

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS / ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PLAN

**See also:** Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, “Emergency Support Function (ESF) 10: Hazardous Material,” Appendix X to the “Basic Plan” in the [State of Rhode Island Emergency Operations Plan](#) (2004).

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Participants			
State of RI	Local	Federal	NGO
Office of the Governor	Fire Service	NRC	RI Assoc. of Fire Chiefs
DEM* (Lead State Agency)	Police	RRT 1	Hospitals
HEALTH	LERC	USCG	RI Red Cross
RI EMA	Wastewater Treatment	EPA	EDC
RI State Police	Water Department	DOE	Industry
State Fire Marshal			RP
DOT			P&W
RIPTA			Cleanup Contractors
Statewide Planning			RIRRC
National Guard			The News Media
MHRH			Volunteers
RIHPHC and NITHPC			Special Interests

## I. INTRODUCTION

A. Emergency Support Function 10 (ESF 10) directs State response to incidents that entail exposure to a hazardous substance.

B. Hazardous substances are materials that present an imminent danger to the health, safety, and welfare of the public or to the environment. They include harmful chemical, biological, or radioactive agents. Exposure can occur when hazardous substances are released into the environment, whether by natural happenstance or human action, by accident, negligence, or intent.

C. The Lead Agency for ESF 10 – The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) – has developed a detailed *Emergency Response Plan* (RI DEM ERP) for a full range of environmental emergencies, including releases of radioactive or hazardous materials (HazMat). Support agencies should also maintain detailed plans for their roles in ESF 10.

D. Local, State, and Federal agencies that participate in ESF 10 are subject to the Incident Command System (ICS). The body of the Rhode Island Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) and its appendices define the role of each of these agencies in ICS and in leading or supporting State Emergency Support Functions.

E. Under some circumstances – when their assessments of the specific incident or responsibilities diverge – agencies that participate in ESF 10 may operate both in parallel and in unison. For example, local first responders (fire &/or police) are mainly responsible for public safety within one jurisdiction; DEM responders are also responsible for environmental protection statewide, even during an emergency. Hence, for ESF 10 local and DEM responders will be operational partners – working together under a single Command, but State and Federal regulations also require that DEM oversee some of those very same operations. This dual role of DEM – (1) to serve ICS under Unified Command and (2) to oversee ICS actions for which DEM has responsibility – is likely for ESF 10, when hazardous substances are involved (see “Authorities” below). Likewise, incidents involving military hazardous materials may come under the supervision of both ICS and the appropriate military authority. Through Unified Command participating local, State, and Federal agencies will aim to coordinate parallel and integrated operations.

F. This Appendix to the RI EOP is intended to promote coordination among Federal, State and local governments and the private sector, consistent with existing authorities and procedures. It is particularly aimed to meet statutory planning requirements of the Federal Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA Title III).

## II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

### A. Disaster Situations

1. Fixed facilities that use, produce, generate, or store hazardous substances are located throughout Rhode Island. They include manufacturing and chemical plants, tank farms, laboratories, and waste disposal sites. Natural and manmade disasters could overwhelm preexisting measures to prevent or contain releases at these sites.

Information about hazardous materials is maintained by each facility that has or uses quantities specified in SARA Title III. The type and location of hazardous materials, vulnerabilities, adjacent facilities, and evacuation routes are included. This information is reported to the local fire department and collected by RI EMA as well as the Rhode Island Department of Labor.

2. Hazardous substances are transported daily within and through the State of Rhode Island via truck (particularly on Interstate Highways I-95, I-195 and I-295), rail, aircraft, ship, and pipeline. Transporters of hazardous materials or hazardous waste are regulated and barred from particularly vulnerable routes (e.g., near reservoirs along Route 6), but they are vulnerable to accidents, natural disasters, and terrorism.

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) mandate that transporters carry appropriate shipping papers:

- a bill of lading;
- a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS);
- for hazardous waste, a US EPA Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest.

Information on Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) freight is available from CHEMTREC, 24 hours a day at (800) 424-9300.

3. Terrorists could use weapons of mass destruction (WMD) that expose the public and the environment to harmful biological, chemical, or radioactive agents.

### B. Planning Assumptions

1. Exposure to &/or release of hazardous substances may present a grave threat to the public's health, safety and welfare and to the environment. Great effort will be required to assess, mitigate, and remediate its effects.

2. Accidental or intentional exposure to hazardous substances may occur at any time, and a major disaster (e.g., flood or WMD incident) is apt to entail several sources of exposure, simultaneously endangering diverse sites.

3. Emergency air and sea as well as ground transit may be necessary for damage reconnaissance and the movement of response personnel and equipment to the site of a release.

4. Emergency transport and disposal of contaminated materials may require exceptional permits, licenses, or exemptions.
- 5 Standard communications equipment and practices may be disrupted or destroyed.
- 6 Facilities outside but near the site of an exposure may require monitoring.
- 7 Local and State emergency responders should expect to be self-sufficient in the first hours of an incident. But a major exposure is apt to surpass quickly the capacity of first responders. Personnel and equipment will need backup and relief.
- 8 In protecting the public and the environment from hazardous exposures, State and Federal government share responsibility for providing response capabilities that are beyond the capabilities of Local Government.

### III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

#### A. INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF HAZMAT EMERGENCIES

##### 1. Principles

- a. Timely, detailed, and accurate information is critical for an effective response to a hazardous substance emergency. Any news of an actual or potential exposure in RI – even an anonymous call – is normally sufficient to initiate response per this Appendix.
- b. Local, State, and Federal response agencies must receive immediate notification whenever an exposure poses a significant threat to public health, safety, and welfare or to the environment. The more severe the incident, the more intensely higher levels of government will be involved. (More specific conditions for notification of particular State and Federal agencies are outlined in Attachments 1 and 2 to this Appendix.)
- b. Key agencies at each level – Local (public safety officers), State (DEM, Fire Marshal, HEALTH, RI EMA), and Federal (NRC) – shall be ready to receive and respond to emergency calls, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

##### 2. Procedures for notification of lead and support agencies

- a. Anyone who knows that
  - *a hazardous substance has been released,*
  - *an exposure has occurred, or*
  - *a release or exposure is likely to occur*shall immediately notify DEM and the National Response Center (NRC):

DEM Emergency Response (*anytime, any release*)

Weekdays, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM –

**(401) 222-1360**

After-hours, weekends, holidays –

**(401) 222-3070 or 800-498-1336**

National Response Center (NRC) (*anytime, any release*)

24/7: **800-424-8802**

b. This notification policy applies to the responsible party and first responders for releases of any kind or amount.

c. Notification of DEM and NRC shall include, insofar as possible:

- Who you are:
  - Your name, title, address, and phone number?
  - The name, address, and phone number of the responsible party (if known)?
- Where the incident happened:
  - City or town?
  - Street address, nearest intersection, landmark, or lat-long?
- Who is in-charge:
  - Name and title?
  - Location?
  - How might that person be contacted?
- What happened:
  - What hazardous substance was or may be released?
  - How much of it?
  - Are casualties involved?
  - What threats to public health, safety, and welfare seem most pressing?
- When it happened:
  - When did the incident begin?
  - When did you discover it?
- Why it happened:
  - What seems to have caused the release?

d. Most incidents that entail hazardous substances will be first reported directly to DEM (e.g., through its 24-hour hot line) or to a local public safety office (e.g., through the 911 System). The first responder is normally the member of the DEM Office of Emergency Response or of the local fire or police department who was dispatched to the incident.

e. The next round of notifications (if there is to be one) will depend on the type and severity of the incident. (See “Response Levels” and the flow chart below as well as RI DEM ERP and *The Southern New England Fire Emergency Assistance Plan, Mutual Aid Agreement, and Operating Guide*, excerpted in Attachment 3 to this Appendix.)

