

# CEPAC NEWSBREAK

CHEMICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

*PROVIDED BY COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH. THE COUNCIL IS APPOINTED BY FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.*

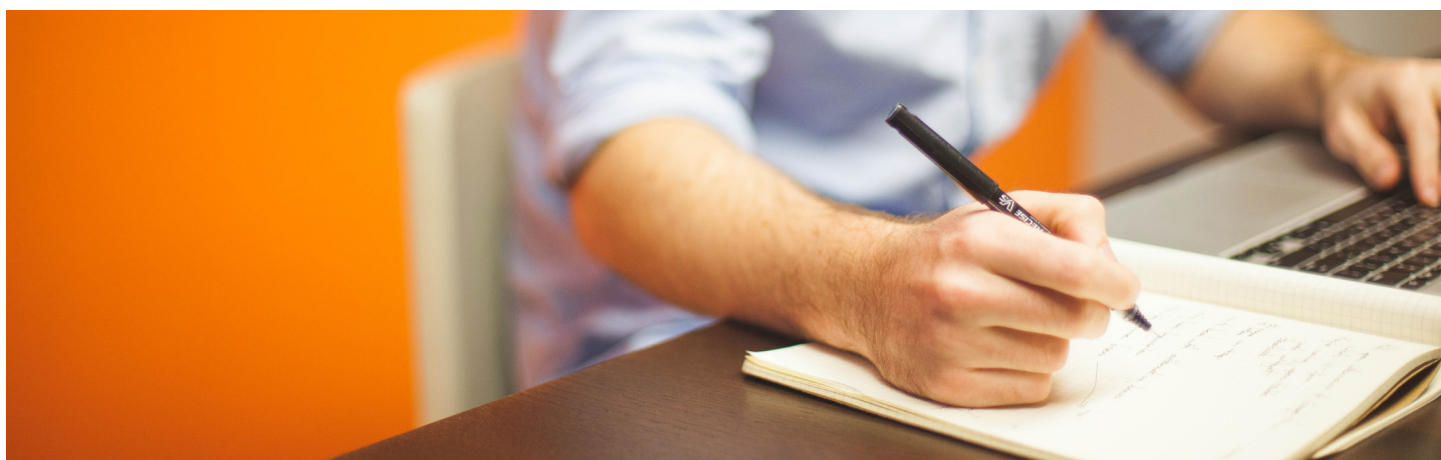
## HOT TOPIC: TIER 2 REPORTING

This year's Tier 2 season brought a total of 36 newly reporting facilities to our LEPC. About half of these facilities are EHS (Extremely Hazardous Substance) reporting facilities. CEPAC held two Tier 2 reporting workshops in January 2016. The purpose of these workshops was to familiarize those responsible for Tier 2 reporting with any new EPA/SERC reporting requirements and to provide networking opportunities. CEPAC will host these workshops again in January 2017. We want to get them in earlier, because the Tier 2 filing deadline is March 1 every year.

**Electronic Tier 2 reporting is the preferred reporting method**, although paper reports are still accepted. When you submit electronically, you can send one e-mail to all three reporting places at once. Reports can be sent as pdf's, zip files, compressed files or some other electronic attachment. When filing electronically, please do not send paper copies of your Tier2 as this is not necessary.

**CEPAC is here to maintain a current SARA Title III chemical database.** For the 2015 reporting year, we had 772 reporting facilities - up from 763 the previous year. In addition, we had to refer two facilities to SERC for enforcement due to not filing the required Tier 2 report.

**If you have reportable quantities of any hazardous substance**, by law you must report these to the OEPA, LEPC and your local fire department. For most hazardous substances, the reporting threshold is 10,000 pounds or more stored on site. For Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) chemicals, depending on if it is on the EPA/SERC list, it can be as little as one pound. If you are in doubt of the reporting thresholds, either contact OEPA/SERC at 1-800-644-2260, the CEPAC Information Coordinator at 614-645-6275 or look it up online at [www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/serc/invforms.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/serc/invforms.aspx).



## CEPAC COUNCIL MEETINGS

**The full CEPAC Council meets on the last Friday in February, the second Friday in June and the last Friday of October.** The meetings start at 9 a.m. and are usually done between 9:45 and 10 a.m. After the official meeting is adjourned, we invite a guest speaker to address the council and guests. The location of the meetings is usually at Columbus Public Health, 240 Parsons Ave. in the second floor auditorium. However, one meeting a year (maybe more later) will be held at different locations. Notice of the locations will be provided as soon as possible to allow for scheduling. Our summer meeting was held on June 10, 2016 at Battelle. Our fall meeting will be held Friday, October 28, 2016 at Columbus Public Health.

