

b) Radiation Environmental Laboratories

EPA has two state-of-the-art radiological laboratories: one in Montgomery, Alabama, and the other in Las Vegas, Nevada. These laboratories can assist by quickly characterizing radiation sources to help make decisions about how to protect the public health.

c) Environmental Radiation Ambient Monitoring System

EPA operates the Environmental Radiation Ambient Monitoring System (ERAMS) for measuring radioactivity and other contaminants in various environmental media. ERAMS is a national comprehensive radiation monitoring network with over 250 sampling stations distributed across all 50 States and U.S. Territories. In a radiological emergency, these sampling stations may be able to provide information about how far contamination has spread.

3. OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE

a) National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC)

EPA's National Enforcement Investigations Center is the technical support center for EPA enforcement and compliance assurance programs nationwide. The NEIC maintains multi-disciplinary teams of experts who perform inspections and technical evaluations of petrochemical and industrial facilities involved in the manufacture and handling of hazardous substances. The NEIC offers expertise in the following areas:

- C Environmental forensic evidence collection & sampling
- C Environmental forensic analysis
- C Information management/computer forensics
- C Enforcement related technical analysis

NEIC support for site-specific environmental forensic evidence handling can be requested through the appropriate Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Regional Office. The EPA OSC can help state and local responders contact the CID Office.

b) EPA Contractor Resources

EPA's emergency response contracts provide swift access to cleanup services for removal of oil and hazardous substances. Under these contracts, response resources are available around the clock responding within 6 to 48 hours, depending on the location. Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractors are able to mobilize the fastest and can provide immediate monitoring, sampling, analysis, and technical support and can perform minor containment activities. Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractors can mobilize between 2 to 48 hours based on the geographic location of the incident and can provide containment, countermeasure, cleanup, and disposal services.

c) Research Laboratories

EPA has research laboratories with programs in field monitoring and analytical and technical support. The laboratories can also provide the models for fate and transport of chemicals that can provide information needed to make informed risk management decisions. Some of these labs have the capability to deploy mobile units to a contaminated site for chemical and biological analysis.

d) Contract Laboratories

EPA's Contract Laboratory Program (CLP) provides a range of state-of-the-art chemical and analytical services. These include both routine and specialized analytical services, and the analyses of basic and unusual chemicals in air, water and soil media.

THE NATIONAL CONTINGENCY PLAN (NCP) AND OTHER PLANS

Depending on the circumstances surrounding an incident, different federal plans (i.e., the NCP, the Federal Response Plan [FRP], the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan [FRERP], and the federal crisis and consequence management plans for terrorist incidents) provide the structure for federal response. These plans allow the NRS to provide support under most circumstances that would involve WMD. For instance, under the Terrorism Incident Annex to the FRP, EPA activates environmental response capabilities to support the federal response to acts of NBC terrorism, either by coordinating with NRS agencies

to use the structures and capabilities developed to support NCP operations, or by activating the NCP itself.

EPA COUNTER TERRORISM PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY AND POLICY COORDINATION

EPA's Emergency and Deputy Emergency Coordinator provide national policy coordination across EPA's program offices and with other government agencies for counter-terrorism preparedness and response efforts.

PLANNING AND RESPONSE CONTACTS

During an emergency, the National Response System can be accessed 24-hours-a-day by calling the National Response Center (NRC) at 1-800-424-8802. The NRC will notify the appropriate EPA OSC and Regional Office. For non-emergencies/planning activities, State and local responders can access the NRS through their EPA Regional Removal Manager:

EPA Region I: 617-918-1260
EPA Region II: 732-321-6656
EPA Region III: 215-814-3241
EPA Region IV: 404-562-8721
EPA Region V: 312-353-9295
EPA Region VI: 214-665-2270
EPA Region VII: 913-551-7952
EPA Region VIII: 303-312-6827
EPA Region IX: 415-744-2293
EPA Region X: 206-553-6709

For EPA's counter-terrorism programs, the Emergency or Deputy Emergency Coordinator can be contacted at 202-260-8600. Or visit <http://www.epa.gov/ceppo/>.



EPA CAPABILITIES: RESPONDING TO NUCLEAR-BIOLOGICAL-CHEMICAL (NBC) TERRORISM

EPA OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has statutory authorities and responsibilities to prepare for and respond to emergencies involving oil and hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, which include chemical, biological and radiological materials that could also be components of a weapon of mass destruction (WMD). A WMD is defined as a weapon, device, or large conventional explosive that produces catastrophic loss of life or property. EPA carries out its preparedness and response efforts primarily under the mandate of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) and the Radiological Response Program. EPA provides technical support, response coordination and management, and resource assistance to local and state first responders under the National Response System (NRS). The NRS is the federal government's mechanism for emergency response to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants and discharges of oil that threaten human health and the environment. The NRS is fully described in the NCP at 40 CFR Part 300.

Additional EPA Responsibilities

In recognition of EPA's responsibilities, capabilities and experience, Presidential Decision Directive (PDD) #39 assigned EPA the task of assisting the FBI in threat assessments and determining the type of hazards associated with releases or potential releases of materials in a terrorist incident. EPA is also assigned to assist the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with environmental monitoring, decontamination, and long-term site cleanup. EPA is the lead agency for hazardous materials response under Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 of the Federal Response Plan (FRP). PDD #62 reinforces EPA's mission to enhance the nation's capability to prevent and

respond to terrorist events involving WMD. PDD #63, which addresses the protection of America's critical infrastructure, named EPA the lead agency for the Water Supply Sector. Under these and other Federal authorities, EPA may participate during the crisis and consequence management phases of a terrorist incident response and may prevent and prepare for deliberate releases resulting from terrorist incidents. In addition, in the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici legislation, EPA was named as one of the six Federal agencies for assisting in the provision of the WMD training program for first responders in 120 of the country's largest cities.

Federal On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs)

The Federal OSC is the primary federal representative at responses conducted under the NRS. Federal OSCs work with State, local, and private responders to protect human health and the environment. The Federal OSC is the point of contact for the coordination of federal efforts with the local response community. EPA OSCs possess the authority to manage all response efforts at the scene of an incident, and can call upon a variety of specialized equipment and highly trained personnel. Some of these include: the Environmental Response Team; the Radiological Emergency Response Team; the U.S. Coast Guard Strike Teams; and the National Enforcement Investigation Center. EPA has approximately 215 OSCs to address releases or potential releases in the inland zone of the country. The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) provides OSCs for the coastal zones. When an incident report is received by the National Response Center (NRC), it is immediately relayed to a Federal OSC. The NRC serves as a first alert center for any potentially hazardous substance release to the environment of chemical, radiological, biological or etiological agents.

