

ERO MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN ANNUAL SITE-LEVEL EXERCISES

QUESTION: DOE O 151.1C [Chapter IV, 4.b. (1) (b)] states that site-level Emergency Response Organization (ERO) elements and resources must participate in a minimum of one exercise annually. Does this mean that all members of the ERO are required to participate in a site exercise annually?

ANSWER: DOE O 151.1C, Chapter IV, Paragraph 4. b. (1) (b) and CRD, Attachment 2, contain the following exercise requirement for site-level ERO elements and resources:

“Site-level emergency response organization elements and resources must participate in a minimum of one exercise annually. This site exercise must be designed to test and demonstrate the site's integrated emergency response capability. For multiple facility sites, the basis for the exercise must be rotated among facilities.”

This requirement is not intended to imply that *all* teams/members (i.e., primaries and alternates) of each site-level element and resource must participate in an annual site exercise. Generally, an annual site exercise will involve *at least* one team/member for each site-level function or activity required for the response. This also includes *at least* one team/member for each facility-level function or activity required for the response to the specific facility that is the *basis* for the exercise (for a multiple-facility site). Multiple site exercises are not required to ensure that all ERO personnel, including primaries and alternates, participate in a site exercise annually. However, each facility/site should establish a goal of providing all teams/members with the opportunity for participation in an annual site-level exercise on a rotating basis.

In summary, the annual site-level exercise is a test of the *integrated response* of various components/elements of the ERO. The performance in the exercise is not primarily focused on the individual skills of each function/activity, but on the ability of site-level ERO elements to accomplish their individual tasks in concert with different functions/activities as part of the total response.