2017 Handbook of Employment Regulations Affecting Florida Farm Employers and Workers: Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know [State]¹

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Purpose
To facilitate awareness and emergency planning regarding the potential chemical hazards in local communities.

Who Must Comply
If you have restricted use or danger-labeled pesticides or chemicals on your property in sufficient quantities, you may need to comply with this law.

Program
This law seeks to encourage emergency planning efforts at the state and local levels and to increase the public's access to information about the potential chemical hazards that may exist in their communities.

Any facility that produces, uses, or stores extremely hazardous substances (EHS) in excess of the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ) must comply with some or all requirements of this law. In addition, all businesses that have a spill or an unauthorized release of an EHS in excess of the Reportable Quantity (RQ) must immediately report such spills or releases.

Responsible Agency
The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was enacted by the United States Congress as the national legislation on community safety. This law is designed to help local communities protect public health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards. The EPCRA is administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is implemented by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). A comprehensive resource packet, the necessary forms, and information about electronic filing can be found online at http://www.floridadisaster.org/Hazmat/SERC/EPCRA.htm.

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