

REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
for the  
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT REGION

Endorsed by the Regional Emergency Management Plan Steering  
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SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of this *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) is to provide a basis for participating municipalities, tribal nations, and other organizations to collaborate in planning, communication, information sharing, and coordination before, during or after an emergency of regional significance.

## SCOPE OF THE REM PLAN

- a) The REM Plan applies to all municipalities and tribal nations that are party to the *Intergovernmental Emergency Management Compact for the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region*. In addition, the plan will apply to other organizations specifically noted in the document.
- b) The REM Plan is intended to supplement municipal, tribal, and organizational Emergency Operations Plans, not to supersede them. Use of the REM Plan is voluntary.
- c) The scope of the REM Plan is strategic. It focuses on emergencies that are of regional significance. An incident will be considered regional when it involves or affects multiple agencies, more than one SCCOG jurisdiction or when there are implications from the incident/event for the region as a whole. A “regional emergency” may result from natural causes, may be the product of an accidental human act or may result from a deliberate act of terrorism.
- d) For purposes of the REM Plan, regional emergencies have been defined into three categories. The lowest intensity classification, called a Standard Regional Incident (SRI), is one that produces problems in essential services that are limited in scope. A somewhat higher intensity category is termed a Disruptive Regional Incident (DRI). This type of incident would result in problems in essential services affecting a significant population. The most intense type of emergency is a Major Regional Incident (MRI). This level of incident could produce a significant number of casualties, could pose a widespread threat to public health or safety, or could include substantial to severe disruptions in essential services.

## ROLE OF THE SCCOG

The Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region, as defined by the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, encompasses 20 municipalities and two federally-recognized Native American Tribal Nations. The municipalities and tribal nations have joined together in the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) to foster intergovernmental cooperation and to coordinate programs serving the health, safety and welfare of the region’s residents.

The SCCOG was formed in 1992 under Sections 4-124i through 4-124p of the Connecticut General Statutes. Member municipalities, with the right to vote, are the Towns of: Bozrah, Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Ledyard, Lisbon, Montville, North Stonington, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown, and Waterford; the Cities of Groton, New London, and Norwich; the Borough of Stonington. Affiliate members of the SCCOG, without voting rights, are the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and the Mohegan Tribal Nation.

Events both in this country and around the world since the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 have driven home the point that today we live in a very dangerous world. In response to this reality, the nation is pursuing an aggressive program to enhance homeland security. Much of the effectiveness of that program will depend on actions at the local and regional levels. With this in mind, the SCCOG, its member municipalities and the two tribal nations, have established an *Intergovernmental Emergency Management Compact for the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region*. (Appendix 1.)

The purpose of the compact is to provide a structure within which municipalities, federally-recognized tribal nations, state and federal agencies, and appropriate private organizations can work jointly to strengthen emergency management functions within the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region.

One emergency management function of high priority is the development of a regional emergency management plan that will build on and inter-relate with the local Emergency Operations Plans prepared by the municipalities and tribal nations. Toward this end, the SCCOG created a broadly representative Regional Emergency Management Plan Steering Committee to oversee staff and consultant work on the development of this plan.

This *Regional Emergency Management Plan for Southeastern Connecticut* (REM Plan) is the product of a joint effort by members of the steering committee, supported by staff and consultants of the SCCOG. Authority to prepare such a plan is provided in Section 7-184cc of the Connecticut General Statutes (Public Act 01-117). This authorizes municipalities “to jointly perform any function that each may perform separately.” Additionally, Section 8-35b of the statutes provides that a regional planning agency, which the SCCOG is, “may make recommendations to the municipalities within its area of operation for such metropolitan, regional or intermunicipal arrangements for the most efficient and economic development or operation of public facilities or services as it deems desirable for the economic and social welfare of the region and the municipalities located therein.”

The SCCOG is committed to assisting in the development of planning, training, and exercises to test the viability of the plan’s assumptions, policies, and procedures. As necessary, the SCCOG will support amendments to the plan to assure its future usefulness.



## FORMAT OF THE REM PLAN

The plan is divided into nine major sections. These include the following:

1. Introduction.
2. Policies Governing the Use of the REM Plan.
3. The Plan Review Cycle.
4. The Regional Situation.
5. The Concept of Activation/Coordination.
6. Special Considerations.
7. A Summary of Regional Emergency Support Functions.
8. Specific Regional Emergency Support Functions
9. Appendices and Attachments.

### 2. POLICIES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE REM PLAN

The following policies underlie the utilization of the REM Plan as of the date of its adoption by the SCCOG. These may be modified in the future in response to further study and experience.

- a) The REM Plan applies to all parties to the *Intergovernmental Emergency Management Compact for the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region*. The plan also may apply to other entities that agree to adhere to the policies and procedures set forth in the REM Plan in the event of an emergency of regional significance.
- b) The REM Plan does not supersede existing authorities, policies, plans or procedures of municipalities, tribal nations or other entities. Specifically, the REM Plan is intended to supplement, not to replace or diminish, the individual Emergency Operations Plans of municipalities, tribal nations or other entities.
- c) Use of the REM Plan is not mandated by law. Use of the REM Plan is voluntary but is strongly encouraged as one means to strengthen our ability to deal with an emergency of regional significance.

### 3. THE PLAN REVIEW CYCLE

The REM Plan will be maintained, reviewed, and updated following a preparedness cycle that includes Planning, Training, Exercise, Evaluation, and Plan Revision. The Exercise function includes operating in simulated situations and in response to real-world incidents. Evaluation activities include identification of necessary corrective actions or plan amendments. During the preparedness cycle, agencies and organizations participating in the development of the original REM Plan will have the opportunity to contribute to strengthening the plan. The REM Plan should undergo a comprehensive evaluation, amendment or updating at least every three years.

The Southeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee established under Intergovernmental Emergency Management Compact for the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region is responsible for coordinating overall planning under the REM Plan, including review and revision of the plan, annexes, supporting attachments, and supporting operational procedures. All participating jurisdictions and agencies are expected to contribute to the development of supporting material to the REM Plan, including regional support annexes and appendices, as well as supplements describing specific policies and procedures for public emergency operations. For security reasons, certain information may be designated as confidential and not be released to the general public, as is permitted under Connecticut's Freedom of Information Act, as revised by Public Act 02-133.

Jurisdictions and agencies participating in the preparation and future updating of the REM Plan may appoint as many representatives to the planning committee as they feel is appropriate.

State and federal agencies with emergency management or homeland security responsibilities are encouraged to participate in the planning committee and process. Such involvement should facilitate and improve communications, thereby strengthening training, exercises, and incident response capabilities

## 4. THE REGIONAL SITUATION

### A PROFILE OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT

With a land area of nearly 560 square miles, the southeastern region, physically, is the second-largest of Connecticut's planning regions. The southern tier of municipalities within southeastern Connecticut front on Long Island Sound. A second notable natural feature is the Thames River, which extends from Long Island Sound northward for about 12 miles to Norwich. The region's development core, containing most of its population, employment, and major infrastructure lies adjacent to Long Island Sound and the Thames River.

Approximately 242,000 people reside within the region, and the region has a substantial daily transient population (upwards of 80,000) as a result of two highly successful casinos. The region's population is not distributed evenly.

The three urban communities of Groton (both town and city), New London, and Norwich together contain nearly 102,000 residents. Population densities for this group of municipalities are the highest in the region, averaging more than 1,600 persons per square mile. A group of 10 towns (Colchester, East Lyme, Griswold, Ledyard, Lisbon, Montville, Preston, Sprague, Stonington, and Waterford) is classified as suburban in character, and these collectively have a population of more than 125,000. The suburban group of towns has an average population density of less than 400 persons per square

mile. Five towns (Bozrah, Franklin, North Stonington, Salem, and Voluntown) have been classified as rural. Together, they have a population of a bit more than 15,000 and an average population density of slightly less than 100 persons per square mile. During the 1990-2000 period, the group of urban communities lost population. All of the region's population increase during this decade was due to growth in the suburban and rural towns.

