

Hazardous Materials Program

NM Radioactive & Hazardous Materials
Committee Meeting, November 2025



DHSEM Mission Summarized



Working to protect the people of New Mexico through a comprehensive and coordinated program of mitigating hazards, preparing for emergencies, preventing attacks, and recovering from disasters.

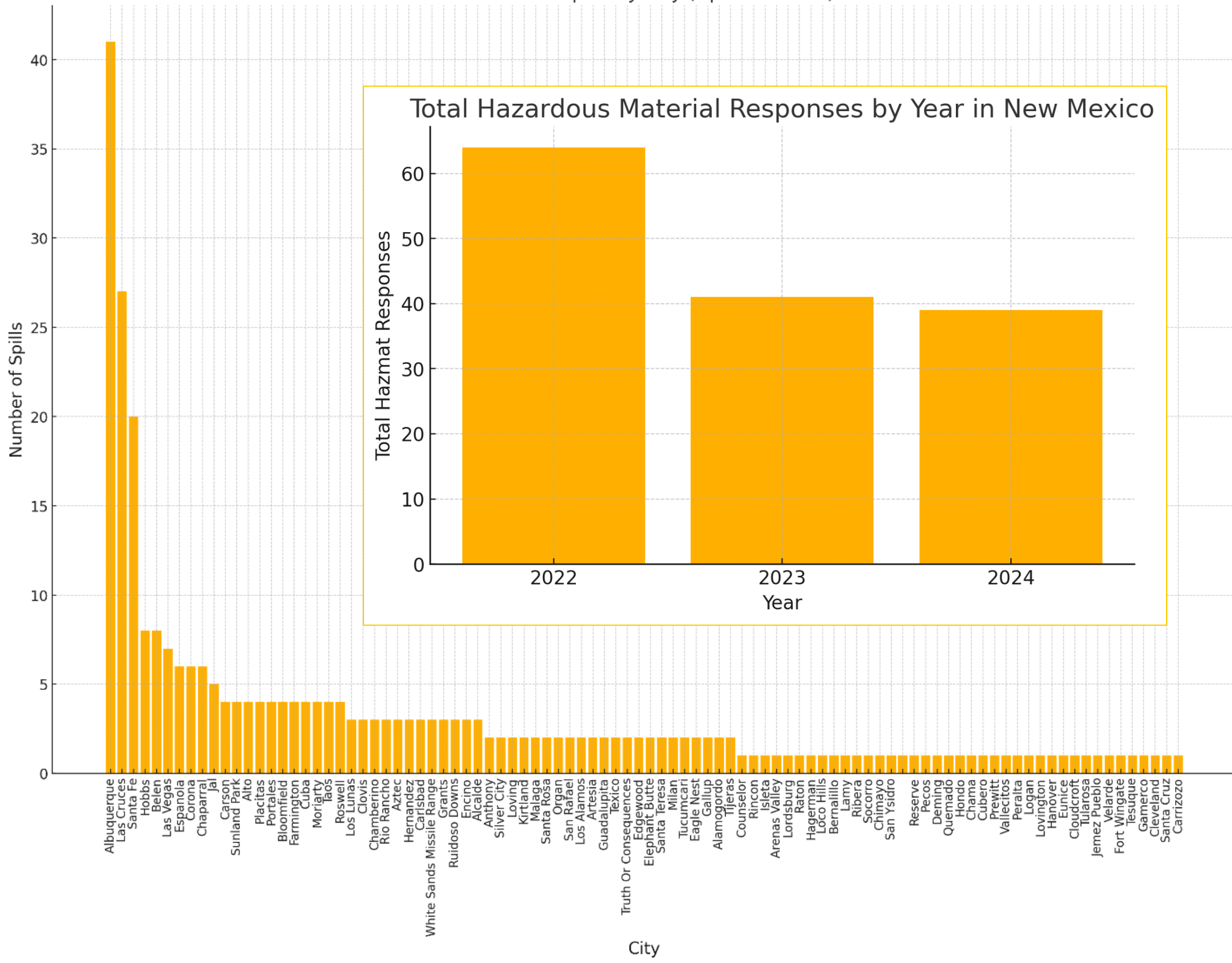


Hazmat Incidents

Hazardous Waste Bureau (NMED) documented 296 spill and release reports in 2024

NM State Police reported a decrease in the number of responses over the last three years – there have been 30 ERO responses in 2025

Number of Spills by City (Updated Data)



Tier II



21,219

Number of Tier II facilities reported to DHSEM in 2024

\$250

Maximum reporting fee per site (for 28 or more chemicals)

Hazardous Chemicals Information Act established fees to accompany Tier II reporting

Collected fees originally allocated to hazmat preparedness and programs around the state

