

1995 Annual Report  
of the  
Rowan County Local Emergency Planning Committee

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As set forth in the by-laws of the Rowan County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the group shall submit an annual report describing its activities for the preceding calendar year. The following report is submitted in accordance with those bylaws.

Regular meetings of the LEPC were held every other month on the following dates:

19 January 1995	27 July 1995
16 March 1995	28 September 1995
18 May 1995	30 November 1995

Committee membership totals eighteen (18) including Senator Paul Smith and Commissioner Tom Webb, representing the Board of Commissioners. A current membership roster is included as Attachment A.

Guests and visitors are always welcomed at any meeting. Mr. Mike Cook, a hazardous materials planner with the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, attends most meetings. He is continuously kept aware of our activities and in turn briefs the LEPC on any changes in information and/or requirements from the state.

**The LEPC's goals for the past year were in the following areas:**

- To develop a public education package for awareness of the LEPC functions in the community.
- The survey of hazardous materials transported through the county for the purpose of preparing emergency responses.

Both of these goals are currently in progress and hopefully will be completed during 1996.

**1995 HazMat Team Summary:**

From January-December 1995 the HazMat Team responded to twelve (12) Level II (serious) incidents. Six of these were in the City of Salisbury and six were within the county or other municipalities.

In these incidents there was one fatality, five injuries, and one person rescued from a potentially deadly situation. Two HazMat team members received minor injuries during the year, directly related to these incidents.

The incidents resulted in a cost of \$7,698.70 in equipment and resources. In addition, there was a cost of \$653.23 in Level I (non-response team) incidents. These costs were recouped from those responsible for the incidents.

The incident which resulted in the fatality and the rescue of another individual occurred in December and involved an accident with a piece of fire apparatus from Locke Fire Department. The rescue of the injured firefighter demonstrated the need for and excellent response of the Rowan-Salisbury HazMat Team. If the team were not in place, there would have been no response resource in the county equipped to perform in this environment. The team's training including removing injured victims from a hazardous situation. In this instance, that training was life-saving.

As a result, the injured firefighter received prompt medical attention from EMS and was taken to Rowan Hospital where his injuries received definitive care.

This single incident makes all the past training efforts rewarding to those parties involved.

#### **Meetings:**

A review and discussion of all hazardous materials incidents is held at each regular LEPC meeting. As a result of these discussions, it is becoming apparent that the HazMat Team may require a review of their Equipment needs during the upcoming year. The present response vehicle, a used modular ambulance, is no longer adequate to house and transport the amount of equipment needed for the team.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve Rowan County in the capacity of Chairman of the LEPC for this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Hanson, Chairman

7 March 1996