

# North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 -1603 • 352.955.2200

September 10, 2018

Mr. Dwayne Cross, Agreement Administrator  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Grant Agreement #693JK31742009, Technical Assistance Grant Program (TAG) 2017  
Request for Extension of Grant Timeframe to September 30, 2019

Dear Mr. Cross:

The North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team has been busy implementing its Pipeline Safety Technical Assistance Grant. The Team would like to request a 12 month extension of the time frame for completion of technical assistance to September 2019.

This extension is needed to conduct the three full-scale exercises and continue support of the formation of a Florida Pipeline Emergency Response Initiative.

To date, the following tasks have been completed:

A tabletop exercise was conducted on November 29, 2017, with a scenario involving the recently completed Sabal Trail Pipeline. The exercise was organized by geographic areas so that multiple counties were able to practice and improve their response working with Sabal Trail Pipeline. (\$6,000 of \$6,000 expended)

Enhancing first responder pipeline response capabilities has been completed with the purchase and distribution of four-gas detectors. Through the competitive bidding process, the Team was able to purchase three meters per county rather than two. This is an important increase in local capabilities since local firefighter response to a major pipeline release will be to ensure that responders are not in a flammable area and to work with the pipeline operator. (\$23,970 of \$24,000 expended)

The following tasks are ongoing:

Two meetings of the Florida Pipeline Emergency Response Initiative start-up group have been held to date. The first meeting was held on April 11, 2018, in Saint Augustine and the second on July 11, 2018, in Cocoa Beach. While progress is being made, it is not anticipated that the group will formally organize during 2018. The extended time frame to support of this effort for another year is necessary to the successful start-up of the Initiative. (\$2,018 of \$12,500 expended)

Conducting three full-scale exercises is still in the planning stage. Staff met with Florida Gas Transmission staff on April 17, 2018, to discuss conducting an exercise. Two days later, two Gilchrist County Sheriff deputies were murdered while eating lunch which redirected County focus from upcoming emergency preparedness activities.

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Bradford County and Taylor County replaced their emergency management directors during this same time frame. All of these events set back the planning of a full-scale exercise in these counties. In Florida, it is difficult to schedule full-scale exercises during hurricane season between June 1 through November 30. (\$0 of \$49,500 expended)

During its August 16, 2018, meeting of the Team, three new time frames for full scale exercises were proposed. The planning meetings for these exercises would begin in October 2018 and the exercises would be conducted during the first five months of 2019.

The first exercise will be held in Gainesville and involve Florida Gas Transmission and Gainesville Regional Utilities. This is a follow-up to a natural gas release that the odorant was detected by hospitals in a densely populated area. A second scenario was selected for Suwannee County involving an area where Sabal Trail and Florida Gas Transmission pipelines cross. The third scenario would involve the Florida Gas Transmission Compressor in Trenton.

The final tasks to be completed involve distributing press releases reporting on the three exercises and the establishment of the Florida Pipeline Emergency Response Initiative. (\$1,500 of \$6,000 expended)

Thank you for your consideration of this grant time frame extension. If you have any questions concerning this matter, do not hesitate to contact me at email: [mundy@ncfrpc.org](mailto:mundy@ncfrpc.org) or 352.955.2200, ext. 108.

Sincerely,



Dwayne Mundy, Director, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance  
Principal Investigator