That dedicated funding stream was repealed; now fees go to general fund at the close out of the fiscal year



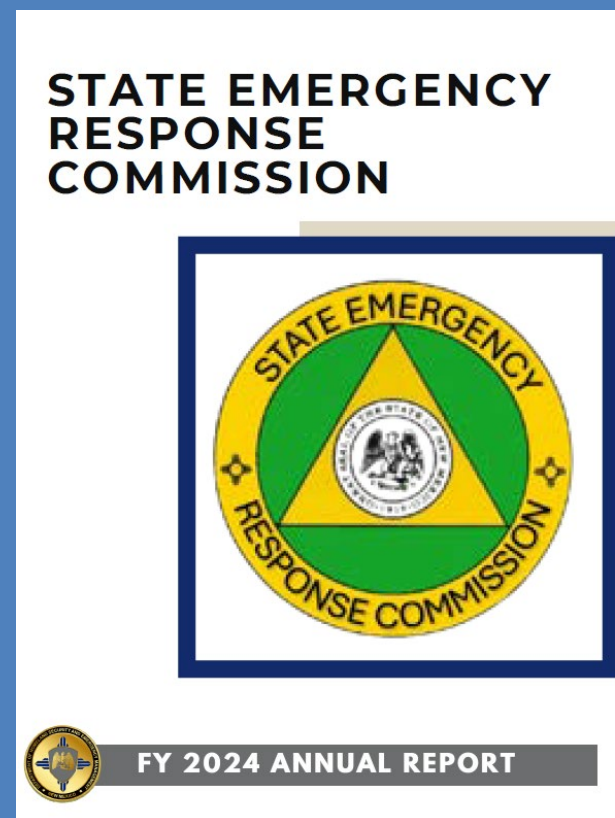
State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)



Commissioners:

- Chair: Jos Lesscher
- Vice Chair: Jess Lewis
- Jackie Onsurez
- Karen Sanders
- Ron Fitzherbert
- Sec. Jason Bowie
- Scott Overpeck

2024 Annual Report Released



America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA)



AWIA Section 2018(a) addresses source water used for drinking – SERC/TERC must notify state drinking water authority of any reportable (hazardous) release in supply

The SERC adopted the policy to bring New Mexico into compliance with this Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) requirement

Drinking Water Bureau Emergency Coordinator now safeguards drinking water infrastructure

