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**From:** NJLM - Municipal Clerks [mailto:njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2009 4:00 PM  
**To:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Subject:** Two Mayors Ltrs

**LEAGUE ALERT**

Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.

July 30, 2009

**Re: I      Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG2008)**

**Re: II     NJ Mayors Urge Congressional Action on Energy  
Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant  
(EECBG) Provisions**

**Re: I. Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG2008)**

**MUNICIPAL CLERK: PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF THIS LETTER AVAILABLE TO YOUR  
APPROPRIATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL**

Dear Mayor:

The Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG2008) was developed jointly by the US Department of Transportation, Transport Canada, and the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation of Mexico (SCT) for use by firefighters, police, and other emergency services personnel who may be the first to arrive at the scene of a transportation incident involving a hazardous material. It is primarily a guide to aid first responders in (1) quickly identifying the specific or generic classification of the material(s) involved in the incident, and (2) protecting themselves and the general public during this initial response phase of the incident. The ERG is updated every three to four years to accommodate new products and technology. The next version is scheduled for 2012. DOT's goal is to place one ERG2008 in each emergency service vehicle, nationwide, through distribution to state and local public safety authorities.

DOT's goal is to place one ERG2008 in each emergency service vehicle, nationwide, through distribution to state and local public safety authorities. To date, nearly eleven million copies have been distributed without charge to the emergency response community. **Copies are made available free of charge to public emergency responders through State Coordinators in the United States of America. The New Jersey State Coordinator is:**

**New Jersey**

Trooper Chris Pereira  
New Jersey State Police  
Special Operations Section  
1001 Fire Academy Drive  
Sayreville, NJ 08872  
P: 732.721.4040  
F: 732.721.4672  
[lpp6008@gw.njsp.org](mailto:lpp6008@gw.njsp.org)

The U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is pleased to announce the release of a "how to use" the Emergency Response Guidebook 2008 (ERG) training video. The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), under a cooperative agreement with PHMSA, developed this training video to enhance the use of the ERG and to fill training gaps. The video explains the contents of the ERG and how to use it as a resource in the event of a hazardous materials transportation incident. It is designed to be a stand-alone training tool for those who have no familiarity with the ERG and as a refresher for those who have had prior training.

The video is available for direct viewing and download from PHMSA's website at <http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/library/erg> and download from IAFC's website at [www.iafctv.org](http://www.iafctv.org).

You can also download the electronic version of the 2008 ERG from the PHMSA website. Free DVDs are available by ordering online at PHMSA's website <https://hazmatonline.phmsa.dot.gov/services> and navigating the links for "Training Materials and Publications," then "Free Publications." You may request a copy by sending an e-mail to [Training@dot.gov](mailto:Training@dot.gov).

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is also responsible for ensuring the safety of the public from the inherent risks associated with transporting hazardous materials. Poisons, chemicals, pesticides, radioactive materials, explosives, and gasoline, if accidentally released, can pose risks to public health and safety, property, or the environment.

DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has a comprehensive safety program to promote the safe transportation of hazardous materials by air, highway, rail, and water. This program is aimed at preventing an accidental release and being properly prepared should a release occur. The program relies on compliance with the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) to prevent releases and on emergency planning and training to mitigate the consequences of a release.

PHMSA established a Hazardous Materials Safety Assistance Team (HMSAT) to make industry aware of the regulatory requirements, to help businesses find the resources needed to comply with the HMR, and to provide technical assistance to the enforcement, emergency response and planning community. Regulatory compliance and emergency preparedness begin with awareness and training.

HMSAT members are located in each of PHMSA's regions. They are available to offer assistance and advice on any matters related to hazardous materials transportation.

In addition, information is available at our website at <http://hazmat.dot.gov>.

The HMSAT Eastern Region Office is located in Trenton, NJ. The following is the contact information for that HMSAT member:

Anthony H. Murray  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
Hazardous Materials Safety Assistance Team - Eastern Region  
820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 306  
West Trenton, NJ 08628  
Phone: (609) 989-2181 Fax: (609) 989-2277 <http://hazmat.dot.gov>

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.  
Executive Director

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**Re: II. NJ Mayors Urge Congressional Action on Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Provisions**

Dear Mayor:

On this past Tuesday, League President, Mayor Tim McDonough of Hope Township, and League Past President, Mayor Chris Bollwage of Elizabeth, led a delegation of municipal chief executives to Washington, to urge Senate action on Energy and Climate legislation, which includes provisions that would strengthen the Energy Efficiency and Block Grant (EECBG) program. For more information on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee's Energy Bill visit <http://energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=EnergyBill.2009>.

EECBG provides grants to local units and states to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, to create 'green' jobs and to increase energy efficiency. To see the National League of Cities' brief on the EECBG, go to <http://www.nlc.org/ASSETS/5B93283B4DFB4D46B4EE525A76678874/2008%20Issue%20Brief%20-%20Energy.pdf>.

Mayors McDonough and Bollwage were joined by Trenton Mayor Doug Palmer, League Board Member and Piscataway Mayor Brian Wahler and others from all around the Country.

Please contact your Congressman and urge him to support EECBG funding, as the legislation progresses.

Very truly yours, William G. Dressel, Jr. Executive Director NJLM 222 West State Street Trenton, NJ 08608