1. SPECIAL FORCES AVAILABLE TO THE OSCs

The NCP discusses special forces and other assistance available to Federal OSCs during a response. The following are examples of the specialized assistance available to the Federal OSC.

a) Environmental Response Team (ERT)

EPA's ERT supports EPA's OSCs with expertise in treatment technology, biology, chemistry, hydrology, geology, and engineering. EPA's ERT can provide

24-hour access to special decontamination equipment for chemical releases and advice to the OSC in hazard evaluation; risk assessment; multimedia sampling and analysis; on-site safety, including development and implementation of plans; cleanup techniques and priorities; water supply decontamination and protection; application of dispersants; environmental assessment; degree of cleanup required; and disposal of contaminated material.

The ERT, located in Edison, NJ, can also be activated by the OSC to provide technical expertise for complex emergency responses involving or potentially involving weapons of mass destruction, especially chemical weapons such as VX nerve gas and sarin gas. ERT resources can be pre-deployed for special events having a high level of terrorism threats. In addition, the Emergency Response Training Program (ERTP), located in Cincinnati, OH, provides training courses for personnel who respond to or investigate and clean up abandoned hazardous waste sites. Training is provided in safety and health as well as in the various technical operations needed to identify, evaluate, and control hazardous substances that have been released.

EPA's Portable Instrumentation and Entry-Level Capabilities

In response to an NBC threat or incident, EPA's ERT can provide portable instrumentation and various entry capabilities to assist at the scene of an incident.

Monitoring Instruments: The ERT has numerous types of field portable instruments to:

- U** Monitor various toxic gases in real time, including nerve or mustard agent vapors and volatile organics in the low and sub parts-per-million concentrations.
- U** Qualify low-level alpha contamination on surfaces, personnel, and personnel protective equipment; assess the lateral distribution of gamma emitters in soil/pipes, etc.; and monitor for beta or beta-gamma emitters.
- U** Measure alpha, beta, or gamma radiation.

Analytical Instruments, including:

- U Minicam** - identifies volatile organic and inorganic compounds over wide concentration ranges.
- U Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS)** - identifies trace components in complex matrices.
- U Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA)** - MS/MS that allows real-time analysis and tracking of plumes. This is a mobile laboratory unit.

ERT's Entry-level Capabilities:

- U Level "A" Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE)** - required when the greatest potential for exposure to hazards exists, and when the greatest level of skin, respiratory, and eye protection is required. These fully encapsulating suits afford protection against petroleum products and halogenated hydrocarbons, as well as against nerve and blister agents.
- U Level "B" PPE** - used under circumstances requiring the highest level of respiratory protection, with a lesser level of skin protection.
- U Level "C" PPE** - used when the concentration and type of airborne substances is known, and the criteria for using air-purifying respirators are met.

b) The Coast Guard's National Strike Force (NSF)

The NSF is composed of three strategically located strike teams, a public information assist team, and a coordination center. The strike teams have specially trained personnel and equipment to respond to major oil spills and chemical releases. The Public Information Assist Team (PIAT) is available to assist the OSC in demands for public information during a response. The National Strike Force Coordination Center (NSFCC) maintains a national inventory list of oil spill response equipment. NSF capabilities are especially suited to incidents occurring in the marine environment, but also include response management, entry-level A through C, site assessments, safety and action plan development, and documentation for both inland and coastal zone incidents. The NSF can be accessed through the Federal OSC and the National Response Center.

c) Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC)

The SSCs are the principal advisors to the OSCs for scientific issues, communication with the scientific community and coordination for requests for assistance from state and Federal agencies regarding scientific studies. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) provides SSCs in coastal and marine areas. For inland zones, SSCs are provided by EPA's ERT.

2. EPA's RADIOLOGICAL RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

EPA's role in response to a nuclear/radiological terrorism incident will vary depending on the situation. The three main areas of EPA radiological response are:

- C** Monitoring and assessment
- C** Protective action guidance
- C** Assistance in coordinating federal response during the cleanup

Additionally, EPA has developed Protective Action Guides that help state and local officials protect potentially affected populations. Each EPA regional office has a regional radiation program, through which support can be obtained.

a) Radiological Emergency Response Team

EPA's Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA) has established a Radiological Emergency Response Team (RERT), with staff in Washington, DC, and at laboratories in Nevada and Alabama. The RERT provides support during incidents or at sites involving radiological hazards. Expertise is available in:

- C** Radiation monitoring
- C** Radionuclide analysis
- C** Radiation health physics
- C** Risk assessment

The RERT can provide on-site monitoring and mobile laboratories for field analyses of samples. Requests for RERT support may be made 24-hours-a-day via the National Response Center.



EPA'S ROLE IN COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTIVITIES

FACTSHEET

Incidents involving weapons of mass destruction have resulted in many deaths, numerous serious injuries and massive destruction of property. Examples of such incidents, both at home and abroad, include:

- A bomb exploded in a garage of the World Trade Center in New York City in February 1993; six people were killed, 1,000 injured, and millions of dollars in damages were sustained.
- The highly toxic chemical gas Sarin[®] was intentionally released in the Tokyo, Japan, subway in March 1995; 12 people were killed and thousands were injured, many seriously.
- A bomb exploded in front of a Federal building in Oklahoma City in April 1995; 165 people were killed, many hundreds were injured, and millions of dollars in property losses to the Federal government and local businesses were sustained.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is preparing for and will respond to terrorist threats from weapons of mass destruction. Weapons of mass destruction are "weapons or devices that are intended, or have the capability, to cause death or serious bodily injury to a significant number of people, through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic poisonous chemicals; disease organisms; or radiation or radioactivity." Because of its inherent role in protecting human health and the environment from possible harmful effects of certain chemical, biological, and nuclear materials, EPA is actively involved in counter-terrorism planning and response efforts.

***"We cannot afford to wait for an incident involving weapons of mass destruction. We cannot afford to be unprepared at any level."
-- Former U.S. Senator
Sam Nunn***

The U.S. government has responded to the threat from terrorist activities by helping State and local governments prepare for and respond to terrorist threats that involve weapons of mass destruction. This planning effort is being conducted through a partnership that involves EPA, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Public Health Service.

Why Is EPA Involved?

Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), the Clean Water Act as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA), the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the "Superfund" law, Congress gave EPA responsibilities and legal

authorities to prepare for and respond to emergencies involving oil, hazardous substances, and certain radiological materials - any of which could be a component of a weapon of mass destruction. In addition, the President has given EPA responsibility for some counter-terrorism activities. EPA's responsibilities include:

- Assisting the FBI in determining what sort of hazardous substance may be, or has been, released in a terrorist incident.
- Following an incident, assisting with environmental monitoring, decontamination efforts, and long-term site cleanup operations.