Southeastern Connecticut has a total civilian, non-farm employment approaching 120,000 workers. About half of these jobs are located in the urban group of towns, as defined above. Employment opportunities within the suburban towns rose dramatically during the 1990-2000 decade with the development of two Native American casinos. By 2000 the group of suburban towns accounted for 45% of the region's total employment.

Measured by employment, the two largest industry clusters within southeastern Connecticut's economy are Tourism & Entertainment (38% of all employment) and Defense Technology, Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing (11% of all employment). Of these, the Tourism & Entertainment cluster has shown the most vigorous growth over the past decade and continues to outperform other clusters within the region's economy.

The region is served by a variety of transportation facilities.

- Major interstate highway routes include I-95 and I-395. Other important highways maintained by the State of Connecticut are Routes 2, 11, 12, 32, 82, and 85.
- Long-distance passenger rail service is available via the Northeast Corridor rail line of Amtrak, which has stops in New London and Mystic. Shoreline East provides commuter rail service between New London and New Haven. Rail freight service is available through the Providence & Worcester Railroad and the New England Central Railroad.
- Air services operate out of Groton-New London Airport, which is owned and managed by the State of Connecticut.
- Water transportation facilities include the Adm. Harold Shear State Pier in New London plus a variety of ferry terminals, also in New London. Ferry service connects New London with Long Island, Fisher's Island, N.Y, and Block Island, R.I.

## RISK ASSESSMENT

A wide range of emergencies may occur within the region as result of natural hazards, accidents or a deliberate terrorist attack.

Natural Hazards: Emergencies resulting from natural causes could be the products of winter storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, coastal and/or inland

flooding, prolonged severe drought, extreme heat or cold, earthquakes, and epidemics broadly affecting public health.

Accidents: These would result from errors in judgment or failures of structures or equipment. Examples are special events where crowds are not controlled properly, hazardous material spills, and transportation accidents or system failures.

Terrorism: Terrorist acts could be directed against structures, vehicles, and concentrations of people or a combination of these. Such attacks could employ conventional weaponry, explosives or incendiary devices, chemical agents, biological agents, nuclear or radiological devices, electronics to penetrate sensitive or critical computer systems, or some combination of these.

All three types of risk have the potential to threaten public health and safety, to destroy critical infrastructure or to cause economic and social disruption.

While natural hazards and accidents generally occur as random events, terrorist attacks are usually specific to particular targets and occur on a timetable chosen by the attacker. Southeastern Connecticut contains a number of facilities that are potential targets for attack by terrorists. These include military installations important to national security, critical infrastructure, activities with high concentrations of people, and enterprises vital to the region's economic well-being. (Appendix 2.)

#### PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

- a) At some future point, the southeastern Connecticut region will experience a Disruptive Regional Incident (DRI) or a Major Regional Incident (MRI). A description of these is provided on page 1 of this plan.
- b) A large number of casualties, extensive damage to structures and to basic infrastructure, and the interruption of essential public services will overwhelm the capabilities of individual jurisdictions to meet the challenges of the situation.
- c) Such an incident will require more assets than are available to any one jurisdiction within the region and may exceed the combined resources of all jurisdictions within the region. Accordingly, a DRI or an MRI will require the region to request assistance from other jurisdictions. Such jurisdictions may include municipalities elsewhere in Connecticut or in other states. In an extreme situation, the region may need the assistance of state and federal resources or of specialized teams of responders to major disasters based at various locations around the nation.
- d) The REM Plan will not usurp or impinge on the authorities, plans, policies or procedures of any participating jurisdiction, agency or organization.

- e) Decisions affecting response, recovery, protective actions, public health and safety advisories, etc., will be made by responsible officials under their existing authorities, plans, policies, and procedures.
- f) Emergency response decisions will be enhanced by the availability of timely and accurate information.
- g) The REM Plan will focus on regional communication, to provide timely and accurate information that facilitates regional coordination.
- h) Establishing common terminology and structuring the REM Plan for compatibility with local, tribal, state, and federal emergency plans will improve regional communication and coordination.
- i) Certain strategic response assets exist within the region and will be identified within Appendix 3 of the REM Plan.
- j) The degree of state and federal involvement following a regional emergency incident will be related to the severity and significance of the event and the region's need for external support.
- k) The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has developed a Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) to provide a comprehensive way to disseminate information regarding the risk of terrorist attack. This document is contained in the HSAS Appendix to the REM Plan. The HSAS will be incorporated into the REM Plan as a functional element. (Appendix 4.)
- l) The State of Connecticut, Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security, has developed a method to rate the multiple components of readiness to respond to terrorist events. The method considers the ultimate goal of all preparedness programs meeting the needs of the public during and following an emergency. This will be a useful tool in assessing the need for amendments to the REM Plan in the future.
- m) The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Domestic Preparedness, has developed the State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy (SHSAS) to assess threats, vulnerabilities, capabilities, and needs related to preparedness for weapons of mass destruction terrorism incidents at the state and local levels. Data from the assessments related to southeastern Connecticut will be used in updating the REM Plan.
- n) The REM Plan will be coordinated with bio-terrorism plans within southeastern Connecticut prepared under the oversight of the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

- o) To assure continued viability, the REM Plan must be subjected to periodic review, drills, and exercises. As necessary, the plan should be updated or amended to maintain currency and effectiveness. (See: Section 3. The Plan Review Cycle, on page 3.)

## 5. THE CONCEPT OF ACTIVATION/COORDINATION

### GENERAL

Most emergencies are dealt with directly by the affected individual jurisdictions, using standard operations plans and procedures. When the capabilities of a single jurisdiction are exceeded, adjacent communities may be called upon for assistance under mutual aid agreements. Should the effects of the incident expand to create a regional impact, regional partners, through the REM Plan, may be activated to support the emergency response efforts.

The state and federal governments may be called on to provide supplemental assistance, as required by the nature and scope of the incident. In the case of an incident resulting from an act of terrorism, the state and federal governments would be involved immediately. Federal response capability related to a potential or actual terrorism threats or incidents, including one involving weapons of mass destruction, is outlined in the *The Homeland Security Act of 2002*.

Federal guidance for responding to a terrorism incident is outlined in several other documents. These include:

- *National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction*, 12/02.
- *Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5*, 03/03.
- *United States Government Interagency Domestic Terrorism Concept of Operations Plan (CONPLAN)*.
- *The National Strategy for the Physical Protection of Critical Infrastructures and Key Assets*, 02/03.
- *National Response Plan*.

State and local emergency operations plans employ a multi-jurisdictional coordinating structure based on the principles of a unified command under the National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS). NIMS/ICS principles include use of common terminology, modular organization, integrated communications, action planning, and pre-designated facilities. The Incident Command System is the standard operating procedure when the REM Plan is activated. The NIMS/ICS is not the disaster plan. Rather, it is the method by which all agencies will operate at the scene of an incident. Hospitals are encouraged to use the Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS). State of Connecticut guidance also is provided in the *Consequence Management Guide for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents*.

Communication facilitates effective relationships among organizations and ensures the exchange of information on a regular basis. In this context, the word “communication” is used to describe the process by which information exchange takes place among affected parties to facilitate effective coordination. Critical parties to the flow of information include the SCCOG, municipal and tribal CEOs and key emergency management staff, state and federal agencies, organizations providing emergency service functions, and any other entities deemed important to regional emergency management. The objective is to assure that accurate information will be shared in a timely manner to assist agencies to make good decisions before, during, and after an emergency.

The word “interoperability” is used to describe the ability of two or more (or different types) of response agencies or radio systems to talk with each other. To facilitate operations and communication capability, all agencies shall use plain text language when responding to any regional emergency.

## ORGANIZATION

To facilitate the sharing of information, functions most likely to be needed during a regional emergency have been identified. These have been grouped into 18 Regional Emergency Support Functions (RESFs). These are summarized in Section 7 on page 16 of this plan and are individually detailed in Section 8, following page 17. The 18 RESFs divide the substantial amount of information required in a regional emergency into discrete, definable sections that are intended to facilitate the gathering, sharing, and analysis of information.

Emergency events or incidents may affect only one RESF or they could have implications for many RESFs. Each RESF is responsible for maintaining the capacity to coordinate the aspects of any event or incident that fall within their area of responsibility and expertise. RESFs should be prepared at all times to provide information to decision-makers, to make recommendations, and generally to support the decision-making process by responsible officials.

