### State Emergency Response Commission





# Annual Report 2022

### Zach Wachter NM Dept. of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



#### Agenda

- EPCRA
- Hazardous Chemicals Information Act
- SERC
- SERC Membership
- SERC's Purpose
- Hazardous Materials Safety Board
  - Responsible State Agencies
- SERC Deliverables
- Chemical Data
- Tier 2 Facilities
- HMEP
- 2024 Goals
- Emerging Hazards
- Questions



#### **EPCRA**

- EPCRA was made law in 1986
- Also known as SARA Title III
- Requires reporting of the storage of hazardous chemicals
- Requires emergency planning for hazardous chemical releases





#### NM Hazardous Chemicals Information Act

- NMSA 74-4E
- Implements EPCRA in NM
- Establishes SERC
- Sets Tier 2 Reporting Fees
- Promulgated in 1989





#### SERC

 The Governor of each state or leader of each tribe has designated a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) that is responsible for implementing the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) provisions within its state or tribe.





#### SERC Membership

- Defined in 74-4E-4 NMSA 1978
- Appointed by Governor for 4-year terms
- The SERC is required to have representatives of the following sectors
  - Public Health
  - Public Safety
  - Private Industry
  - Federal Facilities





#### SERC's Purpose

- Coordinating SARA Title III training, grant opportunities, education, technical assistance and outreach activities
- Designating local and regional emergency planning districts, appointing and coordinating local and regional emergency planning committees for each district
- Establishing policies and procedures for reporting hazardous material inventories and emergency releases from covered facilities, and requests for information from concerned citizens and members of the public; designation of an official to serve as coordinator for information;
- Increasing state and local emergency response capabilities through the opportunity of obligating funds under federal grant opportunities
- Providing direction to the Hazardous Materials Safety Board



#### Hazardous Materials Safety Board

- NMSA 12-12-25
- Establish a curriculum of accident response training
- Certify to each responsible state agency those persons who have completed the training curriculum
- Meet at least every four months to review the training needs of each responsible state agency and formulate a plan to meet those needs;
- Conduct, under the direction and administration of the state fire marshal, an annual comprehensive training course
- Prepare and submit to the state emergency response commission a budget for statewide training needs; and
- Cooperate with and assist the task force as requested, including providing the task force with any requested information regarding safety and training of emergency response personnel.





#### Responsible State Agencies

- New Mexico State Police
- State Fire Marshall's Office
- Department of Health
- Department of Transportation
- Environment Department
- Dept. of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- All appropriate local fire departments





#### SERC Deliverables

- Shall meet twice annually
- Generate an annual report





#### **Chemical Data**



FIGURE 1: Comparison of NM State Police
Hazardous Materials Investigations per Year
by Districts from 2016-2021

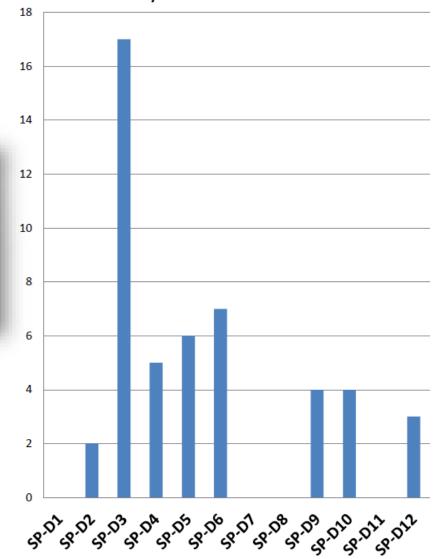
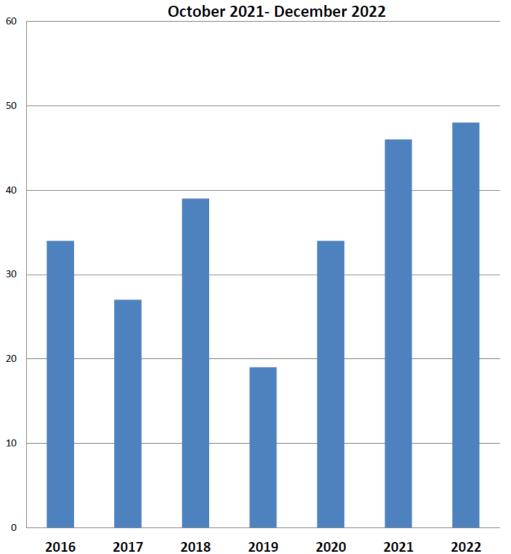




FIGURE 2: NM State Police Hazardous Materials investigations by Year. Previous years based on the Federal fiscal year. 2022 includes investigations from





#### 2022 Reported HAZMAT Spills

- 63 Spills reported in 2022
- Cities with most reported spills
  - Albuquerque, 8
  - Santa Teresa, 3
  - Santa Fe, 3
  - Belen, 3
- Data maintained by the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau



#### Tier 2 Facilities

- 23,028 facilities in Reporting Year 2022
- Approx. \$63,000 in fees collected to support HazMat preparedness across NM





#### Hazardous Materials Expenses

\$63,000 in 1989
would be worth
\$159,724 in 2023

 A study in Massachusetts found the Average cost to remediate a chemical spill is \$34,000 to \$87,000

Common HazMat Equipment	Typical Cost
4 Gas Meter	\$500
Level A Hazmat Suit	\$1,000
Raman Spectrometer	\$35,000



#### Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant

- Is used by local governments and fire departments to train HazMat responders
- Increase in applicants in 2022





#### Goals for 2024

- Resume Biannual Meetings
- Bring NM into compliance with the America's Water Infrastructure Act
- Reconvene HMSB
- Rewrite the state Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan
- Digitize Tier 2 submission process for industry
- Provide decision support software to local HazMat responders
- Update Hazardous Chemicals Information Act





#### Emerging Hazards

- Electric vehicle fires
  - Requires large volumes of water to be kept cool, but cannot be extinguished
  - Vent hazardous chemicals into the air
- Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism
   Standards (CFATS) program on hiatus
- Cyber-security threats to hazmat facility owner-operators





#### Questions





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