EPA's Role

EPA supports the Federal counter-terrorism program specifically by:

1. **HELPING STATE AND LOCAL RESPONDERS TO PLAN FOR EMERGENCIES.** Since 1986, EPCRA has required every community to develop an emergency plan that prepares for accidental releases of extremely hazardous substances, and should one occur, makes provisions for rapid responses to protect the community. These existing plans should be updated to incorporate planning and response to deliberate chemical releases that are the hallmark of terrorist incidents. By 2003, 50 percent of all Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) shall have incorporated planning and response to deliberate releases by terrorists into their emergency plans.

2. **TRAINING FIRST RESPONDERS.** In addition to EPA's existing training program for first responders, EPA is one of six Federal agencies participating in a program to train personnel who are likely to be first on the scene of a terrorist incident. Local first responders will be trained to respond effectively and safely to potential terrorist attacks in which chemical or biological agents have been used against a civilian population. EPA assisted in the development of the first responder training program, which will be given to 120 of the largest cities in the U.S. by 2002.
3. **PROVIDING RESOURCES IN THE EVENT OF A TERRORIST INCIDENT.** EPA has specialized facilities and uniquely qualified personnel to help local and State personnel prepare for and respond to emergencies, such as those that might result from a terrorist incident. We assist our Federal partners and State and local governments through a variety of resources, including On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs); the Environmental Response Team; other emergency response personnel; the National Enforcement Investigations Center; and various radiological response capabilities.

Need More Information?

For more information on EPA's counter-terrorism activities and other emergency planning regulations, visit our homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/ceppo/> or the NRT homepage at <http://www.nrt.org/>

Or call the **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Hotline at 1-800-424-9346.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

During an emergency, the National Response System can be accessed 24 hours a day by calling the National Response Center (NRC) at 1-800-424-8802. The NRC will then call the Regional emergency spill response line and access the on-duty Federal OSC. For non-emergencies or for assistance with emergency planning, State and local response personnel can access the NRS using the phone numbers listed below.

Region 1 (Boston):	617-573-9641
Region 2 (New York):	732-321-6656
Region 3 (Philadelphia):	215-566-3241
Region 4 (Atlanta):	404-562-8721
Region 5 (Chicago):	312-353-2318
Region 6 (Dallas):	214-665-2270
Region 7 (Kansas City):	913-551-7952
Region 8 (Denver):	303-312-6838
Region 9 (San Francisco):	415-744-2293
Region 10 (Seattle):	206-553-6709



EPA's Emergency Response Organizational Structure



June 15, 1998

EPA's Roles and Capabilities for Terrorism Events

- **Overview: EPA's Counter-Terrorism (CT) Roles and Responsibilities**
- **EPA's Programs and Resources**
 - Hazardous Materials (Includes Biological Agents)
 - Radiological
 - Enforcement
- **EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event**



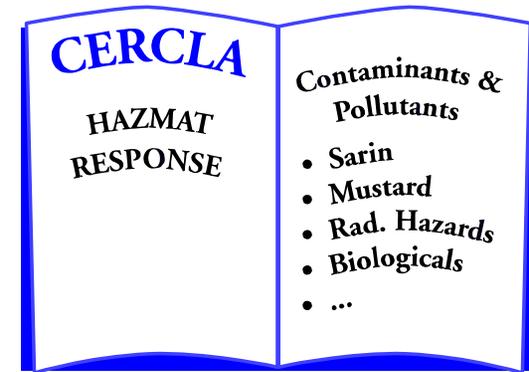
EPA's CT Roles and Responsibilities: Overview



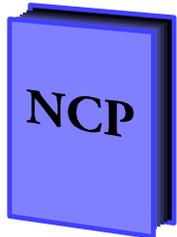
EPA's CT Roles and Responsibilities: Overview



- EPA has specific responsibilities and authorities
 - Protection of human health and the environment
 - “Pollutant or contaminant”
 - Regardless of cause
- EPA and U.S. Government-wide plans and directives clarify EPA's specific roles and responsibilities



EPA's CT Roles and Responsibilities: **Overview**



- EPA participates in U.S. Government CT activities using the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)



- When the President activates the Federal Response Plan (FRP), EPA has the lead function for the FRP's Emergency Support Function #10 (Hazardous Materials)



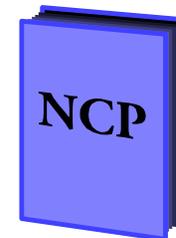
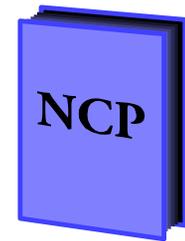
- Presidential Decision Directives #39 & #62 establish relationship of EPA to lead agencies during CT response:
 - FBI for crisis management
 - FEMA for consequence management

EPA's CT Roles and Responsibilities: **Overview**



■ Response scenarios

- Incident not yet determined to be terrorism-related: EPA lead under NCP
- Crisis Management/FBI lead: EPA prepares to lead ESF #10 activities while providing technical support to FBI
- Consequence Management/FEMA lead: EPA leads ESF #10 activities incorporating the NCP



EPA Programs and Resources



EPA Programs and Resources



- **EPA's CT activities are based on existing programs that address:**
 - **Hazardous material emergencies**
 - **Radiation emergencies**
 - **Enforcement of environmental regulations**

EPA Programs and Resources: Hazardous Materials



■ Overview

- The National Response System (the system established under the NCP) has been the U.S. Government's mechanism to prepare for and respond to HAZMAT releases for almost 30 years
- Primary objective: Protect public health and the environment by supporting state and local response efforts



EPA Programs and Resources: Hazardous Materials



- The National Response System (under the NCP) is a multi-agency, multi-level response network

Federal
OSCs

Regional
Response
Teams

National
Response
Team

Special
Forces



EPA Programs and Resources: Hazardous Materials



■ Federal On-Scene Coordinators

- Coordinate all federal containment, removal, and disposal efforts and resources during an incident under the NCP or the FRP;
- One point of contact for coordination of U.S. Government efforts with the local HAZMAT response community;
- 230 EPA OSCs at 17 locations nation-wide;
- 46 USCG Marine Safety Offices, spread among 9 USCG Districts, each headed by a Captain of the Port, who acts as the OSC



EPA Programs and Resources: Hazardous Materials (cont.)



■ National Response Systems Special Resources

– Special Forces

- EPA's Environmental Response Team (ERT)
- USCG National Strike Force (NSF)
- Other Special Forces

Special
Forces

– Laboratories

- Research Laboratories
- Contract Laboratories
- Radiological Laboratories

– National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC)

EPA Programs and Resources: Hazardous Materials (cont.)



- Access the National Response System through the National Response Center at (1-800-424-8802)

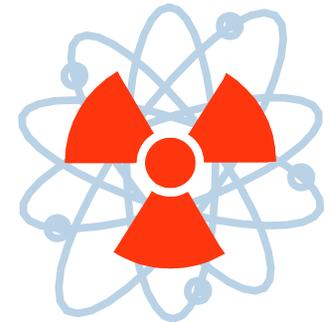


EPA Programs and Resources: Radiological Response



■ Overview

- The NCP applies to most radiological incidents
- EPA role outlined in the FRERP
 - Monitor and assess potential public health and environmental impacts.
 - Develop/provide protective action guidance.
 - Serve as Lead Federal Agency (LFA) if certain criteria, defined in FRERP, are met.
 - Assist LFA in coordinating recovery, clean-up, and mitigation activities.