## NOTIFICATION AND REM PLAN ACTIVATION

When the regional communications system is developed, it will be managed by and through a yet-to-be-designated entity, within the context of the REM Plan. When a municipal or tribal chief executive officer is informed that a potential or actual incident within their jurisdiction could result or has resulted in an emergency of regional significance, they shall notify the regional emergency communications system. Such notification shall include a general overview of the nature of the incident, an assessment of the severity of the incident, and an initial assessment of support needed to respond to the incident.

Upon receiving such notification, the regional emergency communications system shall provide information on the incident to key decision-makers, subject matter experts, and all RESF committee chairs and shall alert them to the possibility that assistance may be required.

The responding agency or discovering agency will review the situation at the incident site and determine the assets and procedures needed to deal successfully with the event. The Incident Commander (IC) will determine whether the incident is of regional significance. If it is, he/she shall notify the regional emergency communications system and shall state the type of action requested. The action could range from advisory action only up to full activation of the REM Plan.

The process of notification/activation shall follow this format.

1. A designated authority or the Incident Commander (or the agency's dispatcher) shall call the regional emergency communications system and shall request specific resources (for example, 25 medical transports, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
2. The regional emergency communications system shall assure that a message regarding the incident is broadcast to appropriate officials and agencies.
3. The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF) of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up person.
4. The RESF chairs will call the RESF 05 chair (or the designated back-up) for immediate instructions on what actions to take in response to the incident.
5. The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and the situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
6. The RESF chairs shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of their particular emergency support function and informing them of any actions required of them.

The Regional Coordination Center will carry out standard management, operational, planning, and logistical functions. Two RCCs shall be established to serve the southeastern Connecticut region. These shall be based at as yet undetermined locations. Additionally, as resources permit, the regional shall develop the capacity to establish a mobile RCC in a designated staging area.



Initial assessment information will be provided to the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, and/or the Regional Coordination Center directly through the local responder, through other RESFs or through the regional emergency communications system.

Notification may also be triggered upon the request of appointed or elected local or tribal officials, RESF committee chairs, hospital emergency department directors, authorized officials, and appropriate state and federal authorities.

The Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) is the mechanism used to disseminate information regarding the risk of terrorist attacks to all levels of government. (Appendix 4.) This system characterizes appropriate levels of vigilance, preparedness, and readiness in a series of graduated threat conditions. The protective measures that correspond to each threat condition will help local and tribal governments decide what action they take to counter and respond to possible terrorist activity. The REM Plan will be activated on a partial basis for High Risk (orange) of terrorist attacks and will be fully activated for Severe Risk (red) of terrorist attacks.

#### Incident/Event Status Levels

The following incident/event status levels have been developed for use in the REM Plan by all the RESFs and supporting agencies.

- Level One: Single agency/community incident.
- Level Two: Regular mutual aid event.
- Level Three: Regional resources activated through the REM Plan. (Standard Regional Incident – SRI)
- Level Four: Regional and state resources activated. (Disruptive Regional Incident – DRI)
- Level Five: Regional, state, and federal resources activated. (Major Regional Incident – MRI)

#### COORDINATION

##### Communications:

A communications system with multiple capabilities is vital to implementing the REM Plan. Such a system will be developed and will be operated through a yet to be designated entity. The intent of the system will be to provide a high level of connectivity among all participating jurisdictions and agencies through standard radio traffic, telephone, direct connect, conference calling, email, secure web sites, inter-city radio network, and wireless communication systems.

If an incident or event affects multiple jurisdictions or the entire region, the region's communication capabilities will be used to alert and/or convene the appropriate RESFs

and, potentially, the local chief executive officers to discuss the regional implications of the incident and the next steps to be taken. Communications will assist the coordination of decisions that could have consequences across the region. The responding entities and the RESFs will inform/advise the decision process, regional emergency information will be shared, situation reports will be provided, and proposed regional-scale decisions will be discussed.

### Regional Incidents:

The REM Plan addresses all types of regional incidents or events. These include those with a clear beginning and end, those with an address, and those without an address. The REM Plan covers Standard Regional Incidents (SRI), Disruptive Regional Incidents (DRI), and Major Regional Incidents (MRI). When assessing the need for regional notification or activation, several factors must be kept in mind: *timeframe, magnitude, and jurisdiction(s) affected*.

- The detection of any regional incident is key to determining who must be notified. Incidents can develop rapidly or slowly and may be detected in several different ways. Some may be identified by direct observation. Some may be revealed through chemical or biological sensing. Some incidents may be revealed only through medical surveillance of the population. Incidents identified by any means may be reported as they occur by local and tribal jurisdictions, the state or federal governments, other authorities, private entities, and the news media.
- Once authorities and others are notified of a threatened, impending or actual emergency, the magnitude of the event becomes the driving-force behind decision-making.
- Another important consideration is the geographic area affected. The affected zone may extend beyond the immediate disaster area to neighboring jurisdictions, and the incident may involve supporting jurisdictions through mutual aid or other agreements. In such circumstances, inter-jurisdictional communication and coordination are essential.

### Sequence of Actions:

1. Initial Actions: The goal of regional communications is to assure comprehensive, real-time connectivity during any regional emergency or incident scenario, thereby facilitating communication among municipal, tribal, state, and federal government authorities.

When fully developed, the RESF 05, Information and Planning, function and the regional emergency communications system will provide the platform for interaction

among RESFs. Each jurisdiction and/or functional area will be able to utilize this capability.

Through the regional emergency communications system (yet to be developed), key decision-makers and Regional Emergency Support Function chairs will be notified of the emergency.

A 24/7 conference calling (or direct connect) capability will bring together RESF chairs, and any subcommittee chairs, as may be needed due to the nature of an incident. This capability will permit key officials to discuss an event and to determine if a Regional Coordination Center (RCC) needs to be opened.

A conference call (or direct connect interaction) of RESF chairs and/or local and tribal CEOs may be convened through the regional emergency communications system as a result of a request from any or all of the following (subject to internal standard operating procedures).

- The municipal or tribal emergency dispatch center.
- The affected jurisdiction's CEO or designee.
- Any other jurisdiction's CEO.
- RESF committee or subcommittee chairs.
- The chair of the Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT).
- The chair of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG).
- The Connecticut Office of Emergency Management.

The regional emergency communications system is not intended to supersede, replace or duplicate the existing communications and information sharing that routinely occurs among state, local, and tribal emergency management organizations. Rather, it is intended to facilitate information exchange and the coordination of action on incidents of regional significance.

2. Continuing Actions: Additional regional communication functions will be carried out as required during regional emergencies by members of the various RESFs and/or a Regional Incident Dispatch Team (RID).

Incident tracking and status reporting: For certain regional events, an incident tracking and situation status reporting system may be activated on a secure web site available to authorized parties. Pre-designated staff will be assigned the job of continuously updating the information database related to the incident.

Assessment: Regional communication facilitates assessment of emergencies by bringing together specialists from reporting entities and the RESFs. The assessment information will be available to authorized parties.

Coordination of decision-making: Regional communication facilitates the coordination of decision-making in areas such as early release of employees, evacuation, school closings, and public health issues.

Creation of common messages: This communication function will assure implementation of the “common message, many voices” objective. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will assist decision-makers by crafting the common message that is made available to the CEOs and other authorized spokespersons of affected jurisdictions.

3. Stand Down: As the regional effort in responding to an emergency diminishes, coordination across jurisdictions will return to normal levels. Depending on the nature of the post-incident situation, the RESFs will scale back use of the regional emergency communications system to share functional information. The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS standard practice.

4. After Action Critique: The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate the evaluation of regional coordination efforts related to an incident. Using information accumulated through the RESF 05, Information and Planning, and any other sources, appropriate organizations will convene to discuss the incident and to identify any lessons to be learned and areas where improvement can be made. Over time, post-incident analysis will provide a base of real-world experience that can be used to enhance the REM Plan and its future implementation.

## CONCURRENT USE WITH OTHER EMERGENCY PLANS

The REM Plan should be utilized at the same time a jurisdiction’s Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) is implemented. Operational authority will remain with the affected jurisdiction(s). The REM Plan also should be implemented at the same time that state and federal operations plans are implemented. In such instances, appropriate operational authority will remain within state and federal control.