(1) If the incident is minor (Level 1), no notification of State agencies (beyond DEM) is necessary. With DEM oversight, the Responsible Party &/or local public safety officers will mitigate and remediate the release.

(2) If the incident is moderate or severe (Level 2 or 3),

(a) The Incident Commander (normally the ranking on-scene fire officer) will notify DEM and RI EMA and follow appropriate Mutual-aid communication protocols.

(See Attachment 3: Mutual Aid in RI.)

(b) DEM &/or RI EMA will notify other appropriate support agencies.

(See Attachment 1: DEM Notifications.)

f. If/when Unified Command is established, further notifications and communications among participating agencies will be administered through ICS.

#### B. EMERGENCY RESPONSE LEVELS

**Response Level 1** – Controlled Emergency Condition, for a minor incident.

**Response Level 2** – Limited Emergency Condition, for a moderate incident.

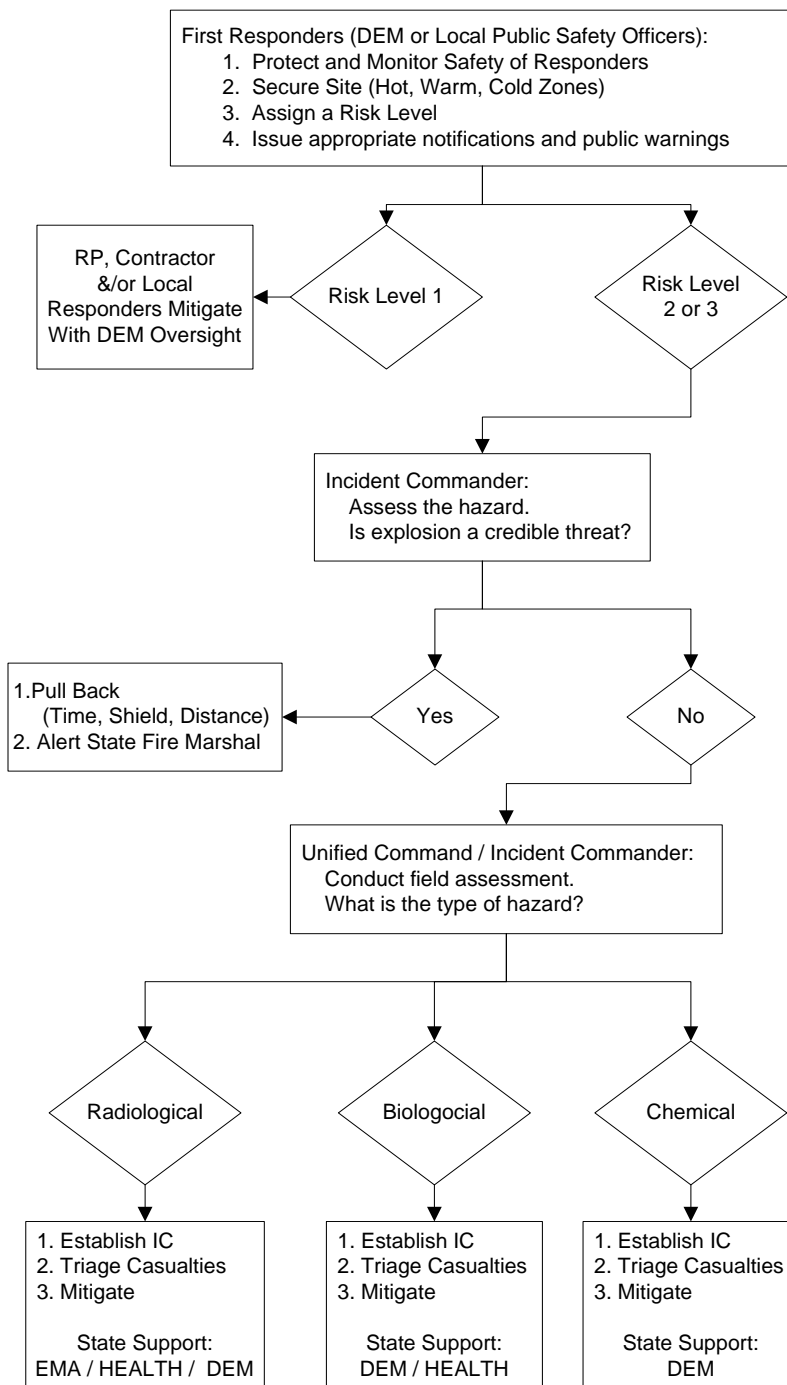
**Response Level 3** – Full Emergency Condition, for a severe incident.

	Response Level 1	Response Level 2	Response Level 3
<b>THREAT:</b> Does the incident significantly threaten the health and safety of the public or the environment?	No.	No, but likely if conditions worsen.	Yes.
<b>SCOPE:</b> How far will impacts extend?	Confined to one area.	Likely to extend beyond the immediate area and jurisdiction of the release.	Affects a large area and several jurisdictions.
<b>EVACUATION:</b> Is evacuation necessary beyond the hot zone?	No.	Likely no more than limited evacuation of nearby residents or facilities.	Yes, major community evacuation is necessary.
<b>SCALE:</b> How large and complex is the emergency response?	With DEM oversight the responsible party &/or first responders can control the incident.	Emergency operations span several disciplines.	Emergency operations entail extensive management of resources from several disciplines and agencies.
<b>SUPPORT:</b> Will support agencies participate?	No. DEM, RP, &/or local first responders suffice.	Possibly. Teams from support agencies report to the on-scene command post.	Yes. Specialists or technical teams from support agencies are deployed.
<b>COMMAND:</b> Who is in charge of emergency response?	On-scene Incident Commander.	Unified command at Command Post.	Unified Command. at Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

### C. ON-SCENE RESPONSE OPERATIONS

1. First responders must assess the situation for its potential danger to the safety and health of the surrounding population.
2. If appropriate, law enforcement agencies will immediately establish a security zone.
3. The Incident Commander shall maintain, increase, or decrease the Response Level as more senior officers arrive and as more information becomes available.

4. Flow-chart of initial emergency response.



For technical support contact information, see Attachment 1: [DEM Notifications and Support](#) (6-1-A).



5. If public warnings are appropriate, Unified Command &/or the Incident Commander will direct RI EMA to alert people within the risk area. (See Appendix for ESF 2: Communications.)
6. Unified Command &/or the Incident Commander will decide whether evacuation or shelter in place is appropriate. When appropriate, the IC will set the scope and routes of evacuation. (See Appendices for ESF 1: Transportation and ESF 13: Security and Law Enforcement.)

#### D. Response Organization

##### 1. Incident Command System (ICS)

- Unified Command will be established to manage emergency response when more than one State agency participates. (See body of EOP.)
- Members of Unified Command will be selected to suit the kind of incident and the jurisdictions involved. In Rhode Island, Unified Command for response to exposure hazards will normally include representatives of:
  - Local Public Safety Offices (Fire &/or Police)
  - DEM
  - RI EMA
  - The principal Responsible Party (RP)
- Substitutions or additions may occur as information and the incident develop.

##### 2. Safety

- Rhode Island first responders are trained to recognize hazardous substances and to withdraw to a safe distance until appropriate personnel arrive.
- Only properly trained and protected personnel may enter the hot zone of an incident.
- When the ICS Safety Officer judges activities or conditions to be unsafe, the Safety Officer shall have the authority to alter, suspend, or terminate those activities.
- The Safety Officer shall immediately inform IC of any action taken to correct hazards at an emergency scene.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

##### **ALL TASKED AGENCIES**

- Attend briefings and coordinate activities with other response participants.
- When requested by IC, report for deployment.
- Report resource requirements to IC or ICS logistics unit.
- Maintain logs of activities and expenditures.

