# **EPCRA & LEPCs** LNG ISSUES

#### **Timothy R Gablehouse**

Member, Colorado Emergency Planning Committee (SERC); Board Member & Past-President NASTTPO; Chair, Jefferson County LEPC

# HOW LEPCs VIEW THE WORLD

### Know the risks/capabilities in your community.

- What are risks? (Manmade and natural)
- What are the response capabilities?
- What are the public capabilities?
- Strategically plan to fill gaps
- Have a vision of success and measure progress

#### Educate public and business

- What can happen to you?
- What are their obligations?

#### Create participation and cooperation

- Public, authorities & industry
- Have high expectations

### LEPCs & HAZMAT TRANSPORTATION - Evaluating the Risks

#### A "DRIVE-BY" RISK

- LITTLE EXPERIENCE WITH MOST PRODUCTS
- HOWEVER, WE KNOW AND USE LPG
- WE CAN DO COMMODITY FLOW STUDIES, BUT -
  - WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHEN TRUCKS ARE COMING
  - RAIL IS MORE PREDICTABLE
- RELIANT ON ADEQUATE REGULATION
  - WE UNDERSTAND THE STRATEGY OF PREVENTING RELEASES THROUGH CONTAINER DESIGN AND OPERATIONAL CONTROLS
  - THE BAKKEN EXPERIENCE HARMS CONFIDENCE

## HAZMAT REALITIES

- MOST COMMUNITIES ARE DEFENSIVE
  - VOLUNTEERS HAZMAT TEAMS IN NAME ONLY
  - LIMITED EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING
  - WAIT FOR THE RAILROAD OR CONTRACT HAZMAT
  - PROTECT NEARBY AREAS, MAYBE EVACUATE
- EVALUATE CAPABILITIES USING ERG & CAMEO
- COMMUNITIES HAVE LOTS OF GAPS
  - MAY BE ABLE TO HANDLE SADDLE TANKS, BUT EASILY OVERWHELMED

# LEPC CONCERNS WITH LNG BY RAIL

- CONTROVERSY OVER ADEQUACY OF TANK CARS & OPERATIONAL CONTROLS
  - MONDAY'S FEDERAL REGISTER
- THE HAZARDS ARE DIFFERENT THAN LPG
  - THE POTENTIAL FOR A HIGH-CONSEQUENCE INCIDENT SEEMS REAL
- COMMUNITIES ARE NOT PREPARED
  - LACK TRAINING
  - LACK DETECTION OR RESPONSE ASSETS
  - LARGE-SCALE SHELTER AS A DEFENSIVE APPROACH IS HARD

# QUESTIONS

#### **TIM GABLEHOUSE**

tgablehouse@gcgllc.com

- (303) 572-0050