**CEPAC's Hazard Analysis Committee** meets four times a year, usually in February, April, September and November. These meetings are held at CPH, 240 Parsons Ave., in rooms TBD.

**The Planning, Training and Exercise Committee** also meets four times a year usually in February, late April/May, September and November. These meetings are held at Franklin County EMA, 5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.

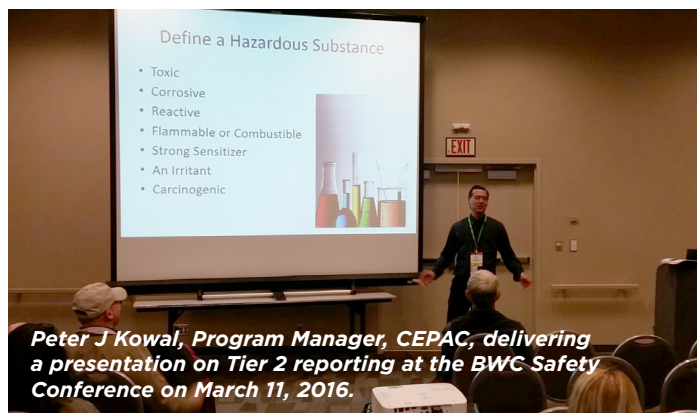
**The Public Information Committee** meets as needed throughout the year, and the meetings are usually held at Franklin County EMA.

## PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

**The CEPAC information coordinator is available** to answer questions about chemical reporting, storage or disposal. You can stop by the office anytime, call, and e-mail or write a letter with any questions or concerns you might have about chemicals at home or in the workplace. CEPAC also can come to you and provide presentations on CEPAC and its role, as well as what makes a substance hazardous and what might be hazardous in your own home. CEPAC also hosts two chemical, environmental and safety related workshops in the spring and fall on various topics.

Our last workshop was on an active shooter response presented by deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's office on May 13, 2016. CEPAC will host part two of this workshop this fall, so look for the workshop announcement and please plan to attend. Our workshops are held at the City of Columbus Engineering & Construction Training Center, 1881 E. 25th Ave., Columbus. To register, contact Pete J. Kowal at [pjkowal@columbus.gov](mailto:pjkowal@columbus.gov) or 614-645-6275.

Additionally, we welcome questions, comments or suggestions on chemical production, use, storage and disposal from the public and area facilities. We also welcome and encourage public participation at our committee meetings. If you are interested or know someone who might have an interest in serving on a CEPAC committee, we would like to hear from you. Together with all of you, CEPAC strives for a safer community.



*Peter J. Kowal, Program Manager, CEPAC, delivering a presentation on Tier 2 reporting at the BWC Safety Conference on March 11, 2016.*

# FINAL RULE (TECHNICAL AMENDMENT) TO HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL REPORTING

**The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is amending its hazard categories** in the regulations (40 CFR part 370) for reporting under Sections 311 and 312 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) due to the changes in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard (HCS).

OSHA's HCS was revised in 2012 to conform to the United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS).

- Under the revised HCS, chemical manufacturers and importers are required to evaluate their chemicals according to the new criteria adopted from GHS to ensure that they are classified and labeled appropriately.
- Manufacturers and importers are also required to develop standardized Safety Data Sheets (formerly known as "Material Safety Data Sheets/MSDS") and distribute them to downstream users of their chemicals.

These changes to OSHA's HCS affect the reporting requirements under sections 311 and 312 of EPCRA.

- Based on the new classification criteria adopted by OSHA, the EPA is revising existing hazard categories for hazardous chemical inventory form

reporting under EPCRA Section 312 and for list reporting under section 311.

- In addition to the hazards adopted from GHS, OSHA specifically added three hazards that were not yet covered by GHS: simple asphyxiant, combustible dust and pyrophoric gas.

Many states have developed their own software for hazardous chemical inventory reporting. Other states use Tier2 Submit electronic software developed by the EPA. To provide enough time for states (as well as the EPA) to modify the software to incorporate the new hazard classes, this final rule will be effective on January 1, 2018.

- This change means that by March 1, 2018, facilities are required to provide information on their hazardous chemicals during the 2017 calendar year.

In this action, the EPA also is making a few minor corrections in the hazardous chemical reporting regulations.

For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-non-section-313-amendments-and-guidance>