- Monitor safety of individual employees.
- Maintain records of safety of employees, especially in regard to protective measures, exposure to hazardous substances or response-related injuries, and subsequent treatment.
- Provide documentation of agency costs.

## STATE

### Office of the Governor.

As the highest elected official, the Governor of Rhode Island is ultimately responsible for the protection of lives and property in an emergency or disaster situation. By law, the Governor has the authority to direct all emergency operations within the State, including authority to:

- Declare a state of emergency for the State to commandeer private property;
- Direct and compel the evacuation of all or any part of the State;
- To control transit to and from a disaster area;
- Suspend rules and regulations.

Additional powers may be found in RI General Law Chapter 30. Title 15.

The line of succession in Rhode Island is as follows:

1. Governor
2. Lieutenant Governor
3. President of the Senate Pro-tem

In a hazardous substance emergency, the Governor may:

- Issue the necessary Executive Orders, proclamations, and regulations.
- Serve as the highest ranking spokesperson for the State.
- Inform the public what has happened and how the State is responding.

The Governor's Legal Counsel:

- Ensure that actions taken by the State are based upon adequate legal foundations.
- During a major incident (Level 2 or 3), be represented at the EOC to provide legal advice on emergency policy decisions.
- Assist in writing emergency executive orders.

DEM -- Lead State Agency for ESF 10.

Generally:

- Coordinate the State's response to hazardous substance emergencies.
- Provide technical assistance for the identification, containment, removal, and disposal of hazardous substances.
- Monitor emergency response operations that are subject to State environmental regulations.
- Issue appropriate State permits for emergency response operations.
- Assist local first responders on-scene.

Within DEM:

Office of the Director:

- Coordinate with IC, especially with ESF 7 (Resource Support) for effective deployment of DEM personnel and equipment.
- Execute emergency orders as necessary.
- Provide the State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC). This individual will act as a liaison to DEM and possess authority to commit other DEM resources, as the need arises.

Office of Emergency Response

- Prepare and maintain plans for environmental emergencies.
- Provide leadership for ESF 10.
- Maintain a team, available 24 hours a day to respond to emergencies that entail exposure of a hazardous substance anywhere in RI.

Office of Communications and Media Relations:

- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning) to develop and distribute press releases and to respond to public inquiries.

Office of Technical and Customer Assistance:

- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning) to post press releases and to respond to public inquiries.

Division of Law Enforcement:

- Coordinate with ESF 13 (Security and Law Enforcement) and ESF 9 (Search and Rescue).
- Provide sworn law enforcement officers to assist with site security.
- Assist with enforcement of regulations for which DEM is responsible.

Office of Criminal Investigation:

- Coordinate with ESF 13 (Security and Law Enforcement).
- Provide sworn law enforcement officers to assist with site security.
- Assist with investigation of potential violations of regulations for which DEM is responsible.

Office of Legal Services:

- Coordinate with ESF 13 (Security and Law Enforcement).
- Provide legal advice and draft &/or vet emergency actions of DEM.
- Assist with the process of assessment of damages to the State and its Natural Resources.

Office of Compliance and Inspection:

- Support discovery of violations of regulations for which DEM is responsible.

- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to support development of remediation plans.
- Assist with assessment of damages to the State's natural resources.
- Support Office of Emergency Response.

Office of Waste Management:

- Assist with assessment and monitoring of debris and hazardous waste.
- Upon request, help identify resources at risk.
- Coordinate with ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering).
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to identify appropriate methods and standards for cleanup.
- Provide appropriate permits for emergency movement, storage, or disposal of debris or hazardous waste.
- Assist with assessment of damages to the State's natural resources (e.g. subsurface contamination).
- Support Office of Emergency Response.

Office of Water Resources:

- Assist with assessment and monitoring of water quality.
- Upon request, help identify resources at risk.
- Coordinate with ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering), especially to help local governments protect or restore water and wastewater treatment in the impacted area.
- Coordinate with ESF 11 (Food and Water), especially to provide a temporary, alternative source of drinking water (e.g., bottled or purified water) to households with potable wells that have been or are likely to be contaminated through exposure to a hazardous substance.
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to support development of appropriate remediation plans.
- Assist with assessment of damages to the State's natural resources (e.g. water pollution).
- Support Office of Emergency Response.

Office of Air Resources:

- Assist with assessment and monitoring of air quality for responders and the public.
- Coordinate with ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering).
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to support development of remediation plans.
- Upon request, help identify resources at risk.
- Provide appropriate permits for emergency burns (e.g., disposal of oily waste, in-situ burning of oil at sea, or solid waste and debris after a natural disaster).
- Assist with assessment of damages and injuries to the State's natural resources (e.g. air pollution).
- Support Office of Emergency Response.

Office of Management Services:

- Coordinate with ESF 7 (Resource Support).
- Support documentation and accounting services for response equipment and personnel.
- Assist with assessment of damages to the State and its natural resources.

Management Information Systems:

- Coordinate with ESF 7 (Resource Support).
- Provide Geographic Information support (GIS).

Office of Human Resources:

- Coordinate with ESF 7 (Resource Support).
- Support recruitment and tracking of personnel who participate in incident response.

Division of Forest Environment:

- Secure Division properties and facilities (State Forests).
- Coordinate with ESF 4 (Firefighting) and ESF 9 (Search and Rescue), if the incident occurs in woodlands.
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to protect State properties during clean up (e.g., design operations to minimize damage).
- Upon request, help identify resources at risk.
- Seek appropriate emergency permits to allow for earth-moving or construction projects on Division properties.
- Assist with removal of debris on Division property in the impacted areas.
- Monitor emergency operations on Division property.
- Assist with assessment of damages to State properties (e.g., lost forest and recreational use).

Division of Parks and Recreation:

- Secure Division properties and facilities (parks and beaches).
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to protect State properties during clean up (e.g., adjust operations to minimize damage).
- Upon request, help identify resources at risk.
- Seek appropriate emergency permits to allow for earth-moving or construction projects on Division properties.
- Assist with removal of debris on Division property in the impacted areas.
- Monitor emergency operations on Division property.
- Assist with assessment of damages to State properties (e.g., lost facilities and recreational use).

Division of Coastal Resources:

- Secure Division properties and facilities (State piers).

- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to protect State properties during cleanup (e.g., design operations to minimize damage).
- Seek appropriate emergency permits to allow for dredging or construction projects on Division properties.
- Assist with removal of debris on Division property in the impacted areas.
- Monitor emergency operations on Division property.
- Assist with assessment of damages to State properties (e.g., lost facilities and recreational use).

#### Division of Fish and Wildlife:

- Secure Division properties and facilities.
- Coordinate with ESF 10 (Animal Protection).
- Upon request, help identify resources at risk.
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to advise how operations might minimize risk to wildlife.
- Coordinate with the appropriate Federal and State authorities to ensure the proper protection (e.g., hazing), capture, cleaning, and rehabilitation of affected wildlife, as well as, all other wildlife under the Division's jurisdiction.
- Assist with removal of debris on Division property in the impacted area.
- Monitor emergency projects on Division property.
- Assist with assessment of damages to the State's natural resources (e.g., loss of habitat and casualties among wildlife, loss of recreational use).

#### Division of Agriculture:

- Provide leadership for ESF 16 (Animal Protection).
- Upon request, help identify agricultural resources at risk.
- Assist with protection, diagnosis, treatment, euthanasia, or disposal of livestock that are or are likely to be contaminated, infected, injured, or killed by exposure to a hazardous substance.
- Provide technical assistance for pesticide related incidents.
- When necessary, provide emergency deliveries of bulk potable water to agricultural sites.
- Assist with assessment of damages to agriculture in RI.

