

Engaging First Responders in Utility Safety



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FMEA Energy
Connections 2024

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Presenters

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Orlando Utilities Commission



400,000

**SECOND LARGEST
MUNICIPAL UTILITY IN
FLORIDA**

*and the 14th largest municipal
in the country serving more
than 400,000 customers*



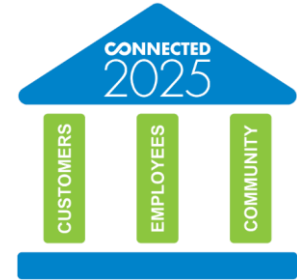
NET ZERO BY 2050
*with interim goals of
reducing CO₂ by 50% by
2030 and 75% by 2040*



OF SERVICE



SUNRISER
*for four consecutive
years by Southern
Alliance for Clean
Energy*



**ADVANCING A CLEAN
ENERGY FUTURE**



**2020 & 2022 MOST
TRUSTED
ELECTRIC UTILITY**
according to Escalent

Initial Assessment

- What public safety agencies serve my location?
- What services / resources do they have?
- How long is the standard response time?
- What is a response time?
- What types of response is appropriate for my location?

Frequency and Risk

Tasks we do regularly and well → High Frequency & Low Risk

Tasks that are unusual or rare → Low Frequency BUT High Risk

When good people are involved with Low Frequency High Risk events, mistakes are less frequent

Result in a Near Misses, Accidents, Fatalities

Preventable if trained, planned and prepared for

Ensure the entire TEAM is ready



Internal Hazards

- Confined Spaces
- Electric Hazards
- Fall Hazards
- Atmospheric Conditions
- Chemical Release
- Chemical Hazards (i.e. Batteries)
- Fire
- Trench Collapse
- Industrial Machinery Incidents



Internal Resources

Emergency Response
Teams (ERT)

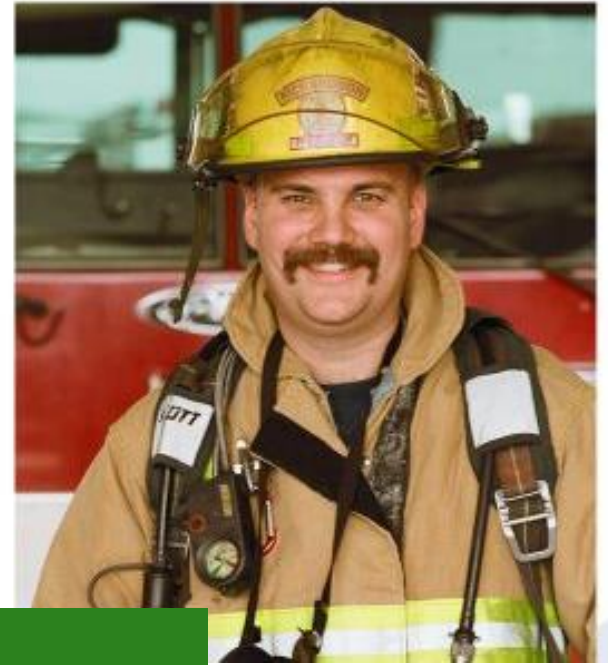
CPR & AED Trained
Employees

Fire Extinguishers

AED and BLS Kits

On-Staff Medical
Assistance





Public Safety is Your Partner



Make introductions before there is an emergency



Train regularly to increase awareness and communication



ARM them with knowledge so they can be responsive to your needs



Action oriented people



Utility Companies & Public Safety

Ensure public safety entities are well versed and have an innate understanding your operations

Train regularly, welcome tours of your facility, provide updates and changes in operational procedure

Be transparent of your resources and potential hazards

Don't wait until there is an event

Understand Your Level of Response

Types of Agencies

- Career
- Volunteer
- Combination
- City
- County

Response Types

- BLS vs ALS
- Trauma
- Hazmat
- Technical Rescue / Confined Space
High Angle / Trench



Unique and Emerging Technology

Solar Farms

Large Battery Banks

EV Vehicles and Technology

What's in your organization?





Lithium Ion Batteries

Understand the risk - overcharging, overheating, cycling and aging

Chemical composition - Volatile electrolytes, release toxic and flammable gases

Thermal Runaway - Risk of reignition, bulging cases, noises, increase temperature

DO NOT EXTINGUISH WITH WATER

Conclusions



Take aways from today...

