

Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex to the National Response Plan (NRP)

Dan Wilcox
Nuclear & Chemical Hazards Branch
Preparedness Division
dan.wilcox@dhs.gov



Overview

- **Annex replaces '96 Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan (FRERP)**
- **Key provisions of '96 FRERP included in Annex**
- **Greater emphasis on response to terrorist incidents involving radioactive materials (RDD, IND, etc.)**
- **Outlines Federal agencies' roles in Incidents of National Significance**
- **Outlines Federal agencies' roles in other radiological incidents of "lesser severity" (not requiring DHS coordination)**



Scope

“...applies to nuclear/radiological incidents, including sabotage and terrorist incidents, involving the release or potential release of radioactive material that poses an actual or perceived hazard to public health, safety, national security, and/or the environment.”



Planning & Preparedness Structure

- **Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC):**
 - National-level forum for development & coordination of radiological prevention and preparedness policies and procedures
 - Interagency body consisting of Coordinating & Cooperating Agencies, chaired by DHS-FEMA
- **Regional Assistance Committees**
 - Primary coordinating structure at Federal regional level in 9 FEMA regions, chaired by DHS-FEMA
 - Membership mirrors FRPCC with addition of State emergency management representatives
 - Provides a forum for information-sharing, consultation, & coordination of Federal regional awareness, prevention, preparedness, response, & recovery activities.



Operational Responsibilities

- **Department of Homeland Security (DHS):**
 - Overall incident manager for Incidents of National Significance
- **Coordinating Agencies:**
 - Facilitate the nuclear/radiological aspects of a response in support of DHS
 - Lead the Federal response to nuclear/radiological incidents of lesser severity
- **Cooperating Agencies:**
 - Provide technical and resource support to DHS and Coordinating Agencies



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Coordinating Agency

“...the Federal agency that owns, has custody of, authorizes, regulates, or is otherwise designated responsibility for the nuclear/radioactive material, facility, or activity involved in the incident.”



Coordinating Agency

- **Determined by type of incident/ownership/regulatory authority:**
 - Radiological terrorism incidents (e.g., RDD/IND or radiological exposure device)
 - Nuclear facilities
 - Transportation of radioactive materials
 - Space vehicles containing radioactive materials
 - Foreign, unknown, or unlicensed material
 - Nuclear weapon accident/incident



Potential Coordinating Agencies

- Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- DHS - US Coast Guard (USCG)



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Response Coordination Functions*

DHS

- **Actions of Federal agencies for overall response**
- **Release of Federal information to:**
 - The public
 - Congress
 - The White House
- **Demobilization of Federal assets**

* For incidents below the threshold of Incidents of National Significance, Coordinating Agency performs these functions



Response Coordination Functions*

(cont.)

DHS & Coordinating Agency

- **Federal activities related to radiological aspects of response**
- **Incident security**
- **Technical data (collection, analysis, storage, & dissemination)**
- **Federal Protective Action Recommendations**



Other Coordination Functions

- **International: Department of State (DOS)**
- **Victim decontamination/population monitoring: Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), through ESF-8**
- **Provision of Federal resources & assistance to affected State, local & tribal governments: DHS-Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**



Recovery

- **For Incident of National Significance, DHS coordinates overall Federal recovery activities**
- **Coordinating Agency maintains responsibility for managing Federal technical, radiological cleanup activities**
 - **Coordinates environmental remediation/cleanup with State, local, & tribal governments & owner/operators**
 - **May require support from a Cooperating Agency with significant cleanup/recovery expertise & capabilities (e.g., EPA, US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE))**
 - **Coordinating Agency role may be transitioned to a Cooperating Agency to manage long-term cleanup efforts**



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Other Radiological-Specific Assets

- **Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC):**
 - Led by DOE, with representation DOE, EPA, Department of Commerce (DOC), National Communications Systems (NCS), & USACE
 - Coordinates radiological monitoring & assessment activities for initial phases of a response
 - Established at, or near, the incident location



Other Radiological-Specific Assets (cont.)

- **Advisory Team for Environment, Food, & Health:**
 - Includes representatives from DHS, EPA, USDA, Food & Drug Administration (HHS-FDA), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (HHS-CDC) & other agencies, as needed
 - Develops coordinated advice & recommendations on environmental, food health, and animal health matters
- **DOE Radiological Assistance Program (RAP):**
 - RAP teams located at DOE operations offices, national labs, & some area offices
 - Can be dispatched to an incident by DOE regional coordinating offices
 - Additional DOE planning & response teams located throughout the country can be dispatched, as needed



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Summary

- **Nuclear/Radiological Annex to NRP replaces '96 FRERP**
- **DHS is overall incident manager for all Incidents of National Significance**
- **Coordinating Agencies:**
 - **Coordinate nuclear/radiological aspects of radiological Incidents of National Significance**
 - **Lead the Federal response to nuclear/radiological incidents of lesser severity**
- **NRC is the Coordinating Agency for all incidents involving facilities and materials licensed by NRC or Agreement State**



Questions?



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