#### RI Department of Health (HEALTH)

- Upon request, help identify and assess risks to public health (e.g., biological agents, medical waste, water or seafood contamination).
- Serve as lead State Agency for ESF 8 (Health and Medical Services).
- With RI EMA, serve as co-lead State agency for all radiological incidents.
- Provide the resources of the HEALTH Laboratory to assess and monitor water and food quality (e.g., analyze samples that are suspected of biological or chemical contamination).
- Coordinate with ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering), especially to help local governments protect or restore water and wastewater treatment in the impacted area.

- Coordinate with ESF 11 (Food and Water), especially to provide a temporary, alternative source of drinking water (e.g., bottled or purified water) to households with potable wells that have been or are likely to be contaminated through exposure to a hazardous substance.
- Provide health-related statements to the public.
- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to support development of appropriate remediation plans.
- Help assess damages to the public health and medical assets of the State.

#### RI Emergency Management Agency (RI EMA):

- Serve as lead State agency for ESFs 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, and 17.
- With HEALTH, serve as co-lead State agency for all radiological incidents.
- Have on hand and up-to-date:
  - evacuation plan,
  - list of shelters,
  - list of special populations,
  - list of facilities with extremely hazardous substances.
- Issue warnings and alerts when directed to do so by the Incident Commander, State Manager, Governor, or their designated representatives.
- Administer evacuations.
- Provide communications and coordination among adjacent jurisdictions.
- Coordinate response from other State and Federal agencies, such as State Police, National Weather Service, FEMA, EPA.
- Request assistance from the Federal Regional Response Team (RRT 1) when the incident exceeds capabilities of State and local resources.

#### RI State Police:

- Protect the safety of first responders.
- Serve as lead State agency for ESF 13 (Security and Law Enforcement).
- Coordinate with ESF 9 (Search and Rescue).
- Provide traffic supervision and control for State roads adversely affected by a hazardous substance exposure.
- Upon request of IC, provide vehicle escort service for transit of over-sized containment &/or cleanup equipment on State roads.

#### RI State Fire Marshal

- With DEM, serve as lead State agency for ESF 4 (Firefighting).
- Assume responsibility for response to bombs (explosive or incendiary devices).
- Serve as SERC Coordinator.

#### RI Dept of Transportation (DOT):

- Serve as lead State agency for ESF 1 (Transportation) and ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering).
- When requested by the Incident Commander, arrange transportation for evacuees.
- Assess the effects of the incident on public roads.

- Coordinate and assist with the containment and cleanup of any discharge that occurs on a State-maintained road or right-of-way. (e.g., assist with the delivery of bulk absorbents).
- When required, provide a person to represent DOT and act as a link to the IC during the incident.
- Determine load variances on State roads to assist with the movement of heavy cleanup equipment.
- Assist in the construction of dams, dikes, or ditches to contain or control a release.
- Assist in the decontamination of personnel, equipment, and the environment.
- Provide barricades for traffic control.
- Transport fuel for emergency vehicles at the scene of a long-term incident.

RI Statewide Planning Department:

- Collect information necessary for the development of site-specific contingency plans (e.g., population demographics, sensitive environmental data, and topography).
- Through the RI Geographic Information System (RIGIS), provide geographic information, including maps and aerial photographs, to the Incident Commander for use in decision making during an emergency.

RI National Guard:

- Serve as lead State Agency for ESF 14 (Military Support).
- Upon request of the Governor, provide staff, logistical support, and equipment (e.g., water tankers and tractors) for containment or cleanup operations.

RI Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals (MHRH)

- Serve as lead State Agency for ESF 15 (Mental Health).
- Upon request, help identify populations and facilities at risk.
- Upon request, provide support for mental health of responders (e.g., stress management).
- Support victims and families, as needed.
- Help assess damages to State assets.

RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) and Narragansett Indian Tribal Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (NITHPC)

- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to advise Unified Command or the Incident Commander how to minimize risk to heritage sites.

## **LOCAL**

The DEM Office of Emergency Response works closely with RI town and city governments during an incident. Since local public safety organizations are generally the first government representatives at the scene of an exposure, they would be expected to initiate public safety



measures necessary to protect public health and welfare. These responsibilities include directing evacuations, fire suppression, and hazardous material support where available, identification of staging areas for drums or contaminated debris, and arranging disposal of abandoned containers that contain non-hazardous waste.

Local Fire Service:

- Protect and monitor safety of first responders (e.g., keep up wind, up-grade, and at a safe distance).
- Provide the local Incident Commander (ranking officer on-scene) to coordinate actions to stabilize the situation.
- When possible in consultation with DEM, establish the incident category and ensure that dispatch issues appropriate notifications.
- In consultation with DEM, determine the type and hazard of material involved.
- Provide a situation report to fire dispatch, and updates as needed.
- Establish a command post, staging area, agency response area, security perimeter, and hot zone. Identify these locations for other responding agencies.
- Through the State EOC, coordinate with ESF 4 (Firefighting), ESF 13 (Security and Law Enforcement), ESF 6 (Mass Care), and ESF 5 (Information and Planning).
- Take appropriate action to mitigate the hazards, stabilize the situation, rescue any injured or trapped persons (without exposing first responders unnecessarily to hazardous substances), or evacuate the area.
- Request additional support agencies (e.g., Mutual Aid) as needed.
- When appropriate set up unified command with DEM and other relevant agencies.
- Establish or support triage operations, as needed.
- Provide or support medical attention (EMS) to the sick and injured on-scene.
- Arrange or support transport of sick and injured to medical care facilities. Alert hospitals about the expected number and nature of casualties.
- Standby on- scene as long the situation remains unstable.
- Conduct decontamination as required upon the advice of DEM.

Local Police:

- Protect and monitor safety of first responders (e.g., keep up wind, up-grade, and at a safe distance).
- Through the State EOC, coordinate with ESF 13 (Security and Law Enforcement), ESF 9 (Search and Rescue), and ESF 5 (Information and Planning).
- In coordination with IC, establish a perimeter around the exposure site, allowing no unauthorized persons into the area.
- In coordination with IC, establish a coordination access point for all to enter and exit.
- Provide security and crowd control within the affected area.
- Provide traffic supervision and control for local roads adversely affected by a hazardous substance exposure.
- Request additional support agencies, as needed.

- Upon request of IC, provide vehicle escort service.
- Provide interpreters for emergency public notification announcements.
- As necessary or as direct by the IC, conduct evacuations of the area at risk. (Law enforcement officers will not be used in the hot zone. They do not have the protective clothing and equipment to operate safely in these areas.)
- Provide a Liaison Officer to the command post who can commit department resources to incident response.
- Develop traffic flows for area and provide this information to the Liaison Officer.

Local Wastewater Treatment Agency:

- Coordinate with ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering).
- Assess the risk to sewer and drainage systems and methods to prevent their contamination.
- Take necessary steps to protect sewer and drainage systems, and if unsuccessful, to oversee decontamination and cleanup.
- Assist in evaluation of potential impact on public health and safety if contamination occurs.
- During emergency response, ensure compliance with local laws, codes, and regulations with regard to hazardous materials, sewers, and the environment.

Local Water Department:

- Coordinate with ESF 3 (Public Works and Engineering).
- Assess the risk to local water systems and methods to prevent their contamination.
- Take necessary steps to protect water systems, and if unsuccessful, to oversee decontamination and cleanup.
- Assist in evaluation of potential impact on public health and safety if contamination occurs.
- During emergency response, ensure compliance with local laws, codes, and regulations with regard to hazardous materials, water systems, and the environment.

## **FEDERAL**

The DEM Office of Emergency Response works closely with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) to assure all emergency incidents involving pollutants and hazardous materials are investigated and remediated properly.

National Response Center (NRC)

- Receive and relay emergency notifications to relevant State, regional, and Federal authorities.