## REGIONAL COORDINATION CENTERS (RCC)

Any designated location where representatives of RESFs assemble for extended operations, analysis, recommendations, and decision-making is an official Regional Coordination Center.

Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) of member jurisdictions may be activated and in operation during a regional incident. Such locations also may serve as RCCs that support regional information sharing.

## 6. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

### EXERCISE DESIGN TEAM

The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HEEP) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, will be used in conjunction with all local exercises involving both the state and federal governments.

The SCCOG's Emergency Management Committee will have a standing exercise design team charged with the responsibility to design and execute two simulated events each year. Simulations should be not less than four months nor more than eight months apart. Real-world events may be substituted for exercise simulations when they occur within the designated time frame. The exercise design team will function as a subcommittee of the SCCOG Emergency Management Committee.

### DISASTER EMERGENCY RECORDS

Detailed disaster response records will be maintained by RESFs, the regional emergency communications system, and the Regional Coordinating Center(s) as a requirement of the planning and financing functions under the National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS). Additionally, these records will be maintained and used to meet state or federal reimbursement and documentation requirements.

### MUTUAL AID AND LIABILITY

All participating jurisdictions, organizations, agencies, elements, and individuals agree and accept the philosophy of assisting other jurisdictions and organizations when and where they can under mutual aid agreements. It is understood by all entities that no responsibility to respond exists when the operational readiness of the responding entity would be jeopardized.

Section 28-1(D)(4)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) states:

Such term [civil preparedness] shall include, but shall not be limited to, (A) measures to be taken in preparation of an anticipated attack, major disaster or emergency, including the establishment of appropriate organizations, operational plans and supporting agreements;....

Section 28-7(g) of the CGS, Local and joint organizations, specifies:

The state shall reimburse any town or city rendering aid under this section for the compensation and actual and necessary travel, subsistence and maintenance expenses of employees of such town or city while rendering such aid, and for all payments for death, disability or injury of such employees in the course of rendering such aid and for all losses of or damage to supplies or equipment of such town or city incurred in the course of rendering such aid.

Section 28-13 of the CGS, Immunity from liability, provides:

Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state nor, except in cases of willful misconduct, the agents or representatives of the state or any political subdivision thereof nor any member of the civil preparedness forces of the state nor any person authorized by such civil preparedness forces or by any member of such civil preparedness forces complying with or attempting to comply with this chapter or any order or regulation promulgated pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, or pursuant to any ordinance relating to blackout or other precautionary measures enacted by any political subdivision of the state nor any person employed by or authorized to assist any agency of the federal government in the prevention or mitigation of any major disaster or emergency, shall be liable for the death of or injury to persons or for damage to property as a result of any such activity. The Attorney General shall appear for and defend the state and any political subdivision of the state and the agents or representatives of the state or any political subdivision thereof or any member of the civil preparedness forces or any other person exempted from liability for his acts under this section in any civil action brought for the death of or injury to persons or for damage to property as a result of any civil preparedness activity.

Section 28-14 of the CGS, Compensation for death, disability or injury, stipulates:

(a) All members of any auxiliary police, auxiliary fire or other civil preparedness force shall be compensated for death, disability or injury incurred while in training for or on civil preparedness duty under the provisions of this chapter....

## PUBLICATION OF THE REM PLAN

When by the adopted by the board of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, the REM Plan and any future amendments, supplements or updates may be published and released. In so doing, the Emergency Management Committee and the SCCOG may exclude from the published plan information, analysis or recommendations pertaining to sensitive security issues.

## 7. A SUMMARY OF REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

Implementation of the REM Plan is dependent on accurate and timely information gathering, analysis, recommendation, and decision-making affecting a variety of specific functional areas. To address this need, the REM Plan identifies and establishes 18 Regional Emergency Support Functions that, collectively, will be the means to implement the plan during an actual regional emergency incident. The RESF structure of the REM Plan parallels that of most of the municipal and tribal Emergency Operations Plans.

A list of the functional areas covered by the RESFs is provided below. The text outlining the structure, operating policies, and procedures for each of the RESFs is contained in the section immediately following this RESF summary. The RESFs cover the following functional areas. This list of RESFs may be modified in the future to reflect lessons learned through experience or to address a changing regional situation.

RESF 01: Transportation	RESF 02: Communications
RESF 03: Public Works and Engineering	RESF 04: Fire Services
RESF 05: Information and Planning	RESF 06: Mass Care
RESF 07: Resources Support	RESF 08: Health and Medical Services
RESF 09: Urban Search and Rescue	RESF 10: Hazardous Materials
RESF 11: Food Services	RESF 12: Energy
RESF 13: Military	RESF 14: Media and Preparedness Education
RESF 15: Volunteer Management	RESF 16: Law Enforcement
RESF 17: Animal Protection	RESF 18: Donations Management

The following groups will carry out activities associated with the RESFs. (See the specific RESFs for details on each group's roles and responsibilities.)

Southeastern Connecticut Council of Government's Emergency Management Committee, towns, cities, boroughs, and tribal nations party to the *Intergovernmental Emergency Management Compact for the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region*, Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team, public sector organizations, private sector organizations, utilities, schools and colleges, volunteer organizations, community organizations, special interest associations, Citizen Corps, and the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health.

This list of participating organizations is not intended to preclude the participation in the RESFs of any other organizations with appropriate areas of expertise and responsibility.

## 8. SPECIFIC REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

Following is a series of descriptions of the 18 Regional Emergency Support Functions (RESF) currently addressed in the REM Plan.

It should be emphasized that the Regional Emergency Support Functions that follow are not intended to supersede or over-ride Local Emergency Operations Plans or the operating policies or procedures of specific organizations. Rather, the RESFs are designed to facilitate coordination among the numerous municipal, state, and federal responders during an emergency of regional significance.

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## **Regional Emergency Support Function 01, Transportation**

### **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 01**

#### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

#### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Transportation

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard

Department of Defense

#### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Department of Transportation (CONNDOT)

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security

Connecticut Army National Guard

#### **Local and Private Sector Organizations**

Area school bus providers

Local Departments of Human Services

Connecticut Transit Authority

Amtrak

Providence & Worcester Railroad

New England Central Railroad

Southeast Area Transit District (SEAT)

Windham Transit District

Northeastern Connecticut Transit District

Eastern Connecticut Transportation Consortium

Commercial Bus Services

Rideshare and Vanpool Programs

Trucking and Hauling Associations

Adm. Harold Shear State Pier

Block Island Ferry

Cross Sound Ferry Services, Inc.

Fisher's Island Ferry District

Island Water Shuttle

Montauk Ferry

Nelsco Navigation Company

Foxwood Resort Casino (Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation)

Mohegan Sun Casino (Mohegan Tribal Nation)

Groton-New London Airport

American Ambulance Service

Hunter's Ambulance Service

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The overall purpose of RESF 01, Transportation, is to facilitate communication and coordination among regional jurisdictions and other agencies concerning transportation issues and activities during a major disaster in the Southeastern Connecticut Region.
2. The scope of such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Damage assessment.
  - Effects of the emergency on local transportation systems.
  - Traffic system congestion.
  - Alternate transportation service.
  - Transportation system controls to facilitate safe movement.
  - Restoration of affected transportation facilities and services.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following entities:
  - Incident Commander.
  - Local Emergency Operations Center.
  - Other regional municipalities and tribal nations.
  - Regional Coordination Center.
  - State Emergency Operations Center.
  - Connecticut Department of Transportation.
  - Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security.
  - Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management.
  - U.S. Department of Transportation.
  - U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard.
  - Amtrak

### **B. Scope**

RESF 01, Transportation, is intended to focus on disruptions of the regional transportation system that require inter-jurisdictional coordination and information sharing. Transportation disruptions can occur as a result of direct impacts upon the transportation infrastructure as a result of natural or man-made disasters or from surges in requirements placed on the system by emergencies in other functional areas. The policies and procedures developed will be a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan), as well as facilitating interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan, and the National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 01, Transportation, will not usurp or override the authorities and policies of the federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or of the operational subunits of such jurisdictions.

