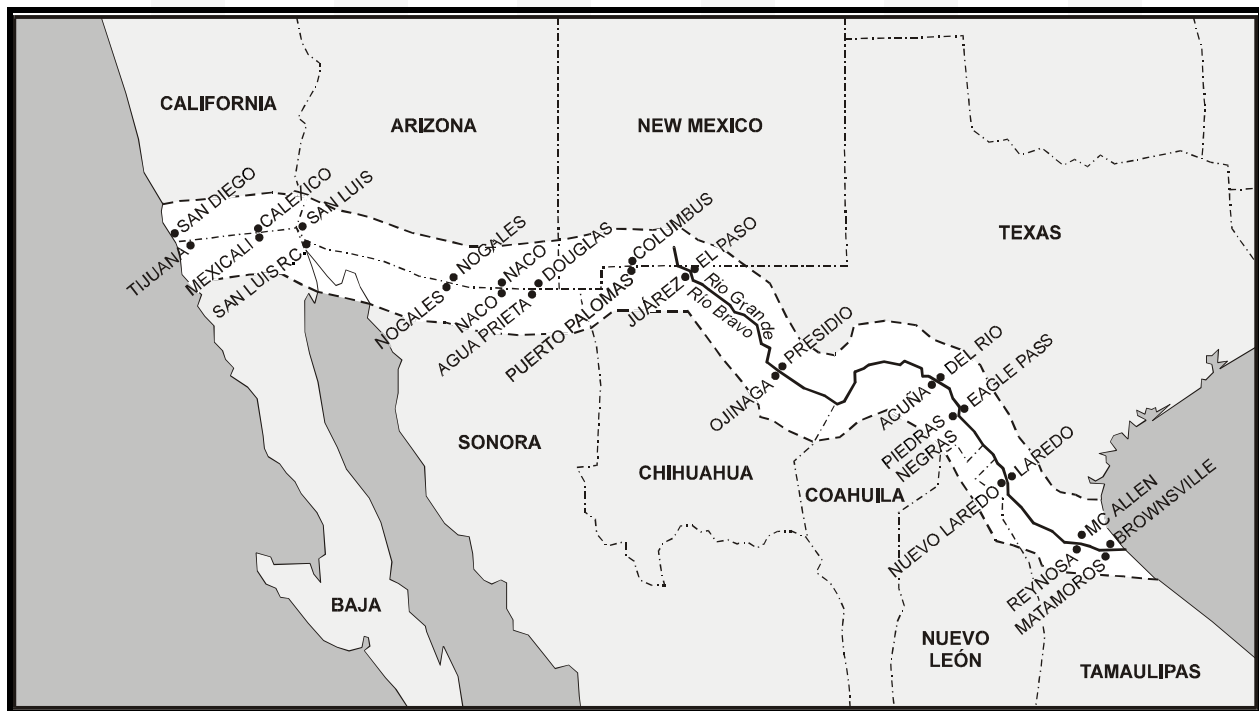


SEMIANNUAL REPORT ON UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES



EPA 550-B-00-004
April 2000
Issue Number 5

INTRODUCTION

U.S. EPA's Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO) provides leadership, advocacy, and assistance to:

- # Prevent and prepare for hazardous material (HazMat) emergencies;
- # Respond to environmental crises; and
- # Inform the public about chemical hazards in their community.

To protect human health and the environment, CEPPO develops, implements, and coordinates regulatory and non-regulatory programs. The Office carries out this work in partnership with regions, domestic and international organizations in the public and private sectors, and the general public.

The purpose of the *Semiannual Report on United States-Mexico Border Contingency Planning Activities* is to consolidate information on United States-Mexico border joint response and contingency planning from U.S. EPA Regions, border states, and Sister Cities in order to promote the exchange of information and coordination among these groups. The types of activities presented in this report range from joint response planning meetings and meetings to develop Sister City plans, to joint response exercises and training courses, to actual HazMat and environmental emergencies.

Each of the U.S. EPA Regions, U.S. states, and other organizations along the United States-Mexico border were contacted for information on recent and future border contingency activities. The information gathered for the fourth issue of the report (September 1999) served as the baseline for this update. Updates are published twice a year.