EPA Programs and Resources:

Radiological Response



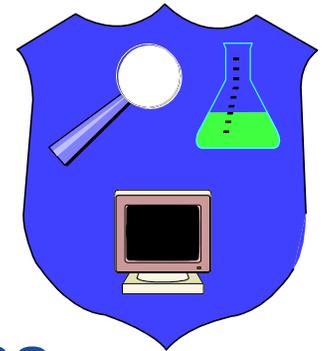
■ Resources

- Radiological Emergency Response Team (RERT)
- Radiation Environmental Laboratories
- Environmental Radiation Ambient Monitoring System
- Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center

EPA Programs and Resources: Enforcement

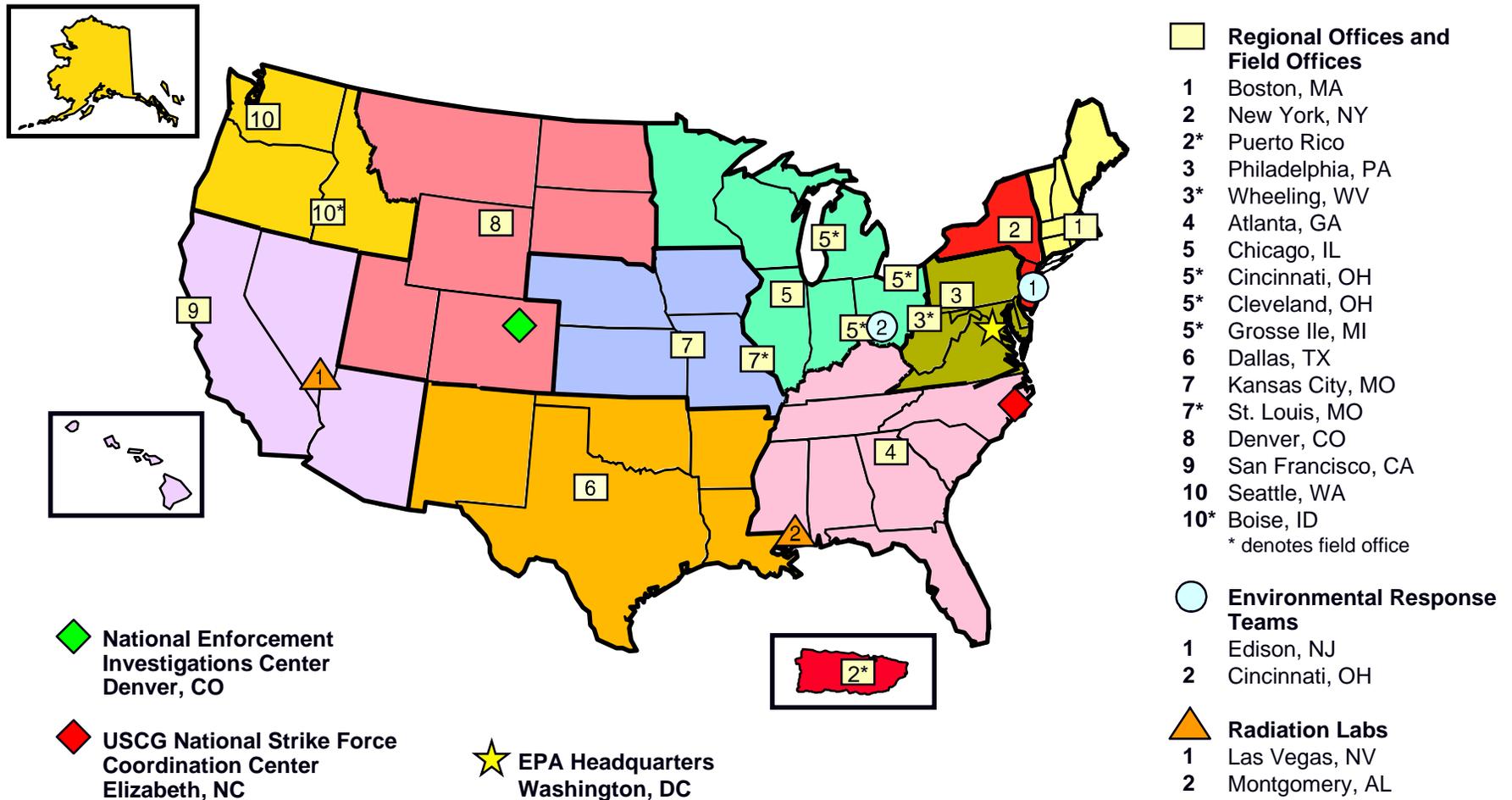


- EPA's program for enforcing compliance with environmental laws provides capabilities for investigating and prosecuting terrorist acts.
- EPA's National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) is the technical support center for EPA enforcement and compliance assurance programs.
- Provides a full spectrum of investigative and forensic support for environmental civil and criminal cases.

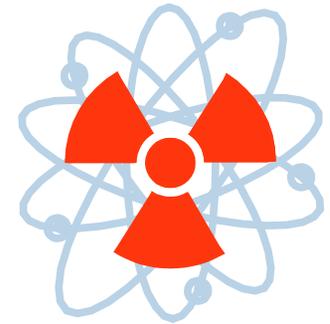
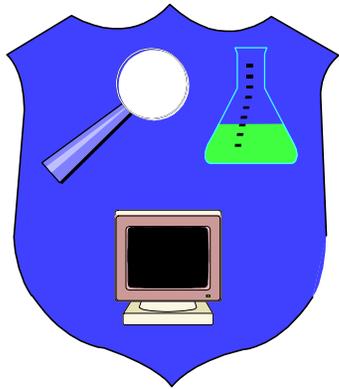


EPA Programs and Resources:

Map of EPA Assets



EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event

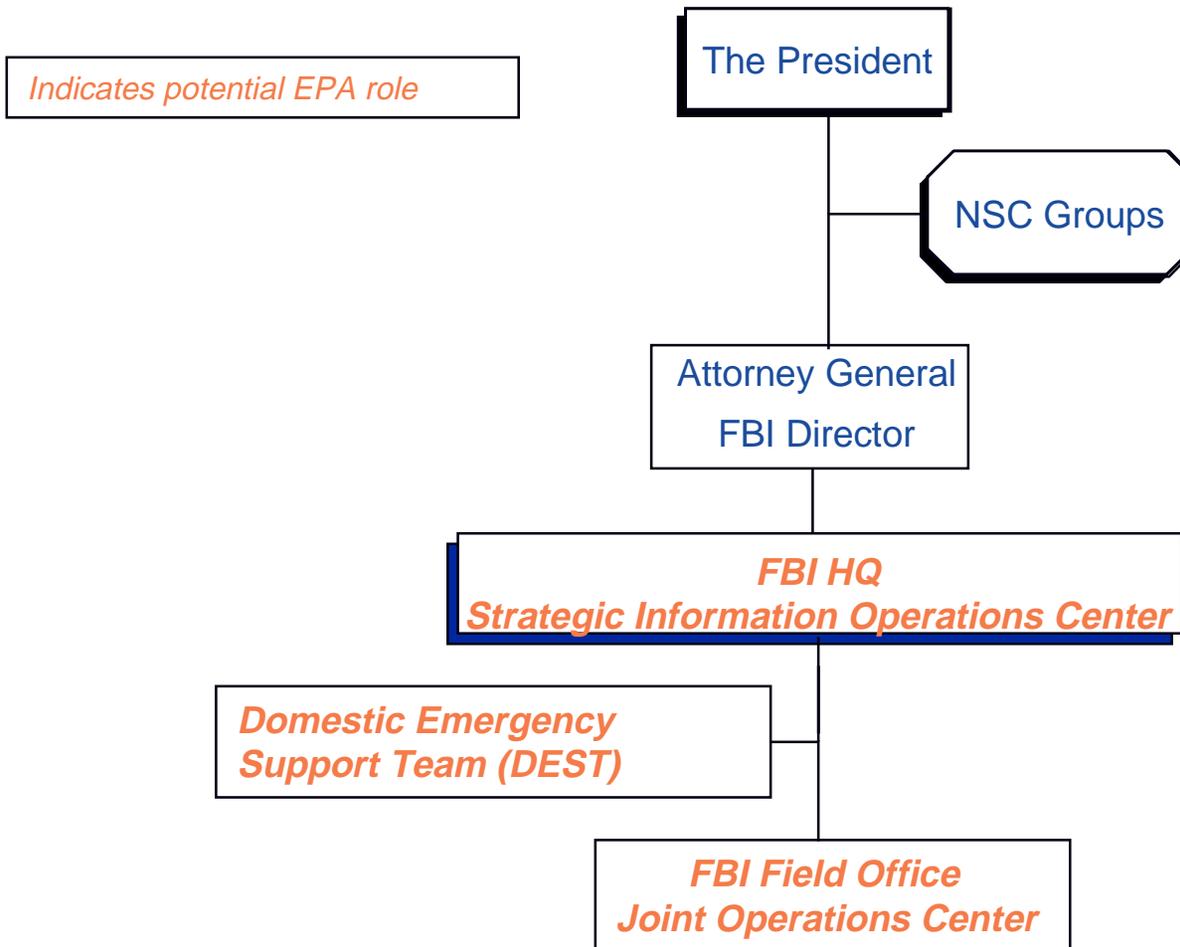
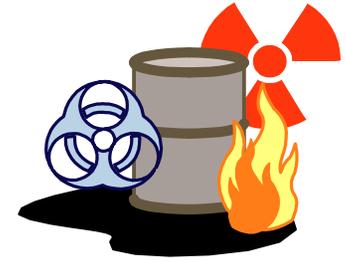


EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event: Crisis Management

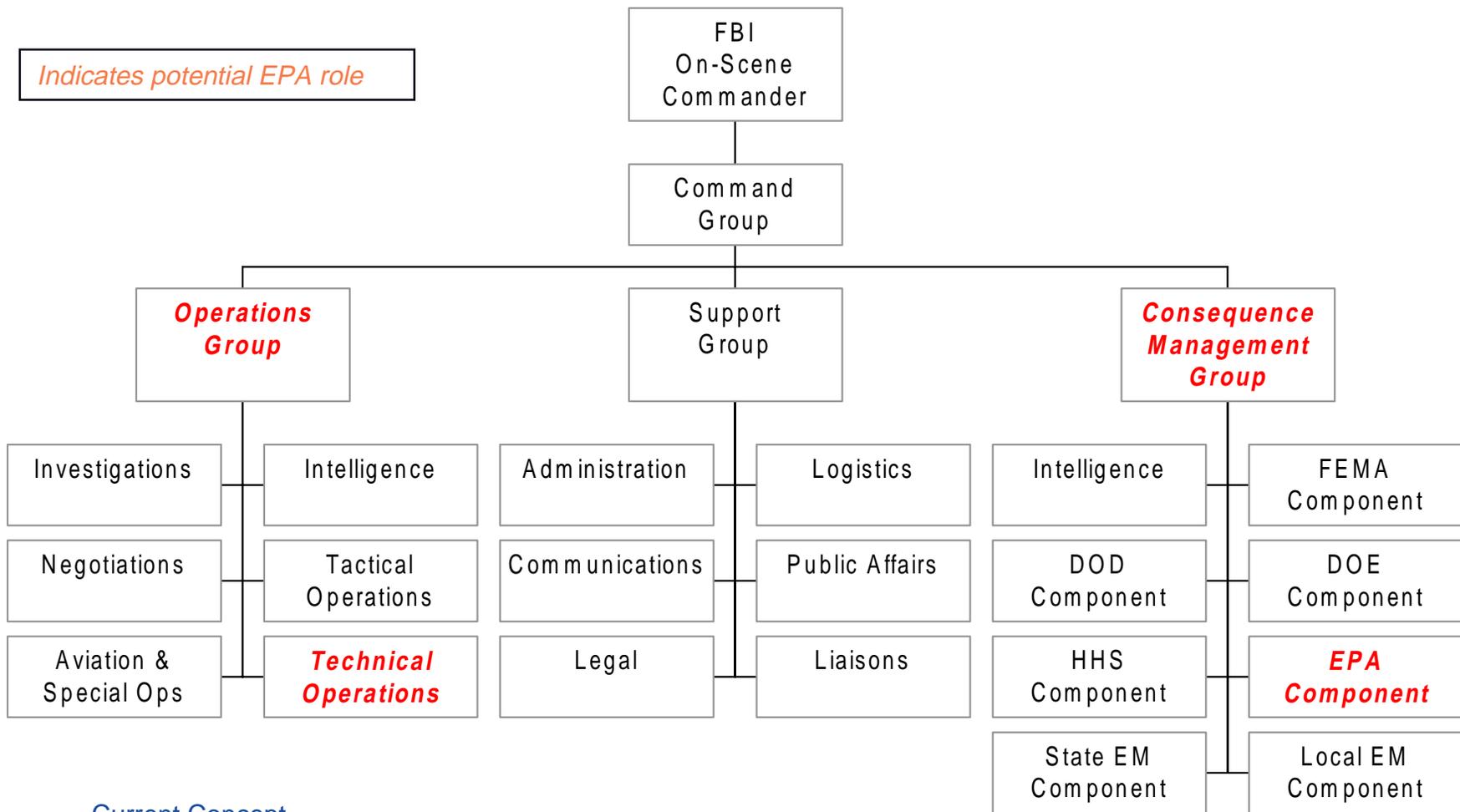
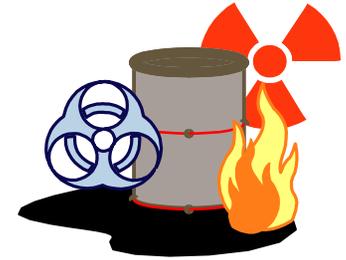