2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 01 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system (to be developed), as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional communications will be provided through a yet to be designated entity.
5. The affected jurisdiction or agency where the incident occurs will be the lead jurisdiction or agency for response to that event.
6. In a regional emergency affecting transportation, RESF 01 will coordinate with affected local jurisdictions and with both the Connecticut Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT),

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency may adversely affect transportation infrastructure and services throughout the region.
2. If a major disaster/incident strikes southeastern Connecticut, the situation will require the mobilization of transportation assets. This is particularly true if the disaster/incident requires the evacuation of significant segments of the population. Resource elements will be deployed in accordance with regional and/or statewide emergency management plans.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
3. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.

4. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each member jurisdiction.
5. Local resources will be exceeded by an incident of regional significance.
6. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions will inhibit efficient coordination of transportation support during the immediate response and post-disaster period.
7. The availability of personnel with language skills will be critical. Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT) may be used for this mission.
8. A wide range of incidents may adversely affect the regional transportation system to varying degrees.
9. Transportation system disruptions will impair the evacuation of affected populations. Additionally, the movement of responders to and from the site(s) of the incident(s) and the movement of relief supplies into and within the region will be adversely affected.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 01, Transportation, chair will be notified. In turn, he/she shall notify all other members of the RESF 01 to inform them of the situation and, as necessary, to request their presence at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) or other locations.
2. Municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authorities and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.
3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the REM Plan.
4. Through the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) RESF 01, Transportation, will have the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning issues related to the regional transportation system.
5. Requests for information regarding transportation issues will be directed to the regional communications system, when developed, or to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual emergency of regional significance, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be managed in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications. An emergency of regional significance will result in the activation of both a local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources from either the local Emergency Operations Center or via the Regional Coordination Center (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official(s).
- The chair of RESF 01, Transportation, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 01.
- The chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 01 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESF's to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports of the affected jurisdictions/agencies directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, or to the regional emergency communications system, when developed.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

Regional support will depend on the severity and duration of the regional emergency. Evaluate continuing needs related to transportation. Any major evacuation resulting from a regional emergency will place extreme pressures on the region's transportation system and, in turn, on RESF 01.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all transportation agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 01**

### **A. RESF 01 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Transportation partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information via the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

### **B. Essential Elements of Information (EEI)**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information relevant to the emergency. The RESF 05 annex contains detailed procedures about the process of information exchange and describes the Essential

Elements of Information (EEI) identified as the minimum information to satisfy coordination needs between the RESF's and the regional emergency communications system.

2. In the event of a regional emergency, local, state, and regional transportation agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Overall priorities of response, including the need for and the status of evacuation measures.
- Description of significant disruptions in transportation service delivery.
- Status of communication systems.
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities.
- Other RESF's potentially affected by the transportation elements of the emergency.
- Logistical problems.
- Liability issues and concerns.
- Recommendations for emergency ingress/egress for responders.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all transportation agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 01 and all associated resources will be utilized to capacity as needed to stabilize the transportation emergency. RESF 01 resources shall be utilized in any function that will speed the recovery from the emergency incident within the parameters of their individual training and/or capabilities. Depending on the nature of the regional emergency, the evacuation of significant segments of the population could be a high priority transportation issue.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 01 will continue to perform any emergency functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function that aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the affected jurisdiction will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 01**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 01 operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- Departmental standard operating procedures, standard operating guidelines, training manuals, general orders, and policy directives.
- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Standard regional guidance concerning decontamination procedures will be utilized by all regional agencies.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).



# **Regional Emergency Support Function 02, Communications**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 02**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)  
Law Enforcement Council of Southeastern Connecticut

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Transportation Safety Administration  
United States Coast Guard

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
Connecticut Department of Transportation  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications (OSET)  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Connecticut State Police  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Communications  
Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
Connecticut Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)

### **Local Organizations**

All local municipalities and tribal nations  
Municipal, tribal, and district health directors and departments.

### **Private Organizations**

Wireless/Cellular Service Providers  
Internet Service Providers  
Dedicated line circuit providers  
Cable television providers  
Hardwire telephone service providers  
Commercial Ambulance Providers  
Connecticut Hospital Association  
Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH)  
Life Star Communications Center  
Local radio and/or television stations  
Amateur Radio Relay League

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

The purpose of RESF 02, Communications, is to develop a method to ensure the coordination and transfer of information during both emergencies of regional significance and in more limited situations affecting health and welfare. The development of both hardware and capacity for interoperability of all types of communication equipment will be included.

### **B. Scope**

RESF 02 will facilitate the design, construction and development of a regional emergency communications system that will allow for coordination and communication of information concerning regional actions to be taken to support emergency response elements. RESF 02 will be responsible for hardware and technical communications procedures between jurisdictions, agencies, regional emergency support functions, and the regional emergency communications system. RESF 02 responsibilities do not include the development of a message, but only the transport and delivery of the message.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 02, Communications, will not usurp or override the policies of any federal agency, state government, municipal or tribal government or other jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating agencies.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 02 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).
4. Once a regional emergency communications system is developed, essential information will be conveyed through the regional communication system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. Regional communications will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.
5. Communication tools not currently available in the region will need to be developed. Those tools currently in use will require expansion to service the region effectively. Communications systems currently available for regional use include the I-TAC radio system, one State Police radio hot line, Area IV Office of Emergency Management radio

frequency, MEDNET, NAWAS, New London County Fire System 33.78, Mobile Data Terminal (Captain System), State-wide Fire Network 46.16, Hardwire plain old telephone service (POTS), and wireless service providers. Communications systems to be developed may include an interoperable radio system with regional coverage and both wired and wireless Internet services.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency may be of such severity and magnitude as to require communication and coordination among regional decision-makers to facilitate a synchronized, effective response.
2. RESF 02, Communications, will support the transmission of timely and appropriate incident information before, during, and after an incident to support local jurisdictions and organizations and to facilitate coordination with federal and state agencies.
3. Commercial communications facilities may sustain widespread damage.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. A communication system to support the transmission of timely and appropriate incident information before, during, and after an incident to support local jurisdictions and organizations and to facilitate coordination with federal and state agencies will be created.
2. The communications system developed under this plan will include mobile communications units and Regional Incident Dispatching teams (RID) to support field operations.
3. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
4. Regional and local officials will focus on coordinating lifesaving activities concurrent with re-establishing control in the disaster area.
5. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
6. Sharing information during a regional emergency will benefit all jurisdictions.
7. Municipal and tribal decision-makers may have unique needs for immediate and continuous information during an emergency of regional significance.

8. Initial damage reports may be fragmented and provide an incomplete picture concerning the extent of damage to communications facilities.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. If any agency participating in the REM Plan determines that a regional emergency incident is taking place or may take place, they will activate the regional communications system.
2. Municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency. They will provide information about the situation through the regional communication system to RESF 05, Planning and Information.
3. RESF 05, Information and Planning, will establish a capability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate regional information concerning regional technical communications, hardware, and communications related issues to the regional emergency communications system and among all support agencies and RESFs.
4. RESF 05 will create call-down lists to foster regional communications in the course of a regional emergency.
5. RESF 02 will develop an inventory of technical communications hardware and systems to facilitate communication in the course of a regional emergency.
6. RESF 02, Communications, will develop a list of the chief technical officers who can provide communications advice and troubleshooting in the event of a regional emergency.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. The regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 02 will provide the technical expertise and staffing to carry out the requirements of the communication system. RESF 05, Information and Planning, will coordinate the multi-directional flow of information and will facilitate interaction among various jurisdictions.
2. Messages from the regional emergency communications system may be by radio, phone, Internet, email or some combination of these.

3. The activation of the regional emergency communication system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 02 shall be responsible for calling or notifying additional members of that emergency support function. RESF 02, Communications, along with RESF 05, Information and Planning, and RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, normally will be called out for any activation of the REM Plan.

## **D. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Prior to implementing the regional response plan, RESF 02 will develop and make accessible call-down lists and technical communications hardware resources to the regional emergency communications system. RESF 02 will make recommendations to the regional communication system and associated agencies concerning types of technical systems and hardware. This will ensure effective and redundant communications throughout the region.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

RESF 02's actions last as long as necessary. Over time, the regional communications mission may transition to local jurisdictions.