Regional Response Team for EPA Region 1 (RRT 1)

- Provide advice and recommend courses of action to the Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC).
- Advise the FOSC on the scale (duration and geographic extent) of the Federal response.
- Monitor and evaluate reports from the FOSC.
- Advise the FOSC of State regulatory standards, noting conflicts or concerns under State jurisdiction.
- Advise the FOSC on disposal options.
- Advise the FOSC on the use of chemical dispersants.
- Identify State resources at risk.

#### U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

- In accordance with the National Contingency Plan (NCP), the USCG, through the Captain of the Port - Providence, shall be responsible for developing and maintaining a Federal local contingency plan for the Providence port and harbor area.
- The USCG shall be responsible for furnishing the pre-designated FOSC for all discharges of oil and hazardous substances that result from a vessel-casualty or vessel-transfer activity in the Providence area.
- If local and State resources are insufficient to control the danger that the emergency poses to the public or environment, the USCG may assign a FOSC who has authority under CFR 40 part 300.400 to take whatever actions are necessary to protect the public welfare and the environment. In this case, the FOSC, SOSC, and the local Incident Commander will work as a Unified Command and respond to the emergency in a coordinated manner.

#### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- Upon request of Unified Command &/or the Incident Commander, provide technical support for emergency response to an oil spill or release of other hazardous substances.
- Serve as FOSC for emergency response to an inland discharge of oil or other hazardous materials

#### U.S. Department of Energy

- Upon request of Unified Command &/or the Incident Commander, provide support for emergency response to a radiological incident.

### **NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)**

#### RI Association of Fire Chiefs, Inc.

- Maintain the system of Mutual Aid in RI. (See Attachment 3: Mutual Aid in RI.)
- Coordinate with ESF 4 (Firefighting) and ESF 7 (Resource Support) to maximize safe and effective deployment of Mutual Aid communications, HazMat, and decon assets.

- Coordinate with regional mutual aid assets (e.g., see *Southern New England Fire Emergency Assistance Plan*.)

#### Hospitals

- Coordinate with ESF 6 (Mass Care).
- Receive and provide appropriate care to people who are sick or injured in a hazardous exposure emergency.
- Support EMS with instructions for specialized treatment of casualties on-scene, as needed.

#### RI Red Cross

- Coordinate with ESF 6 (Mass Care), ESF 11 (Food and Water), and ESF 15 (Volunteers and Donations).
- Upon request from Local Communities or the State, open congregate care shelters for evacuees.
- Establish feeding for evacuees in conjunction with congregate care shelters.
- Establish rapid protective procedures within each shelter.
- For long-term incidents, upon request, provide canteen service on-scene for response personnel.
- Upon request, provide a liaison to IC to represent the RI Red Cross.

#### RI Economic Development Commission (EDC)

- Coordinate with ESF 5 (Information and Planning), especially to advise Unified Command or the Incident Commander how to minimize risk to RI businesses.
- Help locate temporary lodging (e.g., motel rooms) for emergency responders, as needed.
- Seek and coordinate delivery of emergency economic services (e.g., expedited small business loans, unemployment compensation, or food stamps for enterprises that a hazardous release endangers).

#### Industry

- Facilities that store Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS, defined by SARA Title III) above the threshold planning quantity must name an employee to be its Facility Emergency Coordinator.
- The Facility Emergency Coordinator must participate in the community's planning process.
- Under Section 311/312 of SARA Title III, facilities must annually submit chemical inventory information to the SERC, LERC, and local fire department.
- Facilities that do not have EHS on-site but that do have materials that, if released, would present a risk to the community are requested to participate in the community planning process.
- A facility that is not involved in an incident may, at the request of State or local government, provide assistance (e.g., equipment or technical knowledge) in mitigating the effects of an actual or threatened release of a hazardous material. The hazardous waste cleanup good Samaritan act (RI

General Laws 23-19.8) provides that any person or facility that provides such assistance shall not be subject to civil liabilities or penalties.

#### The Responsible Party (RP)

State law requires that persons who discharges a pollutant or who knows about such a discharge shall immediately notify DEM and undertake to contain, remove, and abate the discharge to the satisfaction of DEM. State and Federal laws require that the RP be given the opportunity to conduct cleanup operations before State funds are expended, as time and circumstances allow. If the RP fails to initiate adequate cleanup measures, DEM &/or Federal agencies may assume containment and removal authority. The RP will be required to reimburse the State &/or Federal agency for all expenses and damages. Whenever a major discharge is associated with drilling, pumping, storing, handling, refining, processing, transferring, shipping, or marketing of a pollutant or hazardous substance, the RP may be invited to participate in ICS. This participation will be limited to one representative from each company involved in the incident. This individual should have the authority to commit the company's equipment, personnel, and resources to the response effort.

#### The Providence and Worcester Railroad Co. (P&W)

P&W provides equipment, personnel, and expertise for HazMat incidents involving rail cars. The P&W HAZMAT Response Team responds from Worcester, MA.

Telephone: 508-755-4000 ext 400 (24 hour number)

#### Cleanup Contractors

Any hazardous substance cleanup organization that has been contracted by either the potential responsible party(ies) or by the Federal/State authority is encouraged to attend meetings of Incident Command, as applicable. Participation will be limited to one representative from each contracted cleanup organization.

#### Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC)

Upon request of Unified Command &/or the Incident Commander, RIRRC will support the appropriate disposal of debris or waste associated with the incident.

#### The News Media

DEM will work closely with the news media to ensure that factual information is released to the public in a timely manner. DEM representatives shall restrict comments to the environmental effects and to corrective actions within DEM's jurisdiction. They should not discuss information pertaining to other aspects of the incident, such as fire fighting tactics, criminal investigations, or public health implications. During an emergency response, all participating agencies will follow established public communications procedures as outlined in the DEM ERP, the body of the State EOP, and the National Contingency Plan.

#### Volunteers

DEM may utilize the services of organized volunteers for assignments appropriate to their training or skills. IC will focus volunteered resources and assure that they do not hinder cleanup or remedial activities. Under no circumstance will volunteers be exposed to danger.

#### Special Interests

Industry, academic organizations, and special interest groups are encouraged to commit technical and scientific information during response operations. Each group will be expected to work within the established procedures and command structure of the Incident Commander, Unified Command, or RRT, as appropriate.

### V. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

The State of Rhode Island should use those resources for emergency response that under State control prior to accessing other assets. State agencies will provide logistical support to responding agencies within the capabilities of their resources. For major incidents, the RI EMA may activate the State's disaster response mechanism (the EOC) to address resource shortfalls.

### VI. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. This plan must be reviewed annually by the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, in consultation with all involved agencies. Attention must be given to maintaining current:

- Resource lists.
- List of facilities that are known to use or store hazardous substances, and descriptions of transportation routes.
- Names and phone numbers of agencies, personnel, and representatives included in this plan and related laws.

B. This plan must be exercised on an annual basis, as coordinated by the RI EMA. Exercises should be preceded with some degree of training and must be documented. A critique of the exercise must indicate specific areas of the plan requiring updating or improvement and must document steps taken toward that end. Response to a major incident may be considered an exercise, provided that a critique follows.

### VII. AUTHORITY

This Appendix is intended to outline general responsibilities and principles of cooperation among lead and support agencies for ESF 10, in accordance with Basic Plan of the RI EOP. It is intended neither to convey nor to restrict the rights of other parties.

Pursuant to R.I. General Laws Chapters 23-17, 23-23, 42-17.1, 46-12, 46-13.1, and 46-14, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management was delegated the power and duty to control, prohibit, and respond to pollution of the air, surface waters, groundwater and lands of the State, and to protect the public health, safety, and welfare

from the effects of releases of hazardous substances. In the event of a disaster, as defined by R.I. General Laws Section 30-15-1 *et seq.*, the emergency powers of DEM will be supplemented, and in some cases superceded, by the emergency powers of the RI EMA. Additionally, in the event of a disaster, the Governor has the authority to issue executive orders, proclamations, and regulations pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Section 30-15-7.

ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY	DESCRIPTION	FEDERAL &/OR STATE STATUTORY AUTHORITY
AGRICULTURE	Authority for the State Veterinarian to quarantine, destroy, and regulate domestic livestock to eradicate disease	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 4-4-1 <i>et seq.</i>
AIR POLLUTION  RI Clean Air Act  The Clean Air Act	Emergency powers for air pollution episode control  Emergency powers to protect air resources and ensure compliance with Federal Clear Air Act	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 23-23.1-1 <i>et seq.</i>  42 USC 7401 <i>et seq.</i>
ANIMALS	Emergency powers for quarantine and eradication of disease in bees	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 4-4-1 <i>et seq.</i>
DAMS AND RESERVOIRS	Emergency powers to drain and order repairs of unsafe dams and reservoirs	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 46-19-1 <i>et seq.</i>
FISH AND WILDLIFE	Authority over fish (including shellfish) and wildlife within the State	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 20-1-1 <i>et seq.</i>
FOREST FIRES	Emergency powers over fire hazards	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 2-12-15
HAZARDOUS WASTE  RI Hazardous Waste Management Act  Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)  Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)  Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), Title III	Emergency powers for the management of hazardous waste  Enables Federal agencies to provide a response to unpermitted releases of hazardous substances to the environment and procedures to remediate those releases. Requirements include Emergency Planning and the Community Right-to-Know Act  Regulates the storage and management of hazardous wastes  The purpose of SARA Title III is to assist the community and responsible public agencies in	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 23-19.1-16  42 U.S.C. 9601 <i>et seq.</i> , CERCLA Section 103E, 103F  42 U.S.C. Section 321 <i>et seq.</i>  42 U.S.C. 9601 <i>et seq.</i> , CERCLA Section 103E, 103F

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)	planning for and responding to hazardous material incidents Regulates the management of chemical substances and mixtures (including PCBs) that present an unreasonable risk of injury to health and the environment	15 U.S.C. Section 2601 <i>et seq.</i>
MEDICAL WASTE	Management of Regulated Waste Act	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 23-19.2-1
OIL SPILLS Oil Pollution Control Act Water Pollution Act Oil Pollution Act of 1990	Emergency powers in connection with discharge of oil Emergency powers in connection with the discharge of pollutants, including petroleum or oil Regulates discharge of oil	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 46-12.5.1-11 R.I. Gen. Laws Section 46-12-10 33 U.S.C. 2702-2761
PLANT PESTS	Powers to control and eradicate disease-infested plants and plant pests	R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 2-16-3 – 2-16-12
PLANT DISEASE AND PARASITES	Powers for regulation, suppression and extermination of plant parasites and diseased plants	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 2-17-1 <i>et seq.</i> Section 2-18-1 <i>et seq.</i> Section 2-18.1 <i>et seq.</i>
SOLID WASTE Refuse Disposal Act	Regulation of refuse disposal	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 23-18.9-1 <i>et seq.</i>
WATER POLLUTION RI Water Pollution The Clean Water Act	Emergency powers to protect water resources Establishes structure for regulation discharges of pollutants into waters	R.I. Gen. Laws Section 46-12-10 33 U.S.C. 1251 <i>et seq.</i>

## VIII. DEFINITIONS

AAR/BOE: Association of American Railroads/Bureau of Explosives.

ACT: Superfund Amendments and Re-authorization Act of 1986.

ATSDR: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (HHS).

BLEVE: Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion.



**BUDDY SYSTEM:** A system of organizing employees into work groups in such a manner that each employee of the group is designated to observe the activities of at least one other employee in the work group.

**BY-PRODUCT:** Material(s) produced or generated in an industrial process in addition to the principal product.

**CAER:** Community Awareness and Emergency Response Program. Developed by the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA). Guidance for chemical plant managers to assist them in taking the initiative in cooperating with local communities to develop integrated (community/industry) hazardous materials response plans).

**CAMEO:** Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations.

**CARCINOGEN:** A substance that causes cancer.

**CD:** Civil Defense (Civil Preparedness)

**CDC:** Centers for Disease Control (HHS).

**CEPP:** Chemical Emergency Preparedness Program. Developed by the U.S. EPA to address accidental releases of acutely toxic chemicals.

**CERCLA:** Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act. A Federal Law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. The Acts created a special tax that goes into a trust fund, commonly known as Superfund, to investigate and clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites.

**CFR:** Code of Federal Regulations.

**CHEMICAL INVENTORY LIST:** A list that indicates the chemicals within a facility that fall under the reporting requirements of Title III.

**CHEMICAL PROCESS:** A particular method of manufacturing or making of a chemical, usually involving a number of steps or operations.

**CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING:** Specialized garments that are designed to protect the wearer from exposure to chemical products.

**CHEMNET:** A mutual aid network of chemical shippers and contractors. CHEMNET has more than 50 participating companies with emergency teams, twenty-three subscribers (who receive services in an incident from a participant and then reimburse response and cleanup costs), and several emergency response contractors. CHEMNET is activated when a member shipper cannot respond promptly to an incident involving that company's product(s) and requiring the presence of a chemical expert. If a member company cannot go to the scene of the incident, the shipper will authorize a CHEMNET-

contracted emergency response company to go. Communications for the network are provided by CHEMTREC, with the shipper receiving notification and details about the incident from the CHEMTREC communicator.

**CHEMTREC:** Chemical Transportation Emergency Center. Operated by the Chemical Manufacturers Association, the center provides information &/or assistance to emergency responders. CHEMTREC contacts the shipper or producer of the material for more detailed information, including on-scene assistance when feasible. Can be reached 24 hours a day by calling 1-800-424-9300. (See also "HIT.")

**CHLOREP:** Chlorine Emergency Plan. Operated by the Chlorine Institute. A 24 hour mutual aid program. Response is activated by a CHEMTREC call to the designated CHLOREP contact, who notifies the appropriate team leader, based on CHLOREP's geographical sector assignments for teams. The team leader in turn calls the emergency caller at the incident scene and determines what advice &/or assistance is needed. The team leader then decides whether or not to dispatch the team to the scene.

**CHRIS/HACS:** Chemical Hazards Response Information System/Hazardous Assessment Computer System. Developed by the USCG, HACS is a computerized model of the four CHRIS manuals that contain chemical-specific data. Federal OSC's use HACS to find answers to specific questions during a chemical spill/response. State and local officials and industry representatives may ask an OSC to request a HACS run for contingency planning purposes.

**CLEANUP:** Actions taken to deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health &/or the environment.

**CMA:** Chemical Manufacturers Association.

**CMED:** Coordinating Medical Emergency Direction.

**COMBUSTION PROCESS:** Materials produced or generated during the burning or oxidation of a material.

**COMMAND POST:** A designated area that is a safe distance upwind from an incident site where the Incident Commander, ON-Scene Coordinator, emergency responders and technical representatives can make emergency decisions, deploy personnel and equipment, maintain liaison with the media, and handle communications.

**COMMISSION:** The State Emergency Response Commission.

**COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN:** A plan which is developed by the local planning committee to assist local communities in handling a chemical emergency.

**CP:** Civil Preparedness (Civil Defense; Emergency Management).

CWA: Clean Water Act.

DECONTAMINATION (Decon): The removal of hazardous substances from people or equipment to the extent necessary to preclude foreseeable adverse health effects.

DEM: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

DOT: U.S. Department of Transportation.

EBS: Emergency Broadcasting System. (To be used to inform the public about the nature of a life threatening hazardous materials incident and what safety steps they should take).