xc: Karen Lynch, Agreement Officer Representative

Funded Activities, Goals, Objectives, Resources, Milestones and Budget				Pipeline Technical Assistance Grant 2017-18							
North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team											
Activity, Goals, Objectives	Resources	Milestones	Budget	Oct-Dec 2017	Jan-Mar 2018	Apr-June 2018	Jul-Sept 2018	Oct-Dec 2018	Jan-Mar 2019	Apr-June 2019	Jul-Sept 2019
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
One Tabletop Exercise Goal (1), Objective 1 Completed	Public safety and preparedness will be enhanced due to this grant by providing responders and facility operators an opportunity to increase planning and response strategies.	Conduct one Tabletop Exercises to center on emergency response activities in a county that includes the recently constructed Sabal Trail pipeline and does not have Florida Gas Transmission compressor station.  Milestones would include the preparation of the scenario contained in the Exercise Plan/Situation Manual (1), conducting the exercise(2), and preparing an After Action Report (3) in accordance with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Procedures (HSEEP). An additional milestones would include providing the After Action Report and Improvement Plan Matrix to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for inclusion in the next Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan (MYTEP) process (4).  Q1: (1,2,3,4)	\$6,000	\$6,000				\$6,000			
Community Outreach Goal (1), Objective 2 Ongoing	A new compressor station has recently been completed for Sabal Trails in our district. Resources from this grant will help increase public safety and preparedness though a better prepared public aware of pipeline hazards and that local governments have a response plan.	The Team will prepare and distribute (5,6,7,8) to local media outlets a press release advising the public of steps being taken to enhance pipeline safety by emergency responders. This milestone will include information on pipeline hazards and potential protective actions, where additional information is available, as well as contacts for local emergency management agencies.  Q1: (5) Q2:(6) Q3:(7) Q4: (8)	\$6,000	\$-1,500	\$-3,500	\$-4,500	\$-1,500	\$-1,500	\$-1,500	\$-1,500	
Three Full-Scale Exercises Goal (1), Objective 3 Ongoing	Public safety and preparedness will be enhanced due to this grant by providing responders and facility operators an opportunity to increasing planning and response strategies.	Conduct Three Full-Scale Exercises to center on emergency response activities with the compressor stations in Bradford (Brooker), Gilchrist (Bell), and Taylor (Perry) Counties.  Milestones would include the preparation of the scenarios contained in the Exercise Plan (9,10,11), conducting the three exercises (12, 13, 14), and preparing After Action Reports (15, 16, 17) for each of the three exercises in accordance with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Process (HSEEP). An additional milestones would include providing the After Action Report and Improvement Plan Matrix to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for inclusion in the next Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan (MYTEP) developed using the Department of Homeland Security Readiness: Training Identification and Preparedness Planning (R:TIPP) process (18).  Q1: (9,12,15), Q2:(10,13,16), Q4(11,14,17,18)	\$49,500		\$-16,500	\$-16,500	\$-16,500		\$-16,500	\$-33,000	
Enable fire departments to assess suspected pipeline hazards, take appropriate public safety response actions, and communicate this information with the public. Goal (1), Objective 4 Completed	Many fire departments lack the resources to properly size-up a reported pipeline leak. The ability to measure mercaptan and flammable levels is important in responding to small, municipal scale releases to large scale, pipeline related releases. Four-gas detectors were selected since training air monitoring training is available for hazmat teams through HMEP funding.	Milestones would include purchasing an anticipated two per county for the 12 counties in the North Central Florida district (19). An detailed assessment would be conducted to ensure the optimal distribution considering pipeline locations and local commitment to training and maintaining the meters (20). These would be distributed to the local fire departments and this information would be distributed to the news media as part of the proposed community outreach task (21).  Q2: (19), Q3: (20, 21)	\$24,000		\$-24,000	\$-24,000					
Support a Florida Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative Goal (2), Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4 Ongoing	Discussions are ongoing in Florida on starting a statewide Pipeline Emergency Responder Initiative (PERI) organization to support sustainable pipeline planning and response.	This item would provide travel funding (hotel) to allow holding a statewide one or two workshops to promote this initiative among the 10 Local Emergency Planning Committees involved in the four PERI geographic areas: West, North, South and Central Florida.  Milestone would include documentation from Regional PERI meetings (22). Funding hotel expenses for a statewide Florida PERI workshop (23).  Q1-3: (22), Q4: (23)	\$12,500			\$-12,500					\$-12,500
Contractual:				\$24,000	\$6,000		\$18,000	\$7,500	\$18,000	\$34,500	\$0
Supplies:				\$0					\$24,000		
Travel:				\$12,500							\$12,500
Total:				\$24,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$18,000	\$27,500	\$42,000	\$12,500

Note: Contractual line items including Tabletop Exercise, Community Outreach, and the Three Full-Scale exercises will be conducted under contract for a fixed fee with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. The Regional Hazmat Team has an agreement with the Council to provide support to the Regional Teams.

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