### **3. Stand Down**

RESF 02 will scale down its operation as conditions warrant.

REM Plan, RESF 02, Communications.

#### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all agencies and supporting RESFs.

### **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 02**

#### **A. RESF 02 Responsibilities**

RESF 02 is responsible for all the elements of the communications mission, as determined by the emergency incident or the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

#### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among various jurisdictions and agencies during emergency situations.
2. Participating jurisdictions and agencies are responsible for providing information on their functional activities through the regional emergency communications system to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state, federal, and regional agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Status of transportation systems.
- Description of significant service disruptions.
- Status of communication systems.
- Access points to the disaster areas.
- Status of operating facilities.
- Hazard-specific information.
- Weather data affecting operations.
- Seismic or other geophysical information.
- Status of critical facilities and distribution systems.
- Status of key personnel.
- Major issues and activities of RESFs.
- Resource and logistical issues.
- Status of technical support capability.
- Estimates of potential impact.
- Needs assessment and damage estimates.

#### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all RESF 02 personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train on the regional emergency communications system setup, on the Regional Coordination Center setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Train Regional Incident Dispatch Teams (RID) on the operation of fixed and mobile command posts and all mobile communications vehicles in the region.
- Establish technical advisory support.
- Establish communications equipment inventories.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 02, Communications, will establish all emergency and health and welfare communication links in support of the mission, including the operation of mobile communication units and Regional Incident Dispatching Teams (RID).

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 02, Communications, will continue to perform coordination functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function, which aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the affected community(ies) or tribal nation(s), will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 02**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 02 operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional communication system will be administered by a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Operational guidelines for all mobile communications vehicles.
- Operational guidelines for mobile dispatching teams.
- Appropriate RESF call down documents.
- The technical communications hardware resources inventory listing.
- The regional technical officers inventory listing.
- National Response Plan.

- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).



# **Regional Emergency Support Function 03, Public Works and Engineering**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 03**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

Department of Defense

Department of Health and Human Services

Environmental Protection Agency

Geological Survey

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Connecticut Department of Public Health

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Connecticut Department of Transportation

Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security

Connecticut Army National Guard

### **Local Organizations**

All local municipal and tribal public works departments

Local public utilities departments

Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (SCWA)

Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA)

### **Private Organizations**

Private utilities companies

American Ref-Fuel

Wheelabrator

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, is to coordinate a system of resources and response capability to deal with regional emergencies concerning water supply, wastewater, solid waste, and debris management during and after a potential or actual regional emergency.

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Damage assessment, as it affects public works and engineering issues.
- Determination of the presence of hazardous materials.
- Access to the incident site.

- Assessment of public works and engineering resources needed to deal with the emergency.
- Deployment of public works and engineering resources.
- Safety of public works and engineering personnel.
- Restoration of essential services.
- Debris removal and disposal.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Municipal and tribal public works departments.
- Private contractors.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 03 is intended to focus on the communication and coordination related to the following situations:

- Potential or actual disruptions of critical services that have a regional impact.
- Coordination of emergency restoration of critical public facilities, including the temporary and permanent restoration of water supplies, wastewater treatment systems, and waste management facilities.
- Coordination of emergency contracting to support public health and safety, such as providing for potable water, ice, power, and/or temporary housing.
- Coordination of monitoring, tracking and modeling of water and wastewater events that may affect the water supply.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, will not usurp or override the authorities or policies of any federal agency, state agency, municipal or tribal government or other jurisdiction.

2. The National Incident Management/Incident Command Systems (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating agencies.

3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 03 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

3. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system (when developed), as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, regional communications will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

5. At the request of a participating organization, RESF 03 convenes public works and engineering agencies and organizations participating in regional emergency support functions. Collectively, these agencies and organizations will provide technical expertise and information necessary for an accurate assessment and analysis of a developing or ongoing emergency situation.

6. RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, will share information with appropriate municipal, tribal, state, and federal agencies, utilities, the private sector, and non-profit organizations.

7. Jurisdictions agree to respect the existing contractual arrangements between jurisdictions and their contractors so that there will not be competition for resources that are already under contract to a jurisdiction.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency, or threat of disruption of service, may adversely affect: water supply and distribution systems; wastewater collection systems and treatment plants; and solid waste and debris management infrastructure throughout the region.

2. Regional public emergencies severely affecting all or most of the region, as well as small regional public emergencies, would both warrant attention.

#### **B. General Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.

2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.

3. Primary agencies and support agencies under RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, will perform tasks under their own authority, as applicable, in addition to missions for which they are tasked under the REM Plan.

4. There are immediate and continuous information needs unique to the jurisdictional decision-makers.

4. Assessment of the emergency will determine critical needs and estimate the potential workload for both state and federal assistance. Early damage assessments will be general and incomplete and may be inaccurate.

6. Basic needs such as water, wastewater collection and treatment, refrigeration, and emergency electrical power needs may not be available with the loss of public services.
7. The water supply, wastewater management, and local solid waste and debris management activities may be hampered by damaged facilities and equipment, as well as by disrupted power, communications, and transportation infrastructure.
8. Access to emergency areas may have to await the reestablishment of safe ground routes.
9. Local authorities and private organizations are responsible for obtaining required waivers and clearances.
10. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.

### **C. Water and Wastewater Planning Assumptions**

1. There will be increasing and conflicting demands for water for fire fighting, potable water, and sanitation that exceed available resources.
2. Due to a need for severe water use restrictions, the public may need to be informed on ways to conserve water. These restrictions will require vigilant enforcement to ensure compliance.
3. Municipal and tribal governments and regional health districts may need to coordinate public health protective measures in response to any regional emergency affecting water supplies and/or wastewater systems. The actual or potential impairment of water supplies or wastewater systems could be due to a natural disaster, an accident or a deliberate terrorist incident.
4. Emergency water supply points may need to be established and supported for the distribution of potable water.
5. The water supply or wastewater treatment infrastructure may be temporarily or permanently inoperable, causing raw sewage to run into receiving waters, including Long Island Sound.

### **D. Solid Waste and Debris Management Planning Assumptions**

1. Debris management includes the emergency clearance of debris for access in and out of the region and longer-term removal, processing, permits and waivers, handling, reduction, sorting, transporting, disposal, and all other associated activities.

2. Debris needs to be cleared for three principal reasons. The first is to facilitate the evacuation of the affected population within the areas of damage, if necessary. The second is to enable reconnaissance of the damaged areas. The third is to permit passage of emergency personnel and equipment into and out of the area. In carrying out their duties, public works employees may be exposed to an unsafe environment in the early response phase.
3. Because the right of disposal facilities to refuse acceptance of waste from a disaster may complicate disposal for municipal and tribal governments wishing to preserve their landfill space, plans should address additional or alternative capacities.
4. In a regional emergency where waste/debris results, it may not immediately be known whether the waste is hazardous. This determination is a local responsibility but may involve consultation with appropriate state and federal agencies.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. Both major and minor, potential or actual regional emergencies, involving water supply, wastewater, and/or solid waste and debris removal, will be cause for activation of RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering.
2. RESF 03 will establish a capability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning issues related to regional water supply, wastewater management, and solid waste and debris management.
3. The supporting regional agencies that comprise RESF 03 will coordinate and execute their program responsibilities during the regional emergency.
4. The RESF 03 representative within the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will deal with all information requests regarding regional issues related to public works and engineering functions.
5. RESF 03 will provide damage information to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for overall damage assessment, the damage situation, and RESF 03-related activities.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be made in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.

2. The activation of regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 14.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 03 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. General**

RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, will coordinate with other regional emergency support functions. Examples of such coordination include, but are not limited to the following:

RESF 01, Transportation

- Fuel Suppliers.
- Transportation facilities – DOT.

