



The ARRA EAP

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<http://www.oe.energy.gov>

Welcome to the eleventh issue of the quarterly *Energy Assurance Planning Bulletin*, a service of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability (DOE/OE). The *ARRA EAP Bulletin* provides information on energy assurance planning resources, upcoming events, training opportunities, and important grant deliverable dates.

Need to Know

On June 28–29, 2012, DOE/OE, in coordination with the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), conducted the 2012 National Energy Assurance Conference. The event was the culmination of DOE's ongoing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) grant program for State and Local Energy Assurance Planning, which has supported State and local governments in improving their capabilities to prepare for and respond to energy emergencies and enhance energy security.

More than 250 people attended the conference, including representatives from Federal agencies, State Energy Offices, Public Utility Commissions, State-level emergency management agencies, Governor's offices, and local jurisdictions. Representatives from the electricity, oil, and natural gas industries and nonprofit organizations were also in attendance.

The conference agenda featured interactive panels on: *Successful Approaches in State Energy Assurance Planning* • *Successful Approaches in Local Energy Assurance Planning* • *Private-Sector Energy Assurance Initiatives* • *Infrastructure Interdependencies and Building Community Resiliency* • *Sustaining Energy Emergency Preparedness* • *Moving from Plans to Actions that Build Energy Resiliency*.

Michael Daniel, the Special Assistant to the President and Cybersecurity Coordinator, gave the morning keynote address that highlighted the recently completed Electricity Subsector Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model. The Special Assistant spoke about the model's ability to serve as a standard for public-private approaches to addressing the complex problem of grid security. Richard Reed, Vice President of Preparedness and Resilience Strategy for the American Red Cross, delivered the luncheon address and gave real-world examples of the importance of emergency preparedness.

Conference attendees also participated in a tabletop exercise that focused on a nationwide oil shock scenario and featured a federal panel of experts.

Proceedings from the conference will be forthcoming and delivered to registered attendees.

Action Items

State Grantees:

Final Energy Assurance Plans (EAPs) must be submitted to DOE at the end of the grant term via the EERE-PMC website: <https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/SubmitReports.aspx>.

Contact your DOE/NETL Project Officer if you have any questions regarding close-out of the grant or final reports/deliverables.

State and Local Grantees:

Quarterly Reports (Progress Reports and SF-425) for grant activity April – June 2012 are due no later than July 30, 2012. Quarterly Reports are submitted via the EERE-PMC website: <https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/SubmitReports.aspx>.

The ARRA 1512 reporting cycle for the current quarter began July 1, 2012. ARRA 1512 reports are submitted via www.federalreporting.gov. For local grantees, further information and sample reporting templates are available at: www.energyassurance.us. Additional questions may be addressed by Attachment 3 (Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist) of the Assistance Agreement, or through contact with the DOE/NETL Project Officer. The DOE Recovery Act Clearinghouse is also available to answer reporting questions by phone at 888-DOE-RCVY (888-363-7289), Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time, or by email at RecoveryClearinghouse@hq.doe.gov. More information is available at <http://energy.gov/recovery-act>.

Energy Assurance Success Stories

The City of Heber, Utah, took an unconventional approach to local government energy assurance planning in that the city's electricity service provider – Heber Light & Power (HL&P) – is the project lead. HL&P provides electricity to more than 9,500 customers in Heber Valley, east of Salt Lake City.

As part of its planning effort, HL&P reviewed vulnerabilities in the region's electric grid, identified critical facilities, and developed policies for the restoration of electric service to those facilities in the event of a disruption.

Among many other benefits, the LEAP process helped pinpoint a communications glitch. During one of the energy assurance planning committee meetings, when the group was discussing communication systems, staff from HL&P realized that their emergency radios were not on the same frequency as the radios used by other local emergency management personnel.

