

Section 8: Emergency Response Plans and Procedures

Lead States: Arizona, Nevada

The Issue: State emergency response plans and procedures help ensure coordinated, timely, and effective incident response.

The Objective: Develop effective emergency response plans and procedures for responding to a WIPP transportation incident along the entire shipping corridor.

The Approach: State, local and federal agencies have varied responsibilities for responding to an incident involving a WIPP or intersite shipment. Each response organization must know the other organizations which are involved and who is responsible for each task. Advance planning and exercises of those plans help ensure all key response actions and responsibilities are covered. In case of an incident involving either an intersite or WIPP shipment, the DOE-CBFO and carriers should also be familiar with the specific plans and procedures in the state where the incident occurred.

Emergency response plans describe the organizations and their responsibilities, and include emergency response procedures which tell how the planned activities will be implemented. Each state's emergency response plan and procedures are to include a section describing a response to a WIPP incident. State plans or procedures specific to a WIPP incident are to be consistent with other state and local emergency plans, particularly those for radiological emergencies and hazardous materials incidents.

Each state along the shipping corridor takes its own individual approach to transportation emergency response planning. This is especially true regarding the division of responsibilities between various state agencies. Several states developed emergency response plans for radiological transportation incidents. These plans are available for use as a model for other states, should they wish to develop their own plans. There are many other available guidance documents that can be used to determine the key components of an emergency response plan. These documents are referenced in the attached table.

Oregon developed model field procedures for response to a radiological transportation incident. Other states have used the generic model to develop their own procedures. A copy of the generic procedures is included in this Guide.

The states also reviewed the DOE's plans and procedures for response to a WIPP incident. The review was to ensure consistency of federal actions with state and local actions. Selected procedures are included in this Guide.

Evaluation: Each state is responsible for reviewing and updating its own emergency

response plans and procedures on a biennial basis. This is done to keep the plans and procedures current and to include lessons learned from exercises and shipments. Exercises are used to test these plans and to train responders. Comments from exercise participants and evaluators who observe the exercise are used to identify ways the plan and procedures can be improved. States that conduct exercises will provide a summary report on findings and lessons learned at an appropriate meeting of the Technical Advisory Group. If a written report on the exercise has been prepared, the state that conducts the exercises will make the report available to WGA for distribution to other states.

The DOE's plans and procedures will also be tested during exercises. Lead states will prepare suggested changes or improvements to correct any problems identified in these plans and procedures. These suggested changes will be provided to the other states and DOE.

Table 8: Emergency Response Plans and Procedures

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Documents	Responsible for Updates	Status
<i>Documents Included in Guide</i>		
<i>Oregon Radioactive Material Emergency Field Procedures (Revised)</i> , Oregon, July 2003.	OR	Final
<i>Emergency Planning, Response, and Recovery Roles and Responsibilities for TRU–Waste Transportation Incidents</i> (DOE/CAO–94–1039), DOE Albuquerque Operations Office and Carlsbad Area Office, January 1995.	DOE	Final
<i>Emergency Assistance Compacts and Mutual Aid Agreements</i> (formerly Section 7 of Program Implementation Guide).	ID	Final
<i>Model Mutual Aid Agreement</i> , Idaho and Wyoming (1995)	ID/WY	Final
<i>Actual Mutual Aid Agreement</i> , Idaho and Wyoming (1988)	ID/WY	Final
<i>Existing Emergency Compacts and Mutual Aid Agreements</i> , (2004)	ID	Final
<i>Reference material</i>		
<i>Guidance for Developing State, Tribal, and Local Radiological Emergency Response Planning and Preparedness for Transportation Accidents</i> , FEMA–REP–5, Revision 1, June 1992.	FEMA	Final
<i>Criteria for Review of Hazardous Material Emergency Response Plans</i> , National Response Team, NFT–1A.	FEMA	Final
<i>Planning Guide and Checklist for Hazardous Materials Contingency Plans</i> , FEMA–10.	FEMA	Final
Guide for the Review of State and Local Emergency Operations Plans, CPG 1–8A.	FEMA	Final