

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Public Safety - State Emergency Management

HB Section(s): 8.275

Program Name: Missouri Emergency Response Commission - Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) & Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): SEMA Operations and MERC

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

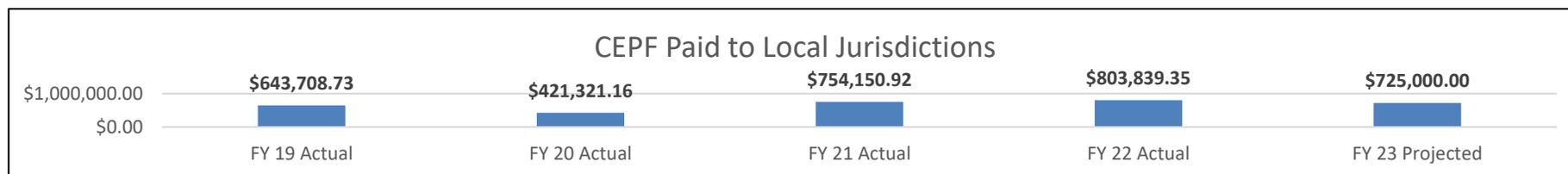
Protect Missourians from Chemical and Hazardous Materials Emergencies and incidences.

1b. What does this program do?

- The Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC) is responsible for administering the State and Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Industries and Agricultural facilities affected by the legislation are required to report to the MERC annually to comply with state and federal laws.
- Fees are collected annually according to established reporting procedures.
- Provides training to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) and Districts (LEPD) and provides training for HAZMAT Responders on the response to and mitigation of chemical and hazardous materials emergencies and incidences.
- Provides guidance and supervision for all month to month activities for LEPCs and LEPDs.
- Assists LEPC's and LEPD's in the development, review, and updates, of Chemical and Hazardous Materials Emergency Plans.
- Investigates new, unreported, and reported facilities for not reporting and paying Tier II fees as required by Federal and State law.
- Administers federal Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant providing HAZMAT planning and training funds to LEPC's, LEPD's, and responders across the state.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

Each county must submit a CEPF application and be in full compliance with State and Federal EPCRA laws annually to receive funding. The LEPC's and LEPD's then use these funds to mitigate risks through planning and training first responders, healthcare providers, and their communities. During FY2022 MERC staff continued to assist, guide, and supervise LEPC's and LEPD's, as well as educate LEPCs and LEPDs about compliance issues.



*Paid with a one year lag (e.g. FY21 payments are made in FY22)

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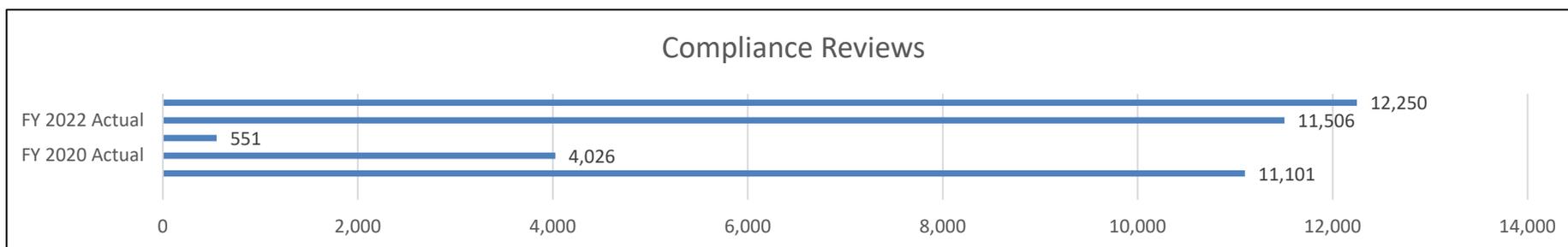
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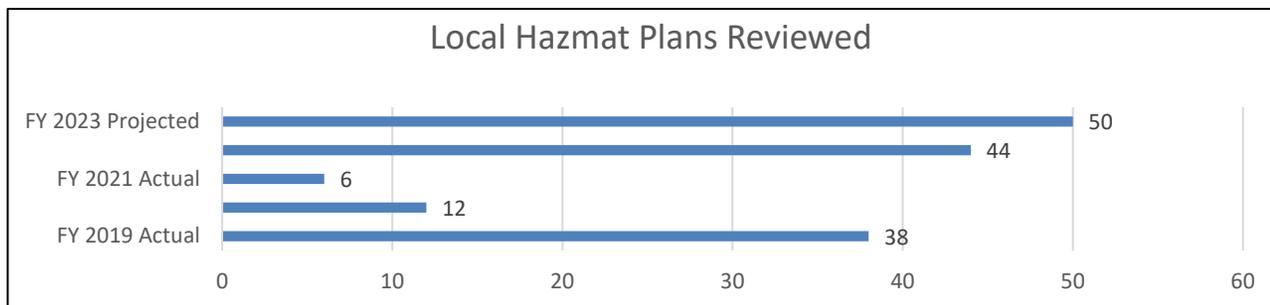
2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

The MERC supervises and guides LEPC's and LEPD's to complete facility compliance visits to ensure all facilities properly report their chemical and hazmat inventories as required by the federal EPCRA. This ensure the safety of first responders as well as ensures the LEPC's and LEPD's are receiving the proper funding allocations under CEPF laws. The MERC also provides training and training compliance programs as required by state and federal programs, as well as assistance and support to LEPC's, LEPD's and, HAZMAT Response Teams. All of these programs ensure the safety of our communities and the hazmat responders.