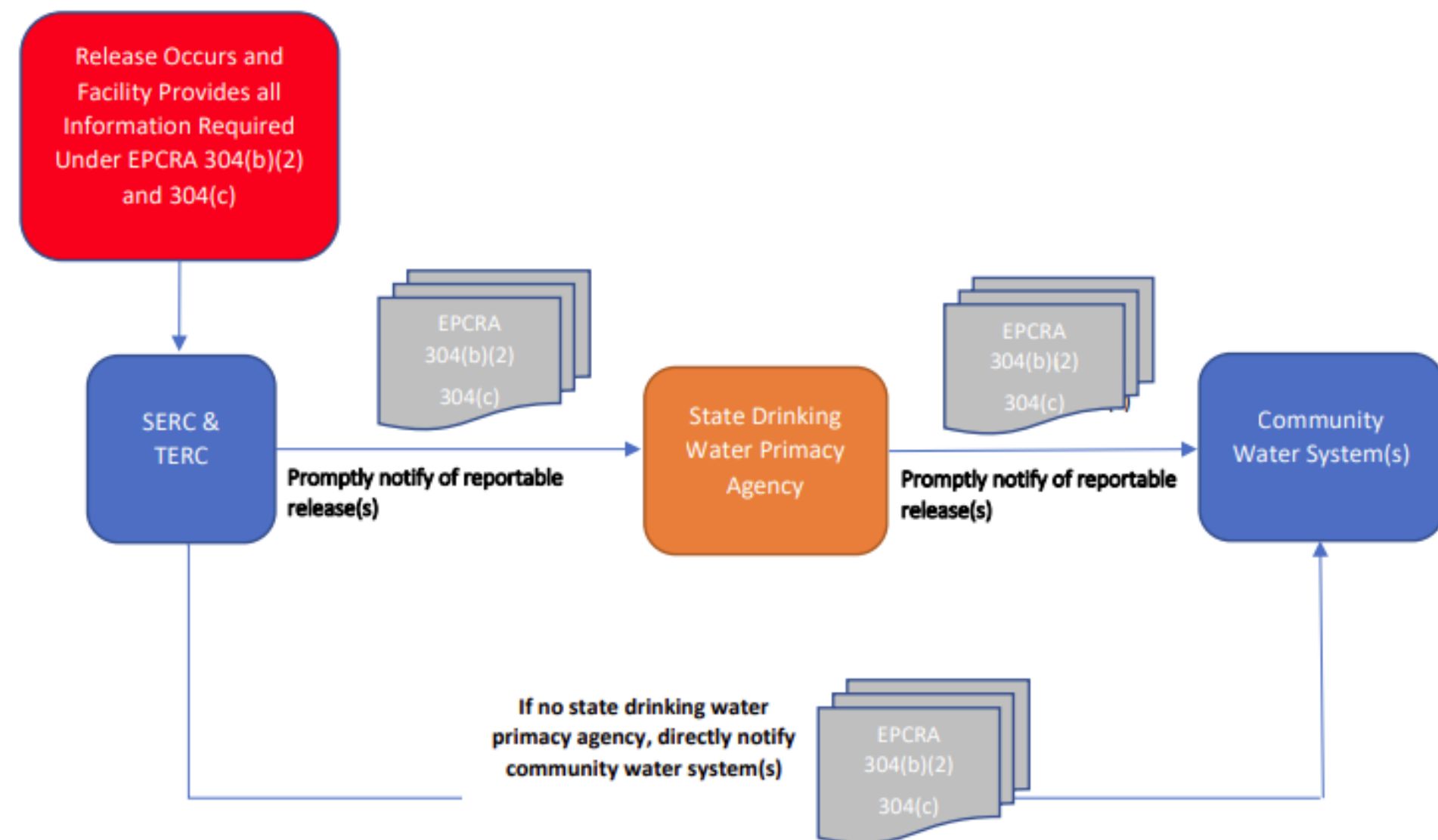


Figure 1. AWIA Section 2018(a) Release Notification Flow



Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)

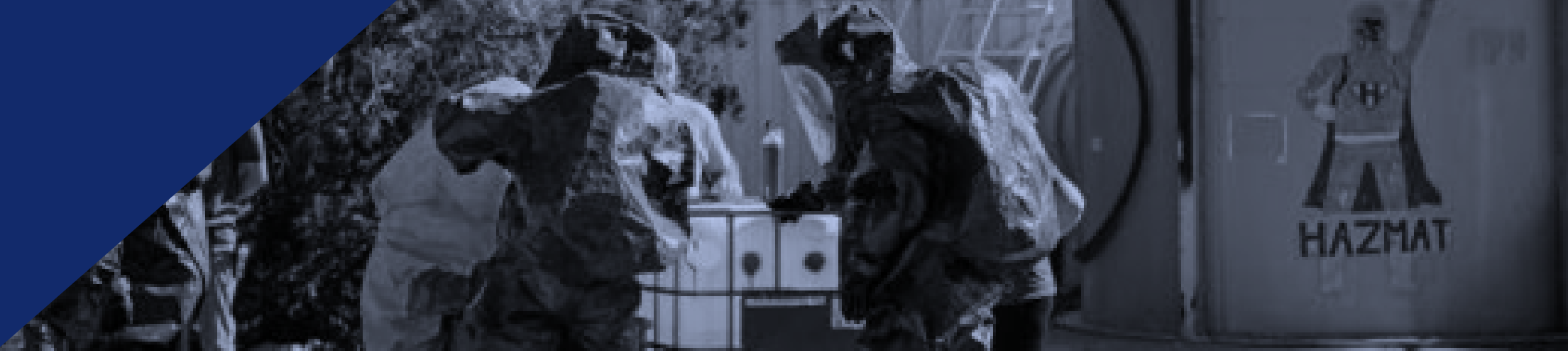
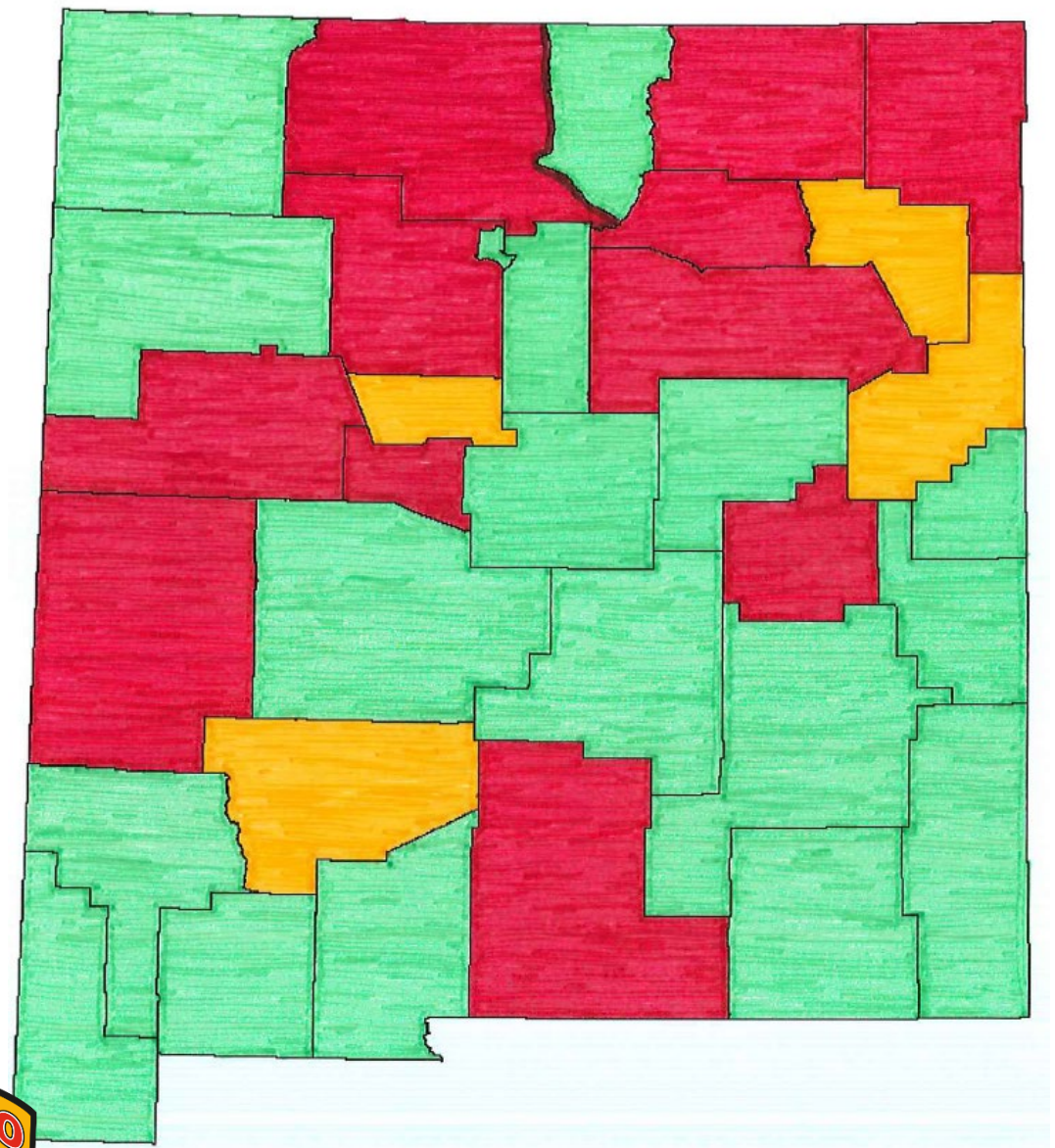