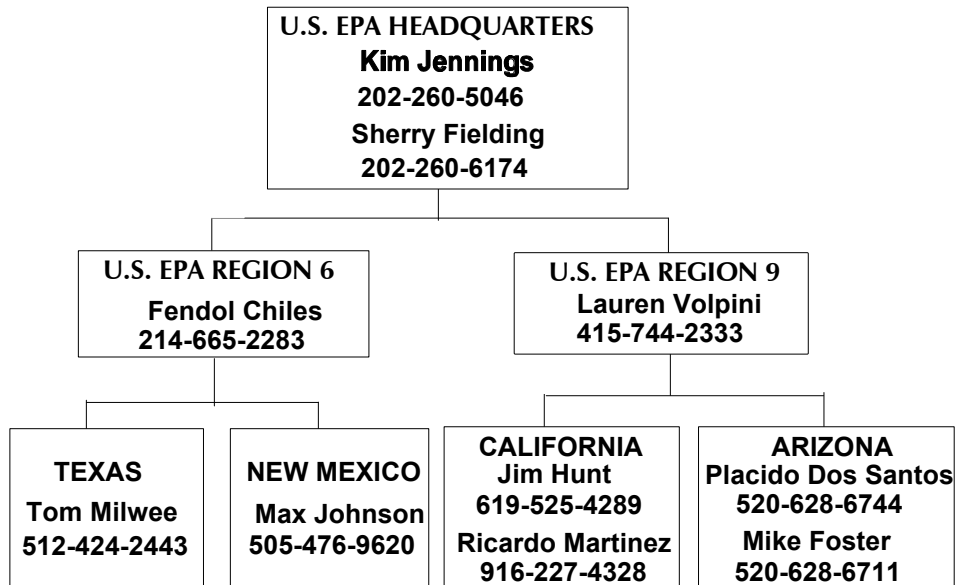
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- # Lauren Volpini, U.S. EPA Region 9

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

- # Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora (March 2000) (*bilingual copies available from the U.S. EPA Region 9 Border Office, Tel.# (619) 235-4771*)
- # Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between San Luis, Arizona and San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora (February 2000) (*bilingual copies available from U.S. EPA Region 9 Border Office, Tel.# (619) 235-4771*)
- # "Border Visions" a 50-minute, bilingual education video about Border XXI (December 1999). For information about viewing or obtaining a copy, contact the U.S. EPA Region 9 Border Office, Tel.# (619) 235-4771.
- # Brownsville-Matamoros Sister City Emergency Response Plan (May 1997) (*available from Fendol Chiles, U.S. EPA Region 6, Tel.# (214) 665-2283*)
- # Clean Air Act Risk Management Plan manual in Spanish (1998; translation of 157-page English manual) (*available on CD-ROM from Fendol Chiles, U.S. EPA Region 6, Tel.# (214) 665-2283*)
- # Eagle Pass-Piedras Negras Sister City Emergency Response Plan (March 1998) (*available from Fendol Chiles, U.S. EPA Region 6, Tel.# (214) 665-2283*)
- # Emergency Response Guidebook 2000 (*available in English and Spanish from the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Government Printing Office (<http://bookstore.gpo.gov>) and through your state coordinator for emergency response organizations (<http://Hazmat.dot.gov/gydebook.htm>)*)
- # Fact Sheets for the Border XXI Workgroups (*available from U.S. EPA Region 9 Border Office, Tel.# (619) 235-4771*)
- # Imperial and San Diego Counties Pesticide Episode Response Plans (September 1998) (*available from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Tel.# (760) 339-4314*)
- # Joint United States-Mexico Inland Contingency Plan (signed June 4, 1999) (*available in English and Spanish, from Kim Jennings, U.S. EPA Headquarters, Tel.# (202) 260-5046*)
- # Laredo-Nuevo Laredo Sister City Emergency Response Plan (December 1998) (*available from Fendol Chiles, U.S. EPA Region 6, Tel.# (214) 665-2283*)
- # McAllen-Reynosa Sister City Emergency Response Plan (February 2000) (*available from Fendol Chiles, U.S. EPA Region 6, Tel.# (214) 665-2283*)

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST (cont'd)