- Review your policies and procedures
- Know your strengths and resources
- Confirm what your unique needs are and if they can be met by your local responders
- Train, Train, Train
- Reduce anxiety and dispel the myths by asking questions!

QUESTIONS

Engaging First Responders in Utility Safety



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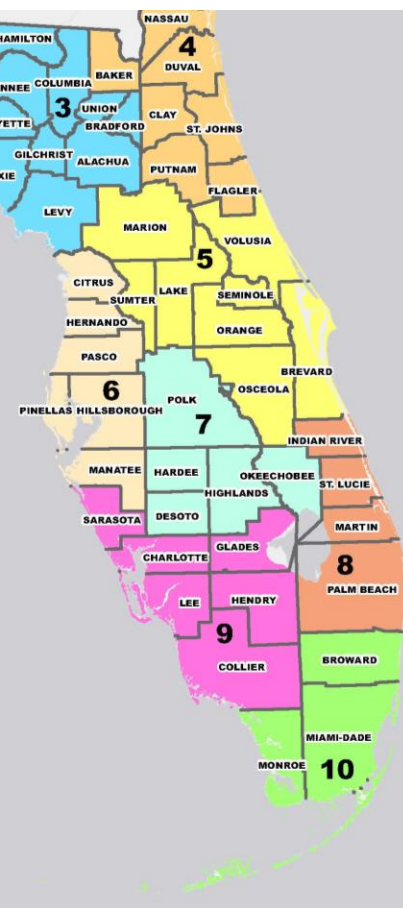
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Appendix

FMEA Energy Connections Conference and Trade Show

FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE CONTACTS				
EMERALD COAST LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
CHAIR	STAFF	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Richard Delp	Jason Arnold	P.O. Box 11399 Pensacola, FL 32524	850-332-7976, ext. 225	jason.arnold@ecrc.org http://www.ecrc.org/LEPC
APALACHEE LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
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NORTHEAST FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
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TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
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SOUTHWEST FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
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TREASURE COAST LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
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SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE				
CHAIR	STAFF	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
James Russo	Charlene Burke	One Oakwood Blvd, Suite 250 Hollywood, FL 33020	(954) 924-3653	cburke@sfrpc.com http://www.sflregionalcouncil.org/



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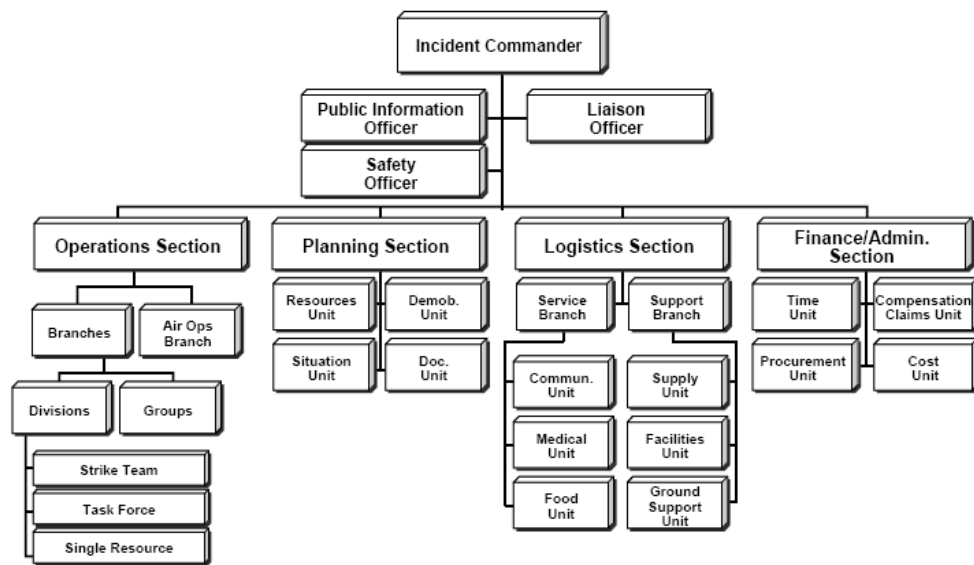
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEES

STATE OF FLORIDA



Command and Control

Incident Command System



Relevant Terms

Incident Command System (ICS)

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Unity of Command – One voice

Span of Control - Accountability

Unified Command – Multiple agencies.
One common goal.

Improve Emergency Preparedness

Goal - Ensure all employees are prepared to respond in emergencies.

Actions - Conduct drills, update emergency contact information, and refresh evacuation routes and meeting points.

Measurement - Evaluate response times and identify areas for improvement.