- **Coordinate through FBI with others**
- **Participate in FBI-led Domestic Emergency Support Team (DEST)**
- **Incident-specific technical support**
 - Chemical hazards evaluation
 - Modeling
 - Coordination/notification
- **Evidence collection support**
- **Resources available to support FBI-led response teams**
 - OSCs, Special Forces deployment (ERT, USCG, NEIC)

EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event: Crisis Management

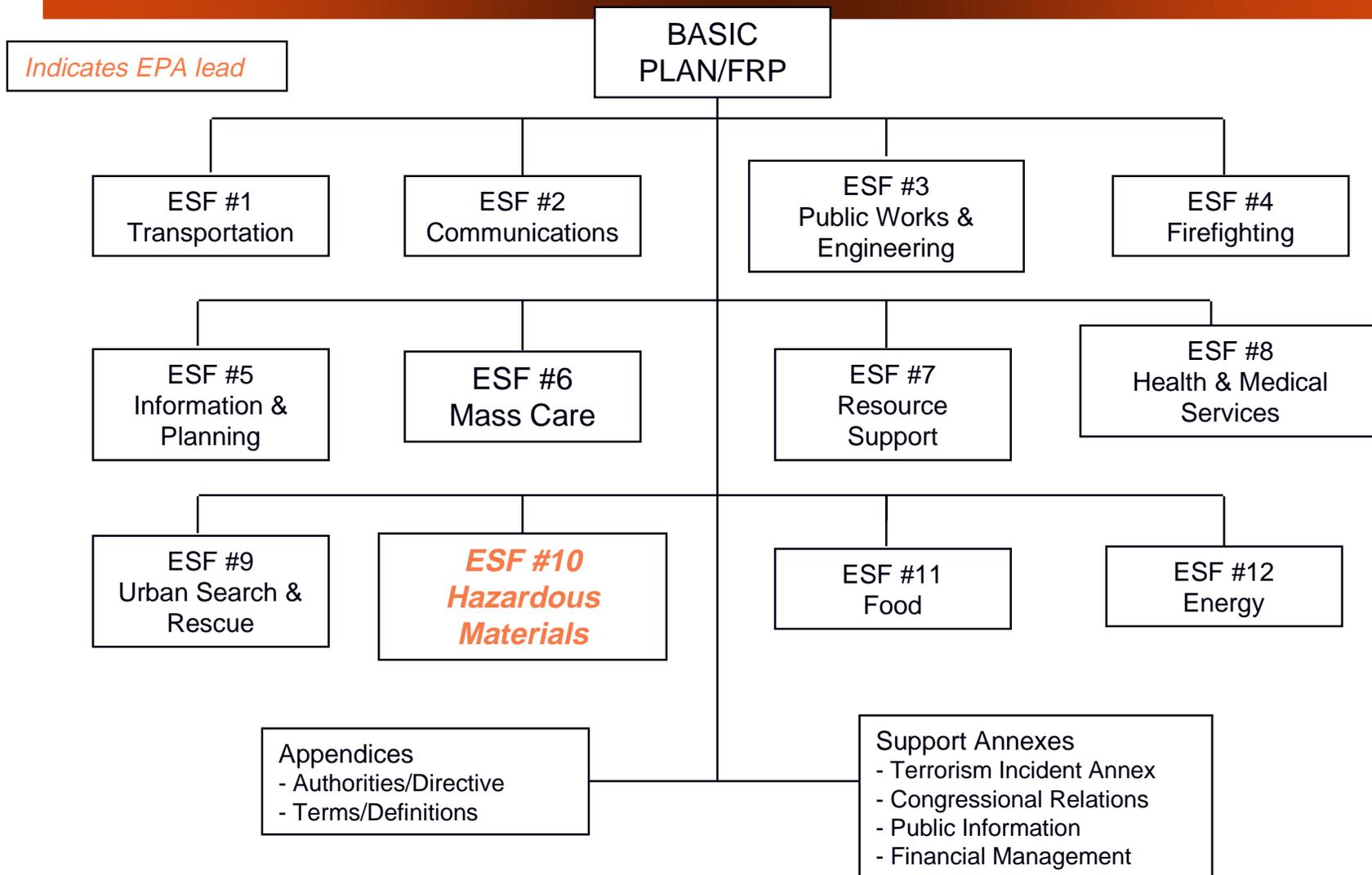
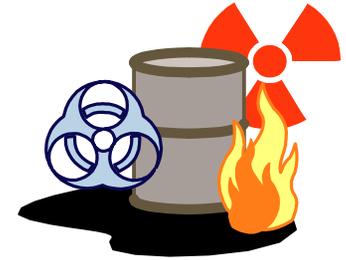


EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event: Crisis Management



Current Concept

EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event: Consequence Management



EPA's Role in a Terrorism Event: Consequence Management



- **Conduct response action through ESF #10:**
 - Threat assessment, site evaluation and removal actions, agent identification, hazard detection and reduction, environmental monitoring, decontamination, and long-term site restoration
 - Integration with and assistance to Incident Command System/Unified Command
- **Coordinate with local, state, and key U.S. government partners such as FEMA, FBI, DOD, PHS, CDC, DOE, USCG, and others**

Summary



- **EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment**
- **NBC incidents are also hazmat incidents and require very similar hazmat response**
- **EPA brings the existing system for hazmat response of the U.S. Government response to a terrorism event, in coordination with the Federal Response Plan and additional systems created specifically to deal with potential terrorist incidents**



LEPCs and Deliberate Releases: Addressing Terrorist Activities in the Local Emergency Plan

In recent years, the threat of terrorist incidents involving chemical and biological materials has increased. Local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) should consider the possibility of terrorist events as they review existing plans and consider how to incorporate counter-terrorism (CT) measures into their plans. CT planning and preparedness is often an extension of existing activities, rather than a totally new effort. This factsheet discusses how LEPCs can incorporate CT issues when they review and update their local plans. This factsheet builds on the National Response Team's Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide (NRT-1) and supersedes "Thinking about Deliberate Releases: Steps Your Community Can Take."