- # Personal Safety Plan: Chemical Emergencies (1998) (available from Corpus Christi Nueces County LEPC, Tel.# (361) 880-3960)
- # Response Procedures for 45 Chemicals (November 1998) (available from Corpus Christi Nueces County LEPC, Tel.# (361) 860-3960)
- # Semiannual Report on United States-Mexico Border Contingency Planning Activities (Issue Number 1, February 1998; Issue Number 2, August 1998; Issue Number 3, January 1999; Issue Number 4, September 1999) (available from Kim Jennings, U.S. EPA Headquarters, Tel.# (202) 260-5046 and on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/ceppo/ip-bopr.htm>)
- # United States-Mexico Border Environmental Indicators 1997 (June 1998) (available from Kim Jennings, U.S. EPA Headquarters, Tel.# (202) 260-5046 and on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/ceppo/ip-bopr.htm>)

INTERNET SITES OF INTEREST

- # EPA CEPP0 — <http://www.epa.gov/swercepp/>
- # EPA Region 6 Border Program — <http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6bo/6bo.htm>
- # EPA Region 9 Border XXI Program — <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder/>
- # U.S. National Response Center — <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>
- # Arizona Department of Environmental Quality — <http://www.adeq.state.az.us>
- # Border EcoWeb by San Diego State University — <http://www.borderecoweb.sdsu.edu>
- # Border Environment Cooperation Commission — <http://www.cocof.org/Border>
- # Border Information & Solutions Network — <http://www.bisn.org/>
- # City of Brownsville, Texas — <http://www.ci.brownsville.tx.us/>
- # Corpus Christi Nueces County Local Emergency Planning Committee — <http://www.lepc.net/>
- # Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission — <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/>
- # PROFEPA Environmental Emergencies in Mexico — <http://www.profepa.gob.mx/>

STATUS OF SISTER CITY PLANS

Brownsville, Texas- Matamoros, Tamaulipas	Signed on May 6, 1997. Title: <i>Cross Border Contingency Plan — U.S./Mexico — Brownsville/Matamoros.</i>
Eagle Pass, Texas- Piedras Negras, Coahuila	Signed on March 25, 1998. Title: <i>Cross Border Contingency Plan, U.S./Mexico Sister Cities, Eagle Pass/Piedras Negras.</i>
Laredo, Texas-Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas	Signed on December 21, 1998. Title: <i>Cross Border Contingency Plan, U.S./Mexico Sister Cities, Laredo/Nuevo Laredo.</i>
McAllen, Texas- Reynosa, Tamaulipas	Signed on February 19, 2000. Title: <i>Cross Border Contingency Plan, U.S./Mexico Sister Cities, McAllen/Reynosa. (See pages 12-13)</i>
Del Rio, Texas-Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila; Presidio, Texas-Ojinaga, Chihuahua	Development of these two plans is underway.
El Paso, Texas-Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.	This plan is in draft stage and should be finalized in 2000.
Columbus, New Mexico-Puerto Las Palomas, Chihuahua	This plan is finalized and awaiting signatures from the appropriate parties.
Douglas, Arizona-Agua Prieta, Sonora	Binational letter of understanding to cooperate in case of emergencies. Effective April 29, 1999. Currently, there are no formal efforts underway to develop a Sister City Plan.
Naco, Arizona-Naco, Sonora	Currently, there are no formal efforts underway to develop a Sister City Plan. (Naco, Arizona is not a City, it is an unincorporated townsite of Cochise County).
Nogales, Arizona- Nogales, Sonora	Signed on March 17, 2000. Title: <i>Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora (See pages 13-14).</i>
San Luis, Arizona-San Luis Río Colorado, Sonora	Signed on February 25, 2000. Title: <i>Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between San Luis, Arizona and San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora (See page 11).</i>
Calexico, California- Mexicali, Baja California	A mutual aid agreement was signed in September 1993, entitled <i>City of Calexico-City of Mexicali Mutual Aid Agreement</i> . An Agreement was developed between Imperial County, California and Ayuntamiento de Mexicali, Baja California in June 1999, entitled <i>Emergency Services Mutual Aid Agreement</i> ; it is awaiting signature. Currently there are no formal efforts to develop a Sister City Plan.
San Diego, California- Tijuana, Ensenada, Tecate, and Playas de Rosarito, Baja California	Communication plans exist for San Diego and Imperial Counties in the United States and Baja California in Mexico. Currently, there are no formal efforts underway to develop a Sister City Plan.

