

**Office of Environmental Management
Offsite Transportation Event
Notification and Reporting**

**Office of Packaging and Transportation
(EM-63)**

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Office of Environmental Management Offsite Transportation Event Notification and Reporting¹

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Environmental Management (EM), states, and carriers are dedicated to ensuring an appropriate response to all offsite transportation events involving DOE radioactive materials. In a memo to EM sites on May 22, 2006, the Chief Operating Officer, EM-3, established a requirement to report any type of transportation accident/incident to EM-HQ. This reporting is consistent with DOE Manual 460.2-1, and will help to ensure:

- Receiving timely notification of all off-site transportation events to assure adequate response resources are assigned;
- Notifying appropriate field response personnel and/or resources (including field sites, RAP teams, and state and tribal contacts) if they have not already been engaged; and
- Having all potentially involved personnel prepared to respond to inquiries from the media, elected officials, or the public.

Definitions

The following definitions will be used for notification and reporting of EM off-site transportation events:

Event - An occurrence that results in, or has the potential to result in, harm to the environment or the public. An event can be further defined by the following categories:

- **Incident**: Any unintentional release of hazardous material from a package during transportation, or any occurrence during transportation in which any of the circumstances identified in 49 CFR 171.15(b) occurs. (ANSI N14.27)
- **Accident**: An occurrence involving a commercial motor vehicle operating on a highway in interstate or intrastate commerce which results in a fatality; bodily injury to a person who, as a result of the injury, immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident; or one or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident, requiring the motor vehicles to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other motor vehicle. (49 CFR 390.5(1))
- **Emergency**: An emergency is the most severe and consists of any operational, civil, natural-phenomenon, or security occurrence, which could endanger or adversely affect people, property, or the environment. (FRR Transportation Plan)

Emergency Notification - The process DOE uses to notify State and Tribal officials, after DOE itself has received notification of a transportation emergency;

Transportation Operations Contingencies - Operational contingencies that may interrupt normal transport operations;

¹ This document only applies to EM radioactive material shipment events that occur offsite

State Regional Groups – The Council of State Governments Midwestern and Northeast Offices, the Southern States Energy Board, and the Western Governors’ Association.

Reporting

EM will continue to report all events to the State Regional Groups during their meetings and at meetings of the Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TEC/WG). Within EM, the Chief Operating Officer issued guidance (May 22, 2006) to the EM sites to report “Any type of transportation incident/accident.”

EM shipments are subject to the regulatory reporting requirements:

- For hazardous material incidents as a direct result of the hazardous material, 49 CFR 171.15(b):
 - a person is killed, or
 - a person requires hospitalization due to major injuries received as a direct result of the radioactive material or an accident, or
 - the general public is evacuated for one hour or more, or
 - a major transportation artery or facility is closed or shut down for one hour or more as a direct result of the radioactive material cargo, or
 - fire, breakage, spillage or suspected radioactive contamination occurs involving radioactive material or
 - a security incident (i.e., sabotage, theft).
- FMCSA 49 CFR 390.5: An occurrence involving a commercial motor vehicle operating on a highway in interstate or intrastate commerce which results in:
 - A fatality
 - Bodily injury to a person who, as a result of the injury, immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident; or
 - One or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident, requiring the motor vehicle(s) to be transported by a tow truck
- FRA, 49 CFR 225.5
 - Impact between railroad on-track equipment and another vehicle or pedestrian at a grade crossing
 - Collision, derailment, fire, explosion, act of God, or other event that results in reportable damage
 - Any event or exposure arising from operation of a railroad if the event or exposure is discernable cause of:
 - Death to any person
 - Injury to any person that results in medical treatment
- NRC 10 CFR 71.95
 - Instances in which there is a significant reduction in the effectiveness of any NRC-approved Type B or Type AF packaging during use
 - Details of any defects with safety significance in any NRC-approved Type B or fissile material packaging, after first use
 - Instances in which the conditions of approval in the Certificate of Compliance were not observed in making a shipment

For events that meet the Regulatory Reporting Criteria, the Office of Packaging and Transportation (EM-63), or designee, will provide a report to the State Regional Groups within 1 week of the event.

For a Transportation Operations Contingency:

- Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Waste, Tritium-Bearing Reactor Components, and Transuranic Waste Shipments, reporting will comply with the requirements of the shipping campaign-specific transportation plan.
- For LLW/MLLW, EM-63 (or designee) will provide information at the semi-annual SRG meetings.

Notification²

Emergency Notifications to State and Tribal points of contact occur after DOE, as the shipper, receives notification of an emergency from any source including the driver, dispatcher, and/or Government escort; State/Tribal/local law enforcement, emergency medical, fire, and/or rescue personnel; satellite tracking system (e.g., TRANSCOM); or other means (e.g., WIPP Central Monitoring Room Operator). Notifications will be in accordance with DOE Manual 460.2-1, section 13.3.2, and for WIPP shipments, section 13.3.3.

For an event that meets the following Regulatory Reporting Criteria, the affected state(s)' 24-hour emergency number will be notified by the DOE shipping site within 1 hour of shipper notification:

- Fatality/ Injury requiring immediate treatment away from scene
- Evacuation of general public of one hour or more
- Fire, breakage spillage or suspected radioactive contamination
- Security breach/incident
- Collision resulting in disabling damage or derailment
- Road or facility closure or shut down exceeding one hour or more

If DOE, as the shipper, is notified of an event that does not clearly meet the reporting criteria listed above, DOE will determine whether notification to State and Tribal points of contact is appropriate. For example, an event that does not meet any of the above criteria but might generate public and/or media attention or could cause the dispatch of any services would warrant notification. Any uncertainty as to whether a notification should or should not be made will be resolved by making the notification.

If an emergency notification is made by DOE to a state 24 -hour emergency number, EM-63 (or designee) will provide courtesy notification by e-mail to the affected State Regional Group(s), within 1 week.

Transportation Operations Contingencies include adverse weather, natural disasters, vehicle breakdowns, travel and road/rail conditions, and unanticipated delays that could interrupt normal

² The carrier has the responsibility of the immediate notification of the local authorities or the state police (ANSI N14.27, Carrier and Shipper Responsibilities and Emergency Response Procedures for Highway Transportation Accidents Involving Truckload Quantities of Radioactive Materials).

transportation, but do not meet the criteria for emergency notification. For Transportation Operations Contingencies, notification to the state(s)' 24-hour emergency number will be made as follows:

- For Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Waste, Tritium-Bearing Reactor Components, and Transuranic Waste Shipments, notification will be provided to the 24-hour emergency number or through TRANSCOM for an anticipated delay of more than 2 hours (or as specified in the shipping campaign-specific transportation plan).
- For low-level and mixed low-level waste shipments, the shipping site will provide a courtesy notification to the affected state(s)' 24-hour emergency number if the event will take longer than 8 hours to resolve.