BUILD ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Local emergency planning committees (LEPCs), established under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), prepare and maintain comprehensive emergency plans. These plans address the extremely hazardous substances listed under EPCRA as well as thousands of hazardous chemicals for which OSHA requires Material Safety Data Sheets. Many LEPCs are already addressing CT, even if they do not use the word "terrorism." If you have developed a plan for possible accidental releases of chemicals in your community, you can use the same general planning principles for deliberate releases caused by terrorists. You may need to spend some time considering biological agents. This factsheet includes some suggestions for how you can modify your current activities to include deliberate chemical and biological releases.

MAINTAIN BROAD-BASED MEMBERSHIP

LEPC membership includes a wide variety of stakeholders, such as elected

State and local officials; police; fire, civil defense, public health, environmental, hospital, and transportation officials; representatives of facilities where chemicals are stored or used; community groups; public works departments; and the media. Identify any specific roles each of these groups might have in the event of a terrorist attack. In addition, you might add a few new members who would bring specific expertise during a release involving biological agents (e.g., the coroner, morticians, chemistry and biology labs, university experts).

UPDATE AND REVISE YOUR PLANS

LEPCs should review their emergency response plans annually. Before you begin specific consideration of CT issues, ensure that your emergency plan is up-to-date. Simply adding CT materials to an outdated plan will not create an effective emergency plan. For example, review your plan for outdated contact information, unique hazards presented by facilities that may have been constructed after the emergency response plan was first written, or new public works facilities. Also review the annual inventory reports filed under EPCRA Section 312 to determine if new chemicals or hazards are present in your community.



FACTSHEET

In addition, check Risk Management Plans submitted by facilities in your community to ensure that you address the specific hazards identified by each facility. After you have generally updated your plan, consider adding information and procedures related to potential terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Table 1 (page 6) defines each type of WMD and explains the consequences and response difficulties associated with each type.

One overall difference in dealing with a WMD incident is that law enforcement officials will be involved in the response as investigators. Officials from local, State, and Federal agencies will be on the scene of an incident to collect evidence and interview survivors. Their priorities may create emergency response coordination challenges that your LEPC should address in its plan.

This portion of the factsheet suggests changes you can make to specific sections of your emergency plan.

Emergency Contact Information

In the event of a terrorist incident, rapid and secure communications will be crucial to ensure a prompt and coordinated response. Your plans should include current contact information for fire, emergency medical services (EMS), law enforcement, medical, and other local departments and supporting organizations. Contact information for State officials, including those at public health agencies, the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), State Police, and emergency management agencies also should be included.

The emergency assistance telephone roster in your emergency response plan should include regular phone numbers, cell phone numbers, pager numbers, and other emergency contact information for those individuals (Federal, State, local, and private sector) who have specific CT functions. The National Response Center (NRC) continues to be the sole Federal point of contact for reporting oil and chemical spills, and now provides the service of the Chemical and Biological Hotline. The NRC telephone number (800-424-8802) should be part of your emergency plan. NRC Duty Officers take reports of actual or potential domestic terrorism and link emergency calls with the Department of Defense (DOD) for technical advice on dealing with weapons of mass destruction and with the FBI to initiate the Federal

response actions. The NRC also provides reports and notifications to other Federal agencies as necessary. All local plans should also include contact information for the local FBI Field Office.

Response Functions

Incident Command/Unified Command. Your emergency plan should address direction and control of responders in the event of terrorist attack. Local responders respond to an incident scene and should notify local, State, and Federal authorities if terrorism appears to be involved. Local response authorities (such as a senior fire or law enforcement official) should establish control of the incident scene. The Incident Command System (ICS) that is initially established will likely transition into a Unified Command (UC). The UC structure used at the scene will expand as mutual-aid partners, and State and Federal responders arrive to assist with response operations.

The FBI is the overall Lead Federal Agency (LFA) for a domestic terrorist incident involving WMD and will lead the crisis management activities (including law enforcement activities) of the response.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the lead agency for coordination of Federal support to State and local responders during consequence management activities of the response. Although the FBI is always involved in response to a credible terrorist threat or attack, FEMA support is provided only after a Presidential declaration, typically after State and local agencies request their assistance. Consequence management includes measures to protect public health and safety after an explosion or release; restore essential government services; and provide emergency relief to governments, business, and individuals. When crisis management activities have been completed, the U.S. Attorney General may transfer the overall Lead Federal Agency role to FEMA. EPA, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and DOD also have specific CT-related functions. EPA's role in counter-terrorism activities is described in a factsheet by that name, available at www.epa.gov/ceppo/ct-publ.htm#factsheet.

Public Information. Rapid and secure communications help to ensure a prompt and coordinated response to terrorist activities. Therefore, strengthening communications among emergency responders, law enforcement officials, clinicians, emergency rooms, hospitals, and mass care providers is extremely important. Your emergency plan should include the use of accurate and timely public notification measures and warning systems in the event of a terrorist attack. Work in advance with local news media representatives to ensure their cooperation at the time of an incident. Ongoing communication of accurate and up-to-date information will help calm fears and limit the effects of the attack. The FBI will establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) to coordinate the collection and dissemination of public information.

EPA's Role in the Federal Response Plan

The multi-agency disaster response program that helps states during and after a disaster is the Federal Response Plan (FRP), which groups Federal assistance into 12 functional areas called Emergency Support Functions (ESFs). EPA is the primary agency for ESF 10, Hazardous Materials, which provides for a coordinated response to large-scale releases of hazardous materials by incorporating the response mechanisms of the National Contingency Plan (NCP). EPA assists in determining what sort of hazardous substance may be, or has been, released in a terrorist incident, and follows up with response to the incident, assisting with environmental monitoring, decontamination, and long-term site cleanup.

Activities of human services organizations, such as the Red Cross, should be included in the emergency plan. Among other activities, these organizations may use public information systems to provide human services information to the community, perform crisis counseling, provide insurance information and assistance, and provide translation services.

Public and First Responder Health and Safety. Your emergency plan should address public health and medical issues as they relate to terrorist events. The plan should include procedures to identify and treat victims, store and distribute antidotes, and handle fatalities. Mass care issues that may be different during a terrorist WMD event include decontamination,

multihazard/multiagent triage, mortuary services, and notifying and working with families of any fatalities.

The emergency plan should also consider the personal safety of emergency responders in the event of a terrorist attack. A terrorist chemical, biological, or radiological release may not be immediately known or apparent. Caregivers, emergency response and law enforcement personnel, and other first responders are in danger of becoming casualties before anyone realizes that a crime has occurred. Incidents could escalate quickly from one scene to multiple locations and jurisdictions.

The emergency plan should be flexible enough to accommodate evacuation or in-place sheltering. Evacuation may be required outside the perimeter of the scene to guard against further casualties from contamination by a released agent or from the possibility of additional WMD. In-place sheltering may be required if the area must be quarantined or if people are safer in a particular location.