RECENT¹ UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Presented in Chronological Order (Presented by State in the Final Table)

September 29-30, 1999 **Guanajuato, Gto. Mexico.** Mexico's PROFEPA hosted the annual United States-Mexico Joint Response Team (JRT) meeting on September 29-30, 1999. At the meeting, the following topics were discussed:

- 1) Changes to Annex II of the La Paz Agreement;
- 2) Status of Sister City Plans;
- 3) Evaluation of Joint Contingency Plan notification procedures;
- 4) Exercises at the U.S./Mexico border;
- 5) CAMEO distribution and training;
- 6) JRT outreach efforts;
- 7) Environmental Indicators;
- 8) Y2K issues; and
- 9) Designation of San Luis, AZ as the Sister City of San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora

Sixty-eight individuals representing both U.S. and Mexican JRT members; federal, state, and local levels of government; and various industrial sectors participated in the meeting. To obtain a meeting summary report, please contact Kim Jennings of U.S. EPA.



Participants engaged in a panel discussion during the Annual JRT meeting in Guanajuato. (Photo courtesy of Kim Jennings.)

¹Or not previously reported in an earlier update.

RECENT UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont'd)



*Participants in JRT meeting in Guanajuato pose for a picture in front of the meeting facility.
(Photo courtesy of Kim Jennings.)*

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- # **September 30, 1999** **Nogales, San Luis, and Douglas, Arizona.** U.S. EPA Region 9 awarded three grants to increase emergency response preparedness in these three Arizona Sister Cities. The grants also allowed for loans of specific equipment to their emergency response counterparts in Sonora so that communications between cities could be exercised and improved.
-
- # **September 30, 1999** **San Diego, California.** U.S. EPA Region 9 awarded a grant to the Southwestern College of San Diego (in cooperation with the California Office of Emergency Services). The objective of this grant was to allow response personnel on both sides of the border to evaluate available software and hardware for conducting real-time risk assessment for chemical spills and for planning purposes. The evaluations will consider the availability of data for the different software packages, as well as the willingness of industry to support each system.
-

RECENT UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont'd)

- # **October 20-21, 1999** **San Luis Potosi, Mexico.** U.S. EPA Region 6 Superfund specialists attended a conference in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, where they presented papers on (1) the development of Emergency Response Contracts for responses to incidents that pose "imminent and substantial danger" to U.S./Mexico border communities, and (2) the development of Sister Cities plans along the U.S./Mexico border. These papers focused primarily on the transportation regulations that effect the flow of traffic into and from Mexico. In addition, Enrique Ortiz presented a paper on how the Spanish language version of CAMEO could be applied to industry and planning committees.
-
- # **August-December 1999** **Brownsville, McAllen, Laredo and El Paso, Texas.** U.S. EPA Region 6 personnel provided Spanish language CAMEO courses to local officials (e.g., medical, fire, police, and emergency response personnel) from both U.S. and Mexican border communities. Local officials were instructed on how to use the Spanish language version of CAMEO, and were shown what type of information was available through the database.
-
- # **December 1999** **Las Cruces and Santa Teresa, New Mexico.** A commodity flow study was completed for the Las Cruces-Santa Teresa border crossing. The information in the study is being used by local officials for contingency and emergency planning.
-
- # **December 1999** **Brownsville/Matamoros, McAllen/Reynosa, Laredo/Nuevo Laredo.** An inventory of emergency response capabilities in each of these Sister City pairs began in December. The inventories, scheduled to be completed by September 2000, will provide valuable information on present response capabilities and future needs.
-
- # **December 1999** **Eagle Pass, Texas.** U.S. EPA Region 6 issued a grant to Eagle Pass, Texas so the city could offer hazardous material training to Tribal leaders and residents from the Kickapoo Indian Reservation and surrounding area. In addition, the grant provided for the reconditioning and delivery of a used fire truck to Tribal leaders for use within the Reservation.
-

RECENT UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont'd)