2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

Local Emergency Planning Committees and Local Emergency Planning Districts are required to review their Hazmat Response Plans annually and complete a full plan update every three years. The MERC had a contracted planner and Plans Coordinator to assist in reviewing and updating plans.



The MERC's impact is measured in our ability to assist local communities to improve the safety of their Chemical and Hazardous Materials First Responders and their citizens through the most up to date and effective HAZMAT response plans.

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

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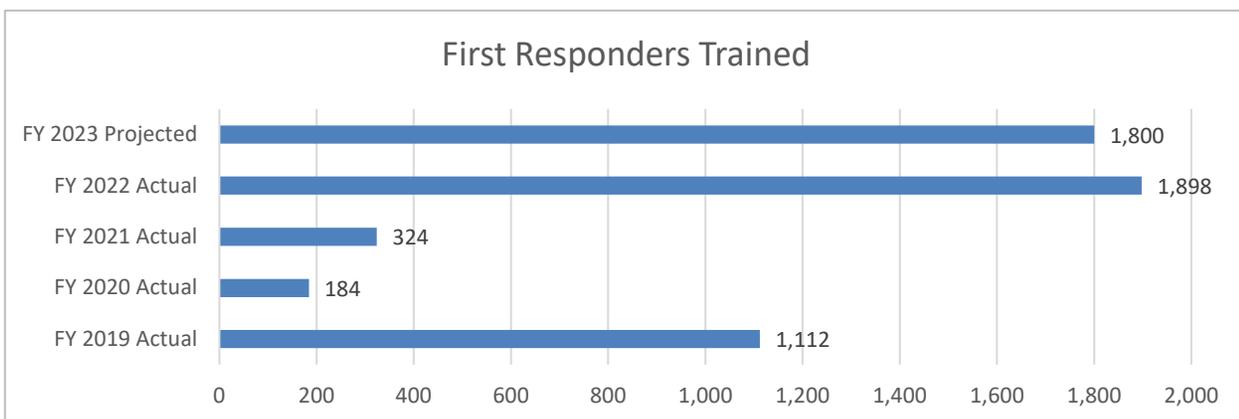
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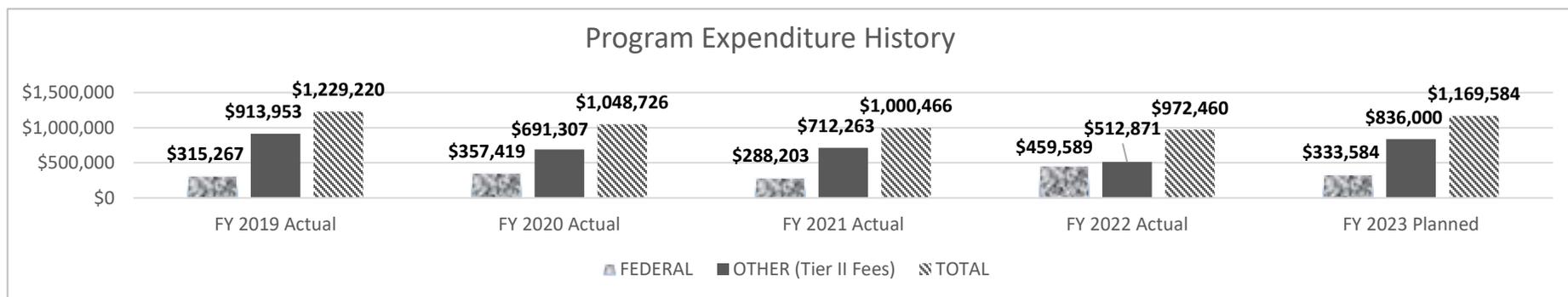
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The MERC utilizes federal grants to train first responders in chemical and hazardous materials emergency response. This is essential for local jurisdictions to plan and mitigate response to hazardous materials and chemical incidences. Class attendance is impacted by jurisdictional size, number of responders, location, and availability to attend the class. Training increased significantly in 2021 as the pandemic slowed. All classes were presented again, including new courses developed and offered across the state of Missouri.



The MERC does not evaluate efficiency through purely economic means. We measure our efficiency through a lens of the best, most effective, up to date and recognized training for local responders and citizens, as well as maintaining an excellent Tier II program, an excellent and compliant LEPC/LEPD program, and maintaining an excellent outreach program.

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include



4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

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The MERC is completely self funding by collecting the Tier II Fees per Federal and State Statutes, The MERC also receives Federal Grant funding from the Federal DOT and PHMSA. The MERC does not receive any General Revenue funds from the State.

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

RSMo. Chapters 44 and 292.60 - 292.625 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act Title 42 Chapter 116 Sub-Chapter 1. The HMEP grant program was established in 1990 by the Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety act. In 1993, PHMSA began issuing grants to assist States, Territories and Tribes to "Develop, Improve and Carry Out Emergency Plans" within the National Response System and the EPCRA of 1986.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

Missouri Collects Tier II fees according to State Statute and those fees are placed into the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund and are used to match HMEP funds. Both Funds are utilized to provide salaries for the MERC Executive Director (Emergency Management Manager), two Program Specialists, two part-time Administrative personnel, two contracted Training and Exercise personnel, one contracted LEPC/Planning Coordinator, three contracted Regional Planners, and eleven contracted Chemical and Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Trainers.

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

Yes. This program falls under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, Title 42 Chapter 116, Sub-Chapter 1, Section 1101. While the State Emergency Response Commission and Local Emergency Preparedness Committees are federally mandated under the Community Right to Know Act, the HMEP grant program is not federally mandated.