Recognizing the importance of maintaining communications with diverse emergency responders during an energy disruption, HL&P replaced its radio equipment so that all company personnel could switch to the local emergency management frequency as needed. This will also allow the company's staff to assist city and county officials with other emergency response needs, such as helping to clear debris from roads when needed.

To read more about HL&P and Utah's Local Government EAP, visit <http://www.heberpower.com/about-leap.htm>.

News from the States

In a move to reduce energy costs, save consumers money, and increase comfort, the California Energy Commission unanimously approved energy efficiency standards for new homes and commercial buildings.

To read more, visit:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/releases/2012_releases/2012-05-31_energy_commission_approves_more_efficient_buildings_nr.html

Upcoming Events

NASEO and NARUC, in conjunction with the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA), will hold a conference on **Environmental Protection & Clean, Reliable Energy - Governments Working Together** July 9-10, 2012 in Washington, DC. Details are available at <http://www.naruc.org/News/?e=308>.

"**Camp NARUC**," an annual regulatory studies program with topics covering all aspects of the regulatory process regarding the electricity, natural gas, water, and telecommunications sectors, is a two-week program designed specifically to meet the needs of public-sector regulatory professionals and will be held August 6 - 17, 2012 in East Lansing, MI. More information is available at <http://www.ipu.msu.edu/camp/index.php>.

GFIRST 2012 Conference: The Government Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams conference will be held August 19 - 24, 2012 in Atlanta, GA. Topics will include IT and cyber security, collaboration methods, and incident response best practices. See <http://www.us-cert.gov/GFIRST/>.

The Wisconsin Public Utility Institute will host the **Energy Utility Basics Course**, a week-long course on the fundamental concepts critical to success in today's energy industry, October 1-5, 2012 in Madison, Wisconsin. See <http://wpui.wisc.edu/?p=1748>.

Please visit NARUC and NASEO websites for upcoming summer and annual meetings. For additional information on upcoming events, visit DOE/OE.

- Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability – <http://energy.gov/oe/information-center/meetings-events>
- National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners – www.naruc.org
- National Association of State Energy Officials – www.naseo.org

Guidance from PTI

The PTI [Local Government Energy Assurance Guidelines, Version 2.0](#) has a list of 10 helpful steps for local governments to consider when developing energy assurance plans. The *ARRA EAP Bulletin* is highlighting these steps. What follows is the fifth installment of this series. For more information contact Ronda Mosley at rmosley@pti.org.

Know the Primary Contacts and Related Partners

Responding effectively and efficiently to an energy emergency once it begins involves knowing which private and public sector experts to contact as soon as possible. Developing and keeping an up-to-date list of primary contacts can be an important part of a local EAP. This list of primary contacts can include critical service providers, local government decision-makers, and State, federal, and regional government authorities and energy suppliers. It can also be useful to include leadership from other local and regional government councils that depend on the same energy supplies and infrastructure. These are the people who can be reached during an emergency to provide current information on the jurisdiction's energy resources and infrastructure.

The list of contacts should include 24-hour phone numbers and backup phone numbers for all key personnel. It can also include titles, responsibilities during an energy emergency, past energy emergency experience, email addresses, physical addresses, and designated alternates if primary contacts cannot be reached. The list should be provided electronically and in hard copy to everyone who will be charged with implementing EAP elements in response to an energy disruption.

Most shortages and supply disruptions are addressed without the declaration of an actual emergency, and many energy shortages and potential emergencies can be resolved via direct communication with key industry and/or public sector decision-makers. It is important to know which entities and individuals are responsible for managing specific tasks related to an energy emergency. This reduces unnecessary redundancy and the potential spread of misinformation while responding to a situation.

Knowing all of the primary contacts that relate to an EAP is much more complicated than it may seem at first. Between federal, State, regional, and other local governments, utility companies and other energy suppliers, emergency management personnel, and related critical infrastructure operators and service providers, this task can seem overwhelming. Planners are urged to consider the following graphic when starting the process of identifying primary contacts.