- # **December 1999** **San Diego, California.** "Border Visions," a 50-minute, bilingual education video funded by U.S. EPA Region 9 and produced by the non-profit organization ARTScorpsLA, was completed. The video is being widely distributed to inform, educate, and increase awareness among the general public about the Border XXI Program and its activities. Highlights of specific Border XXI projects are also presented.
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- # **December 1999** **Calexico, California.** U.S. EPA Region 9 provided funding to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to purchase needed HazMat emergency response equipment and training for the City of Calexico.
-
- # **December 1999** **Arizona.** U.S. EPA Region 9 provided funding to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to support their border planning and response activities and sponsor a 160-hour HazMat Technician training course for emergency responders. Arizona and Sonora Sister City representatives will participate.
-
- # **December 15-16, 1999** **Harlingen, Texas.** U.S. EPA Region 6 Superfund specialists organized and attended a two-day meeting to discuss how local emergency planning committees can impact a community's contingency and emergency response plan. Local officials from Brownsville and McAllen, Texas were also present at the meeting.
-
- # **January 19-21, 2000** **San Francisco, California.** U.S. EPA Region 9 sponsored its first regional Chemical Emergency Prevention and Preparedness Conference, hosting over 150 federal, state, local, and Tribal government participants. A half-day session was devoted to California and Arizona border issues.
-
- # **February 25, 2000** **San Luis, Arizona/San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora.** The Mayors of Ambos San Luis signed the *Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between San Luis, Arizona and San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora*. **See page 11 for full coverage of this signing.**
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RECENT UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont'd)

- # **February 29, 2000** **McAllen, Texas/Reynosa, Tamaulipas.** The mayors of both McAllen, Texas and Reynosa, Tamaulipas signed the *Cross Border Contingency Plan, U.S./Mexico Sister Cities, McAllen/Reynosa*. **See page 12-13 for full coverage of this signing.**
-
- # **March 13-14, 2000** **Las Cruces, New Mexico.** U.S. EPA Region 6 Superfund specialists organized and attended a two-day meeting to discuss how local emergency planning committees can impact a community's contingency and emergency response plan. Discussions focused on the border crossings in New Mexico, including the crossing in the City of Santa Teresa.
-
- # **March 17, 2000** **Nogales, Arizona/Nogales, Sonora.** The mayors of Ambos Nogales signed the *Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora*. **See pages 13-14 for full coverage of this signing.**
-
- # **April 4, 2000** **Nogales, Arizona.** With the recent signing of their Sister City plan, and the decision to establish a binational emergency planning committee, first-of-a-kind discussions were held between the Nogales Fire Department and the Maquilla Association of Sonora. Topics included industry/fire department mutual aid, training, sharing of equipment, and the joint purchase of a mobile response unit for Nogales, Sonora. The Nogales, Arizona Fire Department was presented with two special cooling undergarments for use with Level A & B suits.
-

i THREE SISTER CITY PLANS SIGNED SO FAR IN 2000 i

' **BINATIONAL PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN BETWEEN SAN LUIS, ARIZONA AND SAN LUIS RIO COLORADO, SONORA SIGNED ON FEBRUARY 25, 2000**

In a formal ceremony held at the San Luis Port of Entry, local, state, and federal officials from the U.S. and Mexico helped these Sister Cities celebrate the signing of an Understanding of Cooperation for preparedness for and response to environmental emergencies. The Understanding and the accompanying Plan improve the ability of these U.S.-Mexico Sister Cities to jointly prevent and respond to emergencies involving fire, chemicals, or hazardous materials that may impact the border area and its residents.



Ing. Florencio Díaz Armetea, Presidente Municipal, San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, Mexico (L) and Alex Joe Harper, Mayor, San Luis, Arizona, USA sign the Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan. (Photo courtesy of Lauren Voipini.)



Mayor Joe Harper (signing) and Presidente Municipal Florencio Díaz sign the Binational Plan while Felicia Marcus, Regional Administrator, US EPA Region 9, Carlos Kitazawa, Director General, Protección Civil, Estado de Sonora, Jorge Morchachis, Delegado Estatal PROFEPA and others applaud. (Photo courtesy of Lauren Voipini.)

The plan was developed over several months by Chief Arturo Miranda and Assistant Chief Othon Luna of the San Luis Fire Department; Lauren Volpini and Michael Mann from U.S. EPA Region 9; Mike Foster of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ); and representatives from the Municipal and State Protección Civil in Mexico, PROFEPA, U.S. and Mexican Customs and Immigration, and other state and federal agencies. The Plan includes information on fixed facility and transportation risks, sensitive populations and vulnerable areas, risk reduction opportunities and recommendations, emergency response operations and resources, and maps and directories.