EENET: Emergency Education Network (FEMA).

EHS: Extremely Hazardous Substance (DOT). DOT defines EHS as material that has been determined to be capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce. All EHS are listed in the DOT's Hazardous Materials Table (49 CFR Part 172) and fall into various hazard classes including -- Explosives, Compressed Gases, Flammable Liquids, Flammable Solids, Oxidizers and Organic Peroxides, Toxic and Infectious Substances, Radioactive Material and Corrosive Material.

EMA: Emergency Management Agency.

EMERGENCY: An unforeseen event that endangers or is likely to endanger public safety, health, or welfare or to the environment.

EMI: Emergency Management Institute. A component of FEMA's National Emergency Training Institute located in Maryland. It conducts resident and nonresident training activities for government officials, managers in the private economic sector, and members of professional and volunteer organizations on subjects that range from civil nuclear preparedness systems to domestic emergencies caused by natural and technological hazards. Non-resident training activities are also conducted by State Emergency Management Training Offices under cooperative agreements that offer financial and technical assistance to establish annual training programs that fulfill emergency management training requirements in communities throughout the nation.

EMERGENCY PLANNING DISTRICT: An area designated by the State Emergency Response Commission for which the local planning committee will develop a comprehensive emergency response plan.

EMS: Emergency Medical Services.

EMT: Emergency Medical Technician.

ENVIRONMENT: Includes water, air, land, and the interrelationships that exist among them and between them and all living things.

EOC: Emergency Operations Center.

EOP: Emergency Operations Plan. Developed in accordance with Federal Civil Preparedness Guide (CPG) 1-8. EOP's are multi-hazard, functional plans based upon best available local information.

EPA: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ERD: Emergency Response Division (EPA).

ERP: Emergency Response Plan.

ERT: Environmental Response Team. A group of experts available through the EPA, 24 hours a day.

ESF: Emergency Support Function. By standard numbering, ESFs for emergency are:

1. Transportation (in RI, led by RI DOT)
2. Communications (in RI, led by RI EMA)
3. Public Works and Engineering (in RI, led by RI DOT)
4. Firefighting (in RI, led by State Fire Marshal / RI EMA)
5. Information and Planning (in RI, led by RI EMA)
6. Mass Care (in RI, led by RI EMA)
7. Resource Support (in RI, led by RI EMA)
8. Health and Medical Services (in RI, led by HEALTH)
9. Search and Rescue (in RI, led by State Police / RI EMA)
10. Environmental Protection and Hazardous Materials (in RI, led by DEM)
11. Food and Water (in RI, led by RI EMA)
12. Energy (in RI, led by RI State Energy Office)
13. Security and Law Enforcement (in RI, led by RI State Police)
14. Military Support (in RI, led by RI National Guard)
15. Mental Health (in RI, led by MHRH)
16. Animal Protection (in RI, led by DEM)
17. Volunteers and Donations (in RI, led by RI EMA / Red Cross)

**ESTABLISHED PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE:** The inhalation or dermal permissible exposure limit specified in 29 CFR Part 1910, Sub-part Z, or if none is specified, the exposure limits in NIOSH Recommendations for Occupational Health Standards dated September, 1986, incorporated by reference, or if neither of the above is specified, the standard specified by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists in their publication "Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices for 1986-87," dated 1986, incorporated by reference, or if none of the above is specified, a limit based upon a published study or manufacturer's safety data sheet brought to the employer's attention.

**FACILITY:** Includes all buildings, equipment, structures, and other stationary items that are located on a single site and that are owned or operated by the same person. For the

purposes of emergency release notification, the term includes motor vehicles, rolling stock, and aircraft.

**FAULT-TREE ANALYSIS:** A means of analyzing hazards. Hazardous events are first identified by other techniques such as HAZOP. Then all combinations of individual failures that can lead to that hazardous event are shown in the logical format of the fault tree. By estimating the individual failure probabilities and then using the appropriate arithmetical expressions, the top-event frequency can be calculated.

**FEMA:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**FWPCA:** Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

**GIS:** Geographic Information System.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:** A class of hazardous substances, including petroleum, natural gas, synthetic gas, and other toxic chemicals.

**HAZMAT:** Hazardous Materials.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM PERSONNEL:** The personnel designated to plug, patch, or otherwise temporarily control or stop leaks from containers that hold hazardous substances.

**HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE:** Materials that present an imminent danger to the health, safety, and welfare of the public or to the environment. They include the following materials that are Federally regulated due to actual or potential effects on the health or safety of employees:

- 1) Any substance defined under Section 101(14) of CERCLA.
- 2) Any biological agent or other disease-causing agent as defined under Section 104(a)(2) of CERCLA.
- 3) Any substance listed by the U.S. Department of Transportation and regulated as Hazardous Materials under 49 CFR 172.101 and appendices.
- 4) Any hazardous waste.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE:** Any substance designated or listed under 1 through 4 below, exposure to which results or may result in adverse effects on the health or safety of employees:

- 1) Any substance defined under Section 101(14) of CERCLA.
- 2) Any biological agent or other disease-causing agent as defined in Section 104(a)(2) of CERCLA.
- 3) Any substance listed by the U.S. Department of Transportation and regulated as hazardous materials under 49 CFR 172.101 and appendices.
- 4) Any hazardous waste or combination of wastes as defined in 40 CFR 261.3 or as defined in 49 CFR 171.8.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE OPERATION:** Any operation involving employee exposure to hazardous wastes, hazardous substances, or any combination of hazardous wastes and hazardous substances that are conducted within the scope of OSHA Standard 1910.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE:** Any facility or location where hazardous waste operations are within the scope of the OSHA 1910 Standard.

**HAZOP:** Hazard and Operability Study. A Systematic technique for identifying hazards or operability problems throughout an entire facility. One examines each segment of a process and lists all possible deviations from normal operating conditions and how they might occur. The consequences on the process are assessed, and the means available to detect and correct the deviations are examined.

**HEALTH:** The Rhode Island Department of Health.

**HEALTH HAZARD:** A chemical for which there is statistically significant evidence, based on at least one study conducted in accordance with established scientific principles, that acute or chronic health effects may occur in exposed employees.

**HHS:** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**HIT:** Hazard Information Transmission (Program), a digital transmission of CHEMTREC's emergency chemical report to first responders at the scene of a hazardous materials incident by the use of a computer and modem via telephone lines or a cellular telephone network. The report advises the responders on the hazards of the materials, the level of protective clothing required, mitigating action to take in the event of a spill, leak or fire, and first aid for victims. HIT is a free public service provided by the Chemical Manufacturers Association. Reports are sent in emergency situations only to organizations that have pre-registered with HIT. Brochures and registration forms may be obtained by writing: Manager, CHEMTREC/CHEMNET, 2501 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

**HMR:** Hazardous Materials Regulations (DOT).

**ICS:** Incident Command System. The combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure with responsibility for management of assigned resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives at the scene of an incident.

**IDLH:** Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health. Any condition that poses an immediate threat to life or that is likely to result in acute or immediate severe health effects. This includes oxygen deficiency.

**IEMS:** Integrated Emergency Management System. Developed by FEMA in recognition of the economics realized in planning for all hazards on a generic functional basis, as opposed to dealing with each type of hazard independently.

**IMMEDIATE SEVERE HEALTH EFFECTS:** Any acute clinical sign or symptom of a serious, exposure-related reaction manifested within 72 hours after exposure to a hazardous substance.

**INCIDENT COMMANDER:** The individual who has overall responsibility for the implementation of ICS.

**INVENTORY FORMS:** Tier I and Tier II chemical inventory forms.

**LERC:** Local Emergency Response Committee. The body designated by the State Emergency Response Commission to develop the emergency response plan for the Emergency Planning District.

