI attended the USEPA Region III Regional Response Team (RRT) meeting, held in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI presented a draft copy of the Northeast Pennsylvania Sub-Area Contingency Plan at this RRT 3 Meeting in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware on September 18, 2002.

Contractor Tetra Tech EMI assisted the USEPA OSC with developing an EPA/NRC response flyer for distribution throughout the Northeast Planning Area. The USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI finalized the flyer on October 24, 2002.

The USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI attended the TRANSCAER Railroad hands-on training session/exercise at the Philadelphia Fire Academy on October 30, 2002. This drill/exercise was conducted for the federal, state and local agencies, first responders etc. to practice their response skills when responding to a rail car derailment emergency incident.

USEPA OSC attended a WMD Civil Support Team Drill in Lewistown, Pennsylvania on May 28 & 29, 2002.

As per request of the Northeast County Task Force EMS/Medical Committee, a Hazardous Materials Technician Level Training and Hospital Provider Domestic Preparedness class was delivered, by the USEPA, to local hospitals and EMT's on December 2 through December 6, 2002. The contractor Tetra Tech EMI and USEPA OSC also provided a Hazardous Materials Technician Level Training Class for members of the Lehigh Valley International Airport Fire Department, Lehigh County HazMat Response Team and local EMS personnel on January 11-12 and 18-19, 2003. This course was split between 2 weekends due to class personnel being volunteers.

As per request of the Lehigh County HazMat Response Team through the Northeast County Task Force, the contractor Tetra Tech EMI assisted the USEPA OSC with providing a Hazard Characterization Training class for members of the Lehigh County HazMat Response Team. This course was an 8-hour training class with 3 ½ hours classroom and 4 ½ hours of hands-on practical

exercises.

The second Rail Car Awareness and Emergency Response Training course took place for Carbon County at the Carbon County Public Safety Office in Carbon County, Pennsylvania on January 12, 2003. This course will be provided for all 11 counties and, upon request, the paid fire departments within the Northeast Sub-Area throughout the year 2003.

On January 16, 2003, USEPA OSC, contractor Tetra Tech EMI and PADEP Emergency Response Team Manager, met in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania to discuss events and tasks for the upcoming year.

USEPA OSC attended the Schuylkill County LEPC meeting on January 21, 2003.

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## **FUTURE DRILLS, EXERCISES, TRAINING ETC. FOR THE NORTHEAST SUB-AREA CONTINGENCY PLANNING AREA**

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On January 26 through January 28, 2003 the USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI will attend the USEPA Region III RRT meeting, to be held in Williamsburg, Virginia.

As per request of the Northeast County Task Force Medical Committee, a Hazardous Materials EMS Technician Level Training course will be provided, by the USEPA, to local hospitals and EMT's on March 24 through March 28, 2003 and April 21 through April 25, 2003. In conjunction with the Technician Level Training course a EMS Technician Domestic Preparedness and Hospital Provider Domestic Preparedness Train-the-Trainer course will be provided for the class participants.

Several Rail Car Awareness and Emergency Response Training courses will be scheduled to take place for the remaining 7 Counties in the spring. One Rail Car Awareness and Emergency Response Training Course is schedule for Susquehanna County on February 22, 2003. This course will be provided for all 11 counties and, upon request, the paid fire departments within the Northeast Sub-Area. USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI will continue to work with the local railroad companies to get the remaining counties trained.

The USEPA OSC and contractor Tetra Tech EMI will continue their efforts on updating and revising the existing IACP for the Northeast Sub-Area. They will also continue to provide support to the Northeast County Task Force, the East Central County Task Force and the Northeast Region PADEP.