In addition to signing the Plan, the Mayors also created a Binational Emergency Planning Committee (BEPC). The BEPC will not only implement the Plan, but also will be a forum to maintain and improve binational relations and work with the community, industry and public officials. The BEPC is expected to conduct an annual binational exercise to evaluate and improve the coordination of the Plan.

i THREE SISTER CITY PLANS SIGNED SO FAR IN 2000 i

' CROSS BORDER CONTINGENCY PLAN - U.S./MEXICO - McAlLEN, TEXAS, AND REYNOSA, TAMAULIPAS SIGNED ON FEBRUARY 29, 2000

On February 29, 2000, the mayors and city leaders of McAllen, Texas and Reynosa, Tamaulipas attended an historic signing ceremony at the McAllen-Hidalgo/Reynosa International Bridge spanning the Rio Grande River. At 10:00 am, the two mayors signed a document entitled *Cross Border Contingency Plan, U.S./Mexico Sister Cities, McAllen/Reynosa*. The Plan increases the level of cooperation through formal channels of communication, methods of operation, and joint planning procedures. The Plan stipulates that U.S. firefighters operating in Mexico under the Plan will be recognized as performing official duty under Texas statutes. These statutes trigger a section of the Texas constitution that provides survivors' benefits for Texas firefighters working in an official capacity. In addition, the Plan includes the ability to access federal resources from either country to assist in mitigating emergencies that threaten either side of the border. The result is increased safety for citizens and emergency responders. Fire officials from both communities will organize an international exercise that tests the major elements of the Plan during the summer of 2000; the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency will be called upon to provide direction.

McAllen is located in the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas, where population growth has been among the highest in the country. Reynosa, founded in 1749, has also experienced a population and economic surge. For additional details regarding the McAllen/Reynosa Sister City Plan, contact Mario Davilla, Deputy Chief, McAllen Fire Department at (956) 972-7515.



Seen here at the boundary marker on the McAllen/Reynosa International Bridge during the Sister City Plan signing, are Presidente Municipal Humberto Valdez Richaud, Reynosa, Tamaulipas (Mexico) and Mayor Leo Montalvo, McAllen, Texas (USA). (Photo courtesy of Mario Davilla.)

i THREE SISTER CITY PLANS SIGNED SO FAR IN 2000 i



Seen here at boundary marker during the McAllen/Reynosa Sister City Plan signing are McAllen Firefighter Joe Vargas, McAllen Driver Ventura Garza, Reynosa Comandante (Protección Civil) Marco Antonio Martínez Alvarado, Reynosa Presidente Municipal Humberto Valdez Richaud, McAllen Mayor Leo Montalvo, Reynosa Comandante (Bomberos) Joel Ibañez Salinas, McAllen Lieutenant Amado Cano, and McAllen Captain Ricardo Martinez. (Photo courtesy of Mario Davilla.)

' BINATIONAL PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN BETWEEN NOGALES, ARIZONA And NOGALES, SONORA SIGNED ON MARCH 17, 2000

The signing of the first Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between the border cities of Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico was celebrated at the Nogales Point of Entry. The plan improves the ability of these U.S.-Mexico Sister Cities to jointly prevent and respond to emergencies involving fire, chemicals, or hazardous materials which may affect the border environment and its residents.

The plan was developed over several months by Chief Luis Padilla and Jesus Gomez of the Nogales Fire Department; Lino Vega, Nogales LEPC Coordinator; Lauren Volpini from U.S. EPA Region 9; Mike Foster from Arizona DEQ; and representatives from PROFEPA, Municipal and State Offices of Protección Civil, and U.S. and Mexican Customs and Immigration.



A pledge of allegiance opens the Ceremony to sign the Ambos Nogales Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan. Joining Mayor Cesar Rios and Wenceslao Coto Montoya, Presidente Municipal are Carlos Kitazawa, Director Gerneal, Protección Civil, Estado de Sonora, Jorge Morachis, Delegado Estatal PROFEPA, Michael Feeley, U.S. EPA Region 9, Michael Austin, AZ DEQ, and other key U.S. and Mexican officials. (Photo courtesy of Lauren Volpini.)

**SEMIANNUAL REPORT ON UNITED STATES-MEXICO
BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

An important feature of the agreement was the establishment of a "Border Emergency Planning Committee." This Committee was formed to implement, review, improve, revise, and exercise the Plan.