- Transportation contractors.
  - Clearance of access and evacuation routes.
- RESF 02, Communications
- Coordination of the common message.
- RESF 04, Fire Services
- Water supplies for fire fighting.
- RESF 05, Information and Planning
- Public works information and analysis for planning purposes.
- RESF 06, Mass Care
- Access to mass care facilities.
  - Water supply and waste disposal at mass care facilities.
- RESF 07, Resource Support
- Coordination of needed resources.
- RESF 08, Health and Medical Services
- Involvement with first responder safety and health.
  - Debris removal related to the rescue/recovery of victims.
- RESF 09, Urban Search & Rescue
- Access to damage areas.
  - Public works or engineering conditions/issues in damage areas.
- RESF 10, Hazardous Materials
- Spills involving hazardous materials.
  - Hazardous agents resulting from deliberate acts of terrorism.
- RESF 11, Food Service
- Ground access and conditions in damage areas.
- RESF 12, Energy
- Coordination of energy supplies.
- RESF 13, Military
- Maintenance or restoration of facilities essential for national security.
- RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education
- Public information and preparedness education before, during, and after an emergency.
- RESF 15, Volunteer Management
- Issues involving the use of volunteers to support RESF 03 functions.
- RESF 16, Law Enforcement
- Perimeter control.
  - Coordination of debris removal and Urban Search and Rescue with evidence collection.
- RESF 17, Animal Control
- Collection of stray, injured or dead animals during debris removal.
  - Disposal of dead animals recovered during debris removal.
- RESF 18, Donations Management
- Issues involving donated water.

## **2. Water and Wastewater Groups**

### **a. Initial Actions**

1. Upon detection of a water supply or wastewater incident, any participating agency will first make an internal assessment of the situation. If that organization determines that the event is of regional significance, they will notify the regional emergency communications system to activate the REM Plan.
2. Based on the nature and extent of the regional emergency, the applicable portions of the REM Plan will be utilized.
3. The assembled RESF 03 specialists will determine the type and extent of the regional emergency affecting public works and engineering, identify the ongoing response actions, consider and recommend the next steps, and discuss any other related key regional issues.

### **b. Continuing Actions**

1. Additional decision-making meetings may occur.
2. There will be continuous monitoring, coordination, communication, and response for each incident with information facilitated through the regional emergency communications system and the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

### **c. Stand Down**

All applicable subgroups or subcommittees will determine when the regional emergency will be terminated. The appropriate municipal and tribal government(s) will issue a formal declaration of termination.

### **d. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all public works agencies and support RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 03**

### **A. RESF 03 Responsibilities**

RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, supporting agencies will contribute essential elements of information via the regional emergency communications system or to RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).



## **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations.
2. Participating agencies are responsible for providing information on their essential functional activities via the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations.
3. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state and regional public works and engineering agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
  - Jurisdictions involved.
  - Social, economic and political impact.
  - Description of significant service disruptions.
  - Status of communication systems.
  - Access points to the disaster areas.
  - Status of operating facilities.
  - Hazard-specific information.
  - Status of critical facilities and distribution systems.
  - Status of key personnel.
  - Major issues and activities of RESF 03.
  - Resource and logistical issues.
  - Estimates of potential impact.
  - Other RESFs potentially affected.
  - Injuries and medical emergencies.
  - Short-, medium-, and long-range plans for recovery.
  - Needs assessment and damage estimates, including the possible need to evacuate population.
  - Status of state or federal operations, if known

## **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all RESF personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train all personnel on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, will perform all required mission-related activities in the safest manner.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 03 will continue to perform any functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function that aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the affected municipalities or tribal nations will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 03**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## **Regional Emergency Support Function 04, Fire Services**

## Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 04

### Regional Organizations

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
New London County Fire Chiefs Association  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)

### Federal Government Organizations

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service  
U. S. Fire Administration  
Department of Defense

### Connecticut State Government Organizations

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
State Fire Marshal's Office  
Connecticut Fire Academy  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security

### Local Organizations

All municipal, tribal, and volunteer fire departments  
Industrial, military, and transportation fire departments

### Private Organizations

National Burn Victim Foundation (NBVF)

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

1. The purpose of RESF 04, Fire Services, is to provide for the rapid mobilization, deployment, and utilization of regional fire resources during a major disaster in the Southeastern Connecticut Region.

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Nature of the regional emergency, as it affects fire services.
- Situation with respect to hazardous materials at the incident site.
- Access to the incident site.
- Assessment of fire service resources required.
- Deployment of fire service personnel and equipment.
- Staging area(s).
- Safety of fire service personnel.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

REM Plan, RESF 04, Fire Services.

- Incident Commander.

- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Connecticut State Fire Marshal.
- Municipal, tribal, and volunteer fire departments

## **B. Scope**

RESF 04 is intended to focus on developing and implementing a regional disaster response capability for fire resources. The system developed will be a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) as well as facilitating interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan, and the National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 04, Fire Services, will not usurp or override the policies of any federal, state, municipal or tribal government or other jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System/Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 04 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communication system (when developed), as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional communications system will be provided through a yet to be designated entity.

## **III. Situation**

### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A major disaster/incident has occurred in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of firefighting resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide disaster plan.
2. A regional emergency may adversely affect the firefighting infrastructure throughout the region.

### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
3. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each member municipality, tribal nation or other jurisdiction.
4. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
5. Local and standard mutual aid resources have been depleted.
6. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions will inhibit efficient coordination of firefighting support during the immediate response and post-disaster period.
7. Multi-lingual messages and the availability of personnel with language skills will be critical. As resources permit, the region will develop Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT) to improve communication with segments of the population no or limited English-speaking capabilities.
8. A significant number of fire service personnel and pieces of equipment may be lost, injured or damaged in the incident.
9. Four operational Mass Decontamination Units (MDUs) exist in the region and are each capable of decontaminating 100 people per hour. These units are located at: the City of Norwich Fire Department, the City of New London Fire Department, the Mohegan Tribal Fire Department, and the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Fire Department.
10. There is a total of five foam units in the state. One is assigned to the City of Norwich Fire Department.
11. Two regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams are available in the region. One is the U.S. Naval Submarine Base Fire Department and the other is administered by the Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT).
12. The fire service has developed a hospital decontamination response plan that provides the response of one Mass Decontamination Unit (MDU) to each of the regional hospitals. Additional MDUs may be summoned by the Incident Commander.

13. Section 7-313(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) gives command authority to the senior fire officer in-charge, when at an emergency call.

14. During a civil preparedness emergency proclaimed by the Governor under Section 28-9, CGS, the Governor may take direct operational control of any or all parts of the civil preparedness forces and functions in the state. Civil preparedness forces shall include all state and local police and fire personnel and any other organized personnel engaged in carrying out civil preparedness functions.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 04, Fire Services, will be notified.
2. Municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.
3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the REM Plan.
4. RESF 04, Fire Services, will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional firefighting-related issues, in conjunction with the regional communication system. When developed, a regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be designated entity.
5. Requests for information regarding firefighting issues will be directed to the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be made in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.
2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 04, Fire Services, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 04.
- The chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 04, Fire Services, shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of the emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports via the chief administrative officers of the affected jurisdictions to the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

Continue information sharing, monitoring and tracking of trends. Evaluate continuing needs.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices

#### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all fire service agencies and supporting RESFs.

### **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 04**

#### **A. RESF 04 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Fire services regional partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system (when developed) operated through a yet to be designated entity, as required by the incident and the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

#### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the collection, exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 05 annex contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) that have been identified as the minimum information to coordinate among the RESFs and with the regional emergency communications system.

2. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state, and regional fire service agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Overall priorities of response.
- Description of significant disruptions in fire service delivery.
- Status of communication systems.
- Relevant historical and demographic information.
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Recommendations on emergency ingress/egress.
- Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities.

REM Plan, RESF 04, Fire Services.

- Firefighter safety.