**MHRH:** The Rhode Island Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals.

**MSDS:** Material Safety Data Sheet. A form specifying properties and hazards of a chemical substance.

**MSO:** Marine Safety Officer, USCG.

**NACA:** National Agricultural Chemicals Association.

**NCP:** National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan. The Federal regulation that guides the Superfund program (CFR Part 300). Prepared by EPA to put into effect the response powers and responsibilities created by CERCLA and the authorities established by Section 311 of the Clean Water Act.

**NCRIC:** National Chemical Response and Information Center (CMA).

**NETC:** National Emergency Training Center.

**NFA:** National Fire Academy. A component of FEMA's National Emergency Training Center located in Emmitsburg, Maryland. It provides fire prevention and control training for the fire service and allied services. Courses on campus are offered in technical, management, and prevention subject areas. A growing off-campus course delivery system is operated in conjunction with State fire training programs.

**NFPA:** National Fire Protection Association.

**NHMIE:** National Hazardous Materials Information Exchange. Provides information on hazardous materials training courses, planning techniques, events and conferences. Call 1-800-752-6327.

**NIOSH:** National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

**NOAA:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**NRC:** National Response Center. A communication center for activities related to response actions, located at USCG Headquarters in Washington, D.C.. The NRC receives and relays notices of discharges or releases to the appropriate OSC, disseminates OSC and RRT reports to the NRT when appropriated, and provides facilities for the NRT to use in coordinating a national response action when required. The toll-free number (1-800-424-8802, or 1-202-426-2675 or 1-202-267-2675 in the Washington, D.C. area) can be reached 24 hours a day for reporting actual or potential pollution incidents.

**NRT:** National Response Team. Consists of representatives of 14 Federal government agencies (DOD, DOI, DOT/RSPA, DOT/USCG, EPA, DOC, FEMA, DOS, USDA, DOJ, HHS, DOL, NRC, and DOE) that comprise the principle organization for implementing the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). When the NRT is not activated for a response action, it serves as a standing committee to develop and maintain preparedness, evaluate methods of responding to discharges or releases, recommend needed changes in the response organization, and recommend revisions to the NCP. The NRT may consider and make recommendations to appropriate agencies on the training, equipping, protection of response teams, and necessary research, development, demonstration, and evaluation to improve response capabilities.

**NSF:** National Strike Force. Made up of 3 strike teams. The USCG's counterpart to EPA ERTs.

**OHMTADS:** Oil and Hazardous Materials Technical Assistance Data System. A computerized data base containing chemical, biological, and toxicological information about hazardous substances. OSCs use OHMTADS to identify unknown chemicals and to learn how best to handle known chemicals.

**OSC:** On-Scene Coordinator. The Federal official pre-designated by the EPA or USCG to coordinate and direct Federal responses and removals under the NCP, or the DOD official designated to coordinate and direct the removal actions from releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from DOD vessels and facilities. When the NRC receives notification of a pollution incident, the NRC Duty Officer notifies the appropriate OSC, depending on the location of an incident. Based on this initial report and any other information that can be obtained, the OSC makes a preliminary assessment of the need for a Federal response. If an on-scene response is required, the OSC will go to the scene and monitor the response of the responsible party or State or local government. If the RP is unknown or fails to take appropriate action, and if the response is beyond the capability of State and local governments, the OSC may initiate Federal actions, using funding from the FWPCA Pollution Fund for oil discharges and the CERCLA Trust Fund (Superfund) for hazardous substance releases.

**OSHA:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (DOL).

**OXYGEN DEFICIENCY:** The concentration of oxygen by volume below which air supplying respiratory protection must be provided. It exists in atmospheres where the percentage of oxygen by volume is less than 19.5 percent oxygen.



**PERSON:** Any individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, corporation, partnership, association, State, municipality, commission, political subdivision of a state or interstate body.

**PHYSICAL HAZARD:** A chemical for which there is scientifically valid evidence that it is one of the following: Combustible liquid, compressed gas, explosive, flammable, organic peroxide, pyrophoric, unstable (reactive), or water reactive.

**PLUME:** A vapor cloud formation that has shape and buoyancy.

**PSTN:** Pesticide Safety Team Network. Operated by the National Agricultural Chemicals Association to minimize environmental damage and injury arising from accidental pesticide spills or leaks. Area coordinators in 10 regions are available 24 hours a day to receive pesticide incident notification form CHEMTREC.

**RCP:** Regional Preparedness Coordinator (USCG).

**RCRA:** Resource Conservation and Recovery Act 1976. Established a framework for the proper management and disposal of all wastes. RCRA directed EPA to identify hazardous wastes, both generically and by listing specific wastes and industrial-process waste streams. Generators and transporters are required to use good management practices and to track the movement of wastes with a manifest system from the time of generation to disposal. Owners and operators of treatment, storage, and disposal facilities also must comply with standards that are generically implemented through permits issued by EPA or authorized states.

**REMEDIAL RESPONSE:** A long-term action that stops or substantially reduces a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that is serious, but that does not pose an immediate threat to public health &/or the environment.

**RI DOT:** Rhode Island Department of Transportation

**RI EMA:** Rhode Island Emergency Management Administration

**RQs:** Reportable Quantities.

**RRT 1:** Regional Response Team for EPA Region 1 (New England). See <<http://www.uscg.mil/d1/staff/m/rrt/rrt1info.html>>. The *National Contingency Plan* and *The EPA Region I Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan* define RRT 1 and enable members (Federal, tribal, State, and local government agencies) to participate in planning for response and responding to pollution incidents. DEM represents the State of Rhode Island on the Regional Response Team. The members of RRT 1 are listed at <http://www.uscg.mil/d1/staff/m/rrt/nrtlinks.html>. During a response to a major hazardous materials incident, the OSC may request that the RRT be convened to provide advice or recommendations on specific issues. Under the NCP, the chairman may convene the RRT if a hazardous materials discharge or release

- exceeds the response capability available to the OSC;

- crosses regional boundaries; or
- poses a substantial threat to the public health, welfare, or environment, or to regionally significant amounts of property.

*The EPA Region I Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan* specifies criteria for activation of the RRT.

RSPA: Research and Special Programs Administration (DOT).

SARA: The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. (PL 99-499)  
Title III of SARA includes detailed provisions for community planning.

SCBA: Self-contained Breathing Apparatus.

SERC: State Emergency Response Commission. A commission appointed by the Governor or state under Title III provisions.

SIMULATION: A mock accident or release set up to test emergency response methods or to use as a training tool.

SITE SAFETY AND HEALTH OFFICER: The individual located on a hazardous waste site who is responsible to the employer and who has the authority and knowledge necessary to implement the site safety and health plan and to verify compliance with applicable safety and health requirements.

SPCC: Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures.

STATE: Any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, including possessions or territory within the U.S. jurisdiction.

SUPERFUND: The trust fund established under CERCLA to provide money that the Federal On-scene Coordinator can use during cleanup of a hazardous waste site.

TIER I and TIER II INVENTORY FORMS: Forms that chemical facilities use to report to the State Emergency Response Commission, local planning committee, and local fire department information on the presence of chemicals falling under Title III.

TITLE III: The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986. This act specifies requirements for organizing the planning procedures at the state and local levels for specified extremely hazardous substances; minimum plan content; requirements for fixed facility owners and operators to inform officials about Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) present at the facilities; and mechanisms for making information about EHS available to citizens.

TOXIC CHEMICAL RELEASE FORM: A form that certain chemical facilities file, under the provisions of Section 313.

TSD: Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities.

USCG: U.S. Coast Guard.

USDA: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

USEPA: Same as EPA.

USGS: U.S. Geological Survey.

USNRC: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

WMD: Weapon of Mass Destruction.