The Plan is further distinguished by the participation of the Commanding Officer of the U.S. Army at Fort Huachuca who came forward to pledge his assistance in the event of a hazardous material or other emergency where local resources are not sufficient to contain or mitigate the incident. The Plan contains Fort Huachuca's emergency contacts, and types of assistance that may be made available to the Nogales, Arizona Incident Commander in such an event.



The Fire Chiefs from the other Arizona Sister Cities came to Nogales to help Chief Padilla celebrate the Plan signing: From L to R: Arturo Miranda - San Luis, Frank Garcia - Douglas, Gerry Eberwein - Naco, and Luis Padilla - Nogales. (Photo courtesy of Mike Foster.)

On the occasion of the Plan signing, the City of Nogales presented the City of Nogales, Sonora with a variety of emergency response equipment, including a restored fire engine, ambulance, SCBAs, hand-held radios, turnout gear, firehose and personal alert safety devices.



Mayor Rios presented the City of Nogales, Sonora with a restored Fire truck and other emergency response equipment. (Photo courtesy of Mike Foster)

UPCOMING US-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES

(All Activities are Tentative - Presented by State in the Final Table)

# April 2000	El Paso/Ciudad Juarez. Based on feedback from the Mayor of El Paso, U.S. EPA Region 6 expects that the El Paso/Ciudad Juarez Sister City Plan will be signed in April 2000.
# April 2000	Brownsville, Texas. U.S. EPA Region 6 will be offering CAMEO (English language version) courses in Brownsville. Emergency responders and other local officials will be attending.
# April 19, 200	San Diego, California. EPA Region 9 will participate in a Binational Table Top Exercise sponsored by the city of San Diego. The scenario will focus on an act of terrorism involving hazardous materials.
# May 2000	McAllen, Texas. U.S. EPA Region 6 will be offering CAMEO (English language version) courses in McAllen. Emergency responders and other local officials will be attending.
# June 2000	Brownsville/Matamoros. U.S. EPA Region 6, in conjunction with Brownsville and Matamoros emergency response organizations, is planning to conduct international hazardous material spill response exercises in June 2000.
# June 2000	Brownsville/Matamoros, McAllen/Reynosa, Laredo/Nuevo Laredo. The ongoing inventory of emergency response capabilities in each of these Sister City pairs will be completed in June. The inventories will provide valuable information regarding present emergency response capabilities and future needs.
# June 2000	Douglas, Arizona and Agua Prieta, Sonora. U.S. EPA Region 9 will initiate bi-national planning discussions with city officials, PROFEPA and Protección Civil in the State of Baja California, Mexico.

UPCOMING US-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| # June 21, 2000 | San Diego, CA. U.S. EPA Region 9 will convene the first California Border Contingency Planning and Emergency Response Task force Meeting. Public officials from the State of California, Tribal Nations, Calexico, San Diego and U.S. Department of Defense with jurisdiction in the border area, will be asked to participate. |
| # September 2000 | McAllen/Reynosa. U.S. EPA Region 6, in conjunction with McAllen and Reynosa emergency response organizations, is planning to conduct international hazardous material spill response exercises in September 2000. |
| # September 2000 | Arizona or California (location to be determined). Annual U.S.-Mexico Joint Response Team meeting. Discussion topics to be determined. TBD 2000Arizona. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality will use U.S. EPA Region 9 grant funding to provide a HazMat technician training program for Arizona and Sonora Sister Cities. |
| # TBD 2000 | Calexico, CA. California DTSC will use U.S. EPA Region 9 grant funding to purchase equipment and provide training for the City of Calexico. |
| # TBD 2000 | Arizona. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality will use U.S. EPA Region 9 grant funding to provide a HazMat technician training program for Arizona and Sonora Sister Cities. |
| # TBD 2000 | Nogales, Arizona. Nogales Fire Department will sponsor a HazMat technician training program for Ambos Nogales on nights and weekends. |
| # 2nd Half 2000 | Laredo/ Nuevo Laredo. U.S. EPA Region 9 with Laredo and Nuevo Laredo emergency response organizations, is planning to conduct international hazardous material spill response exercises in the second half of 2000. |

RECENT AND PLANNED UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Presented by State (Presented in Chronological Order in Previous Tables)

Texas



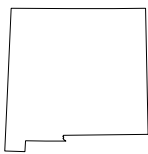
Recent Activities:

