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Decatur, Ohio - Winter 2003

This Week in Ohio EMA

A publication of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

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Local, State and Federal officials meet at Ohio EMA in preparation for upcoming Beaver Valley Power Station ingestion zone exercise

Emergency response representatives from Pennsylvania and West Virginia joined the approximately 60 Ohio county EMA, state EMA and state agency personnel on March 1 for the 2006 Federal Outreach Meeting.

The meeting was hosted by the Ohio EMA Radiological Branch. Ohio EMA Radiological Branch Chief Carol O'Claire and Roland Lickus, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission provided opening remarks. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are conducting outreach meetings throughout the Homeland Security/ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regions to help states prepare for nuclear power plant ingestion zone exercises/emergencies.

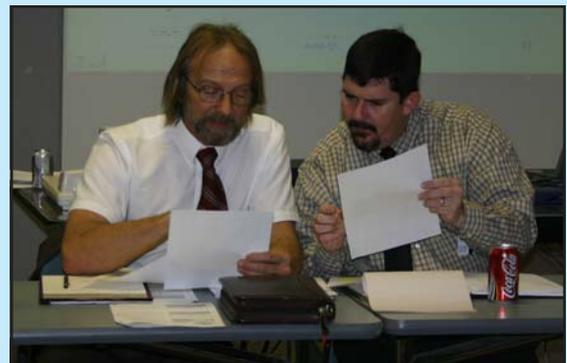
The purpose of the meeting was to provide information on different resources available to county, state and federal responders during the post-emergency phase of a nuclear power plant accident. All nuclear power plant utilities must exercise their ingestion zone procedures every six years.

The Beaver Valley Power Station will conduct its two-day, full-scale utility and ingestion zone exercise June 27 and 28. Its dry run is June 6 and 7. Beaver Valley is in Shippingport, Pennsylvania yet its 50-mile radius affects three states (Ohio and West Virginia included).

The morning consisted of presentations from the NRC, DOE, DHS, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio EMA, Ohio Department of Health and Columbiana County EMA. The afternoon consisted of a tabletop exercise/ discussion to review what resources are available and how those resources would be applied during a post-emergency phase of a Beaver Valley Power Station incident.



Colleen O'Laughlin, of the Nevada Department of Energy, gives her presentation on the Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) and Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center.



Rudy Sacchet, radiological analyst for Columbiana County (left) and Darren Dodson, Columbiana County EMA director review their notes during the tabletop exercise portion of the Federal Outreach meeting. Columbiana County is a major player of the upcoming Beaver Valley Power Station ingestion zone exercise.

Homeland Security Threat Level:

ELEVATED



Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries (February 28, 2006)

National Alliance of State Broadcasters Association Summit

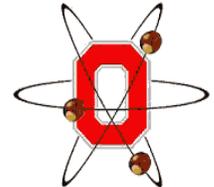
Ohio EMA Communications Branch personnel attended a summit hosted by the National Alliance of State Broadcasters in Cincinnati. The meeting focused on the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and its future format, emergency communications, and updates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).



Review topics included response to Hurricane Katrina and lessons learned from the broadcasters' point of view.

Radiological Update

The Ohio State University Research Reactor held a congressional meeting on February 22. Attendees included: three representatives from the U.S. Senate Committee on Environmental and Public Works, and representatives from OSU, Ohio EMA and Ohio Homeland Security.



The senate committee is chaired by Senator George Voinovich, and is interested in educational opportunities for nuclear power/nuclear engineering.

Plans Branch meets with The Salvation Army

Staff from the Ohio EMA Plans Branch met with Maj. Larry Slade, the Northern Ohio coordinator for the Salvation Army, to discuss the Salvation Army's role in emergency and disaster response.



At the request of Ohio EMA, the Salvation Army is going to organize a position paper that will cover:

- Salvation Army's current role in providing emergency and disaster assistance
- An overview of emergency and disaster services resources that are at their disposal
- An overview of Salvation Army's relationship with the American Red Cross and other provider agencies
- A review of where the Salvation Army will be positioned in regards to the provision of emergency and disaster services in Ohio
- A review of how the Salvation Army would be able to respond to the State Emergency Operations Center, if necessary

The Salvation Army was given a directive by its regional office to examine its disaster response role. The organization is excited to expand its role in helping the state of Ohio with its emergency response needs.

EMAC Briefings

Ohio EMA facilitated two Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) after-action review meetings on February 27. State agencies and local emergency management involved with EMAC provided their roles and responsibilities with EMAC and discussed refinement of the EMAC program within the state of Ohio.

FEMA Assistance

Registrations for Federal Disaster Assistance:

Hurricane Rita (as of Feb. 28)

Louisiana	364,004
Texas	479,414

Hurricane Katrina (as of Feb. 28)

Alabama	114,752
Louisiana	1,075,649
Mississippi	515,831

Registration deadline for people affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita has been extended to **MARCH 11th**.

WANTED: Student Participation in Severe Weather Awareness Contest



On February 2, he saw his shadow. According to Ohio’s groundhog, Buckeye Chuck, the state is going to endure a few more weeks of winter. But according to the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness, Ohioans need to prepare for all seasons and the natural hazards they can produce. The committee sponsors an annual poster-drawing contest where school-aged students create safety posters that illustrate how to prepare for and protect oneself from the severe weather that affects the state of Ohio.

The contest is open to students in first through sixth grades to include special education classes. The schools can be public, private or home. Posters drawn by home-schooled children or by students whose schools do not actively participate in the poster contest should be submitted to the principal or art teacher of their local grade school, along with a copy of the poster contest rules (that are available on the Ohio EMA Web site). Schools send their top winners per grade to regional National Weather Service offices.

National Weather Service offices select regional winners from each grade level and forwards the posters to the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness for a final round of state-level judging. A maximum of 63 regional posters can be entered. The deadline to enter weather safety posters is April 17, 2006.

All regional winners will be invited to attend an awards ceremony at the Ohio State Fair on August 12 for prizes, awards and certificates, and the announcement of the 2006 overall and state level winners.

Poster contest rules and the 2006 Spring Emergency Preparedness Guide are available online at www.ema.ohio.gov/weather.htm.

Ohio’s Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 26 - April 1, 2006, with the statewide tornado drill Wednesday, March 29th at 9:50 a.m.



(August 2005) Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani and 5th Grader Katie Fernstrom, of Mahoning County, the 2005 Overall State Winner of the Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest. Katie’s poster illustrated “ways to beat the heat.”

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 26 CERT-100 Train-the-Instructor: Jackson County (Feb. 25-26)	27	28	March 1 C/EXFE Exercise Butler County Fed Outreach Prog. Ohio EMA, Rm 204	2 FRMAC Training Ohio EMA, Rm 204	3	4
5	6 Damage Assessment Ohio EMA	7	8	9 Hazard Mitigation Course Ohio EMA	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 CERT-100 Train-the-Instructor: Licking County (Newark)
19 CERT-100 Train-the-Instructor: Licking County (Newark)	20	21 Incident Command System (IS100 & (IS200) Training for Ohio EMA employees @ Ohio EMA	22	23 Debris Management Ohio EMA	24 Cost Documentation Ohio EMA	25
NATIONAL FLOOD SAFETY WEEK (March 20-24)						
26	27	28 Directors Seminar - Holiday Inn Worthington, Ohio	29	30	31 Agriculture Exercise with Case Western University	April 1
SPRING SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK (March 26 - April 1) Wednesday, March 29 - 9:50 a.m. Statewide Tornado Drill						