Figure 1. Green shows counties with an active LEPC; Red counties do not have a current LEPC; Yellow counties are actively developing committees



Mandated by EPCRA, LEPCs are responsible for developing emergency response plans for their communities, specifically for hazardous chemical emergencies

In New Mexico:

- Increase in LEPCs around the state
- Start of Regional Emergency Planning Committees (REPCs)



LEPC Highlights



Eddy County

- Dispatch 101 class for oil & gas companies
- Travel to Tier II participants' facilities
- Stop the Bleed & Narcan training
- Wildfire Surveillance class



Dona Ana County

- NASA site tour
- Hosted NM Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Attended Agriculture Preparedness Training with SWBC



San Juan County

- Facilitated cross-sector coordination for response to ransomware attack on San Juan Regional Medical Center
- Six sub-committees that meet monthly



Collaboration & Emerging Threats



Relationship Building:

- Los Alamos National Labs
- Sandia National Labs
- DOE Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
- BNSF & Union Pacific Railroads
- 64th Civil Support Team
- NMDOH Bureau of Health Emergency Management

Emerging Threats:

- Lithium-Ion Batteries
- Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles
- Extreme Weather



Other Updates: ERGs and HMEP



City of Santa Fe Fire Hazmat Team: DFW Hazmat Response Exercise

Dona Ana OEM: Commodity Flow Study of Hazmat Transport Routes

Cities of Rio Rancho & Farmington Hazmat Teams: Hazmat Tech & Refresher Courses for Fire Fighters

State Fire Academy: Hazmat Tech/Training Equipment

New Emergency Response Guides (ERGs) released in English and Spanish – distributed

Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) sub-grant used to support local level preparedness efforts



How do we stay prepared?

Safety starts with knowledge. EPCRA gives you the tools to be **informed and ready**, and lets us keep our communities **healthy, informed, and protected**.

Born from tragedy, it **promotes accountability and transparency, improves emergency response, and empowers communities**.



How Could the Hazmat Program Use Help?



1. Fund the Hazardous Materials Coordinator position with an alternative funding source so more HMEP funds can go to locals
2. Increase Tier 2 fee cap



Thank You



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