- Spanish language version CAMEO courses offered (Brownsville, McAllen, Laredo, and El Paso; August - December 1999)
- Inventory of emergency response capabilities initiated (Brownsville/Matamoros, McAllen/Reynosa, and Laredo/Nuevo Laredo; December 1999)
- Grant issued to Eagle Pass for HazMat training for the Kickapoo Indian Reservation and for the renovation of a fire truck (December 1999)
- Conference on role of LEPCs in the development of a community's emergency response plan (Harlingen; December 15-16, 1999)
- Signing of the *Cross Border Contingency Plan, U.S./Mexico Sister Cities, McAllen/Reynosa* (February 25, 2000)

Planned Activities:

- Signing of the El Paso/Ciudad Juarez Sister City plan (April 2000)
- CAMEO (English language version) courses (Brownsville; April 2000)
- CAMEO (English language version) courses (McAllen; May 2000)
- International hazardous material spill response exercises in Brownsville/Matamoros (June 2000)
- Completion of emergency response capabilities inventory for Brownsville/Matamoros, McAllen/Reynosa, and Laredo/Nuevo Laredo (June 2000)
- International hazardous material spill response exercises in McAllen/Reynosa (September 2000)
- International hazardous material spill response exercises in Laredo/Nuevo Laredo (2nd Half 2000)

New Mexico



Recent Activities:

- Completion of a commodity flow study for the Las Cruces-Santa Teresa border crossing (December 1999)
- Conference on role of LEPCs in the development of a community's emergency response plan (Las Cruces; March 13-14, 2000)

Planned Activities:

- None reported.

RECENT AND PLANNED UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont'd)

California



Recent Activities:

- Grant awarded to Southwestern College of San Diego to evaluate available software and hardware for conducting real-time assessments for chemical spills and for planning purposes (San Diego; September 30, 1999)
- Completion of "Border Visions" educational video (San Diego, December 1999)
- Funding provided to the California DTSC to purchase HazMat response equipment and to provide certified HazMat technician training for the city of Calexico (December 1999)
- Chemical Emergency Prevention and Preparedness Conference (San Francisco; January 19-21, 2000)

Planned Activities:

- U.S. EPA Region 9 will participate in Binational Table Top Exercise focusing on an act of terrorism involving hazardous materials (San Diego; April 19, 2000)
 - U.S. EPA Region 9 to convene the first California Contingency Planning and Emergency Response Border Task force Meeting (San Diego, June 21, 2000)
 - California DTSC to purchase equipment and provide certified HazMat Technician training for the City of Calexico (TBD, 2000)
-

RECENT AND PLANNED UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER CONTINGENCY PLANNING ACTIVITIES (cont'd)

Arizona



Recent Activities:

- Three grants awarded to the cities of Nogales, San Luis, and Douglas to increase emergency response preparedness (September 30, 1999)
- Approval of funding for Arizona DEQ to support border planning and to provide HazMat technician training for each of Arizona's and Sonora's Sister Cities (December 1999)
- Signing of the Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between San Luis Arizona and San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora (February 25, 2000)
- Signing of the Binational Prevention and Emergency Response Plan between Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora (March 17, 2000)
- Discussions between the Nogales Fire Department and the Maquilla Association of Nogales, Sonora to address industry/fire department mutual aid, training, sharing of equipment, and joint purchase of a mobile response unit for Nogales, Sonora (April 4, 2000).

Planned Activities:

- U.S. EPA Region 9 will initiate binational planning discussions with city officials from Douglas, Arizona, Agua Prieta, Sonora, PROFEPA and Protección Civil in the State of Baja California, Mexico (June 2000)
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality HazMat training for several Arizona and Sonora Sister Cities (TBD, 2000)
- Nogales, Arizona to sponsor HazMat technician training for Ambos Nogales on nights and weekends (TBD, 2000)

Events of Interest in Other Locations

Recent Activities:

- Annual United-States-Mexico Joint Response Team meeting in Guanajuato, Mexico (September 29-30, 1999)
- Conference on Emergency Response Contracts for responses to incidents along the U.S./Mexico border. (San Luis Potosi, Mexico; October 20-21, 1999)

Planned Activities:

- Annual U.S.-Mexico Joint Response Team meeting (September, 2000 - location TBD)
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