Hazards Analysis

The hazards analysis section of an emergency plan should identify potential hazards, determine the vulnerability of an area as a result of hazards, and assess the risk of a hazardous materials release or spill. In the identification step, you should consider explosive, chemical, biological, and nuclear WMD as potential hazards.

As you conduct your hazards analysis, identify potential targets and review their vulnerability to attack. Consider the population, accessibility, impact on daily life, economic impact, and symbolic value of areas at risk. Terrorists and criminals who want to attack a particular group based on a conflict with their personal beliefs might target Federal, State, or local government offices and facilities, health clinics, or religious structures. Those who want to cause maximum casualties might target public gathering places (such as sports and entertainment complexes or tourist attractions), modes of transportation (such as buses and trains – including subways), routes of transportation (including bridges), or transportation facilities (such as airport terminals). In order to damage infrastructure and interrupt day-to-day functions, a terrorist might target utilities or water and wastewater treatment plants. LEPCs should also consider emergency procedures in the event of

multiple, or simultaneous, terrorist attacks. Terrorists might target first responders (e.g., fire houses, police department offices, response vehicles, and individuals) to hinder them from responding to another terrorist incident. A terrorist may seek to transform a target into a weapon by focusing on facilities that handle explosive, toxic, or volatile chemicals.

Because most public buildings and public areas must be accessible to everyone, they are highly vulnerable to attack. Other facilities, such as water treatment plants and industrial facilities, especially those with chemical or explosives storage, should have site security measures in place. You may want to discuss site security measures with these facilities to ensure that they are adequately protected. You may want to ask the facility the following questions:

- Is the facility or critical equipment and chemicals protected by fences or buildings?
- Are there systems to detect intruders (e.g., patrols, video surveillance)?
- Are there alarm systems?
- Is access to the critical areas controlled?

Do not, however, include details of the security systems in your emergency plan, because it is available to the general public.

Public works facilities and workers will assume a support role, if so requested by State and local agencies. This support role might include damage assessment, debris clearance, search and rescue, traffic control, restoration of lifeline systems, building inspection, provision of potable water and sanitation services, and flood control.

For more information on site security, read CEPPPO's Chemical Safety Alerts *Chemical Accident Prevention: Site Security* (EPA K-550-F00-002) and *Anhydrous Ammonia Theft* (EPA-F-00-005), available at www.epa.gov/ceppo/p-small.htm#alerts.

Mitigation Procedures and Ongoing Assessment

Mitigation procedures and ongoing assessment involve consequence management activities to assess and protect the public from further exposure to hazards presented by terrorist activities. Public health officials, hazmat teams, coroners and/or medical examiners, and criminal investigators should work together to mitigate residual hazards as well as identify potentially large

numbers of fatalities. Federal assistance should be available to support this task. Ongoing assessment activities may include environmental sampling of air, water, and soil, and insect and animal screening for chemical, biological, or radiological agents.

The criminal investigation of a terrorist attack will be a joint effort that includes many agencies. In the event of a biological attack, an epidemiological investigation may also be performed to assess the distribution of cases and sources of outbreak. The emergency plan could include a checklist of basic questions to ask when conducting interviews with victims in hospitals, sick officers, and other individuals in affected population groups. (It may be necessary to train people in how to ask such questions appropriately in stressful circumstances.)

Equipment

Your emergency response plan should include standard operating procedures on when to use specialized WMD response equipment. Local responders should be trained to use, maintain, and calibrate this specialized equipment. The Department of Justice's Office for State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support (OSLDPS) provides equipment grants and technical assistance to eligible communities. Visit their website at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/terrorism/funding.htm> for more information and grant application kits.

Training

The 1996 Nunn-Lugar-Domenici (NLD) legislation authorized funding to form a Domestic Preparedness (DP) training initiative. This initiative was recently transferred from DOD to the Department of Justice (DOJ), and includes a range of specialized courses, from basic awareness to discipline-specific advanced level training and exercises.

Training is available for identified cities and is directed at a broad spectrum of emergency responders from a variety of response disciplines, including fire, hazardous materials, law enforcement, emergency medical services, public health, emergency management, and public works. Additional advanced level courses involving the use of real-time experiences, live agents, and explosives are taught at cutting edge training facilities.

The NLD DP Program also includes three exercises: a chemical weapons tabletop, a biological weapons tabletop, and a chemical weapons full-scale exercise. Both types of exercises allow participants to test their knowledge and training, as well as increase the overall preparedness of responders across the jurisdiction.

FEMA independently offers the following:

- Course materials on WMD and preparedness and response for terrorist incidents that can be downloaded from www.fema.gov/emi/termng.htm.
- A terrorism consequence management course at their Mount Weather Emergency Assistance Center. Contact the training officer in your State Training Office of Emergency Services for information on course schedules and application procedures. A list of offices and contact information is located at www.fema.gov/emi/sttrgo.htm.
- Information on the Incident Command System (ICS) training conducted by each State Training Office of Emergency Services. Visit www.fema.gov/emi/nrcrs.htm for more details.
- In conjunction with the National Fire Academy, an independent study course in emergency response to terrorism, located at www.fema.gov/emi/crslist.htm.

RESOURCES

LEPCs seeking assistance in terrorism-related emergency planning should begin with their SERCs. The SERC can direct LEPCs to appropriate assistance at the national and State level, and may be able to facilitate LEPCs in a given region working together to address possible terrorist activities.

There are currently many Federal agencies involved in some aspect of counter-terrorism. Many of these agencies support websites. Because of the continual changes in the world of CT, however, many websites become outdated or are even discontinued without warning. Therefore, we recommend that LEPCs consult EPA's Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO) website at www.epa.gov/ceppo/cntr-ter.html. This address is updated every two months and includes the latest links to the following types of information: Federal departments and agencies, health and medical, technical information and resources, and international sources.

For More Information:

Contact the EPCRA Hotline at:

(800) 424-9346 or (703) 412-9810

TDD (800) 553-7672

Monday - Friday, 9 AM to 6 PM, EST

Visit the CEPPO Home Page at:

www.epa.gov/ceppo/

Table 1 Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Definitions, Consequences, and Response Difficulties			
Type of WMD	Definition (according to Title 18, USC 2332a)	Consequences	Response Difficulties
Explosives	Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket ... missile ... mine or device similar to the above	Deaths, injuries, damaged structures	Similar to that of other explosions and large fires
Chemical	Poison gas, blister gas	Deaths, injuries, possible contamination, possible long-term effects	Similar to accidents planned for in current LEPC emergency response plan, but could be more extensive in effect (e.g., VX release in a crowded convention center or school)
Biological	Any weapon involving a disease organism	Deaths, injuries, contamination, long-term, far-reaching geographic effects	Agents may be unknown; Locations may vary and multiply as people travel
Nuclear	Any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life	Deaths, injuries, contamination, possible long-term, far-reaching effects	Similar to that of other explosions and large fires plus radiation; could have long-term far-reaching effects