- Radiological/chemical/biological hazards consultation and technical assistance, decontamination of victims and personnel.
- Logistical problems.
- Liability issues and concerns.
- Status of USAR or Hazardous Materials operations.
- Injuries and medical emergencies, in coordination with RESF 08, Health and Medical Services.
- RESF 06, Mass Care, issues concerning evacuated citizens.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all firefighting agencies will accomplish the following:

- RESF 04, Fire Services, will plan and implement a response capability of 100 fire service personnel within fifteen (15) minutes of the request. The plan will also establish the response capability of 400 fire service personnel within one (1) hour of the request.
- Train on REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Train Regional Incident Dispatch Teams (RIDs) on mobile command post communication functions.
- Train selected personnel as team members for incident command overhead teams.
- Train on Mass Decontamination.
- Train on Technical Decontamination.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 04, Fire Services, and all associated resources will be utilized to capacity as needed to control and stabilize the emergency. RESF 04 resources shall be utilized within the parameters of their individual training and/or capabilities in any function that will speed the recovery from the emergency incident

REM Plan, RESF 04, Fire Services.

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**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 04 will continue to perform any

necessary functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function that aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the affected community(ies), will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 04**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 04, Fire Services, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- Departmental standard operating procedures, standard operating guidelines, training manuals, general orders, and policy directives.
- Emergency medical procedures will conform to guidelines or advisories issued by medical control authorities, RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, hospital authorities, and public health authorities.
- When developed, the regional communication system will be administered by a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Standard regional guidance concerning decontamination procedures will be followed by all regional agencies.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- Connecticut Fire Service, *Statewide Fire Rescue Disaster Response Plan*.
- *State of Connecticut, Consequence Management Guide for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents* (dated October 2002).
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## **Regional Emergency Support Function 05, Information and Planning**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 05**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)  
Law Enforcement Council of Southeastern Connecticut  
New London County Fire Chiefs Association

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
University of Connecticut Health Center  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications (OSET)  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Transportation  
Connecticut State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials (SERC)  
Connecticut Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)  
Connecticut State Fire/Disaster Response Planning Committee

### **Local Organizations**

Municipal and tribal officials.  
Municipal, tribal, and district health directors and departments.

### **Private Organizations**

Connecticut Hospital Association  
Connecticut State Dental Association  
American Red Cross – Charter Oak Chapter and New London County Chapter  
The Salvation Army – Disaster Services  
United Way of Southeastern Connecticut  
Amateur Radio  
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital  
William W. Backus Hospital  
Westerly Hospital  
American Ambulance Service  
Hunter's Ambulance Service  
National Burn Victim Foundation (NBVF)  
United States Postal Service (USPS)  
Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH)

## **I. Introduction**

## **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 05, Information and Planning, is to facilitate the collection, processing, and dissemination of information about a potential or actual regional emergency. Additionally, RESF 05 serves as the coordination point for all resources responding to an emergency of regional significance.
2. The scope of such coordination may encompass all regional aspects of an emergency. These may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Scale, nature, and implications of the emergency.
  - Effects on regional infrastructure.
  - Effects on transportation facilities and services.
  - Need for evacuation.
  - Mass care requirements.
  - Need for additional response and recovery resources.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following entities:
  - Incident Commander.
  - Municipal and/or tribal CEOs.
  - Local Emergency Operations Center.
  - Regional Coordination Center.
  - State Emergency Operations Center.
  - Various state and federal agencies.
  - Various private organizations.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 05 is the information and planning element of the regional communication and coordination effort. This function is executed via the regional emergency communications system, which will be administered by a yet to be designated entity. Communication and coordination are key components of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) and will facilitate interaction among various regional jurisdictions and with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan, and the National Response Plan.

Regional events warranting the use of the regional emergency communications system may include deliberate acts (including terrorist threats or actual attacks), accidents, and natural events, such as snowstorms or hurricanes. Any incident that is a risk to public health or safety or that has the potential to impair or disrupt critical systems serving southeastern Connecticut will warrant activation of the regional emergency communications system.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 05, Information and Planning, will not usurp or override the authorities and policies of the federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or of the operational subunits of such jurisdictions.
2. The National Incident Management System and Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 05 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system (when developed), as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional communications system will be provided through a yet to be designated entity. In response to the character and scope of an incident, the functions of the regional communications system may shift to a mobile field operation
5. At the request of a participating organization, RESF 05 convenes agencies and organizations participating in regional emergency support functions to provide technical expertise and information necessary to produce an accurate assessment and analysis of a developing or ongoing situation.
6. RESF 05 will share information with appropriate municipal, tribal, state, and federal agencies, utilities, the private sector, and non-profit organizations.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency may be of such severity and magnitude as to require communication and coordination among regional decision-makers to facilitate a synchronized, effective response.
2. RESF 05 will facilitate the communication of timely and appropriate incident information before, during, and after an incident to support effective actions by local jurisdictions and organizations.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
2. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
3. Sharing information during a regional emergency will benefit all jurisdictions.
4. There are immediate and continuous information needs unique to the jurisdictional decision-makers.
5. Each of the Regional Emergency Support Functions (RESFs) will identify personnel needs and will train to perform its coordination functions under the REM Plan.
6. The chairs and co-chairs of each of the RESFs have identified key members of their committee and have a system in place to notify them immediately of pending emergency situations/events of regional significance.
7. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) coordinates local resources, including some that are not considered “civil preparedness” resources by state law.
8. When the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) of the Connecticut Office of Emergency Management is operational, a liaison will be assigned to represent RESF 05, Information and Planning, under the REM Plan.
9. Bioterrorism events are very likely to be “incidents without an address” and therefore be full-scale events before local emergency management personnel are aware of the event. This type of event could originate in public health or hospital settings and would dictate that public health would be the incident commander.
10. Any questions or requests for assistance from National Guard Civil Support Team 14, the FBI, State Police, or regarding state quarantine issues will be directed to the Emergency Operations Center of the Connecticut Office of Emergency Management.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. At the request of a participating jurisdiction, organization or official, RESF 05, Information and Planning, convenes the appropriate agencies, organizations, RESF committee chairpersons, and RESF sub-committee chairpersons to provide technical expertise and information necessary to assess and analyze the situation. The chairperson of RESF 05 will decide on the need for and designate the site of the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
2. The chair of RESF 05 retains all functional responsibilities in the organizational structure not delegated to others.
3. Local municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency. They will provide information about the situation through the regional emergency communications system to RESF 05.
4. RESF 05 will provide a gross assessment of regional impacts, including the boundaries of the damage area, the type and severity of damages, the number and types of casualties, the status of critical facilities, and the possible need to evacuate population.
5. RESF 05 will provide a general assessment of the status of government operations in the affected area and validate the status of operating facilities.
6. In circumstances where the situation involves or has the potential to involve state or federal agencies, RESF 05 will facilitate the sharing of information, as necessary.
7. RESF 05 will gather and display Essential Elements of Information (EEI) to facilitate coordinated activities. Critical information will be reported to the regional emergency communications system as it develops, and reported information will include but not be limited to, the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) outlined in each of the individual RESF Annexes.
8. Information provided through the regional emergency communications system, when developed, will support the development of regional strategies for decision-making.
9. When developed, the regional emergency communications system should be employed when a level three event or higher occurs or is anticipated, when the Department of Homeland Security declares a threat status level of high or “orange”, and upon the request of any recognized authority.

10. When developed, the regional emergency communications system may be activated by calling the entity through which it will be operated.

11. An operational period is the period of time RESF 05 will be engaged in support of regional communication and coordination. It is the length of time required to achieve the objectives of RESF 05. The actual duration of operational periods will be determined by the situation.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 05, Information and Planning, provides for the of the multi-directional flow of communications and facilitates interaction among the following RESFs:

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| RESF 01, Transportation.                 | RESF 02, Communications.        |
| RESF 03, Public Works & Engineering.     | RESF 04, Fire Services.         |
| RESF 06, Mass Care.                      | RESF 07, Resource Support.      |
| RESF 08, Health & Medical Services.      | RESF 09, Urban Search & Rescue. |
| RESF 10, Hazardous Materials.            | RESF 11, Food Services.         |
| RESF 12, Energy .                        | RESF 13, Military.              |
| RESF 14, Media & Preparedness Education. | RESF 15, Volunteer Management.  |
| RESF 16, Law Enforcement.                | RESF 17, Animal Protection.     |
| RESF 18, Donations Management.           |                                 |

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency’s dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.



- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, (or the designated back-up) will receive a call from the other RESF chairs and cochairs asking for instructions regarding if, when, and where to respond.
- The chairperson of RESF 05 (or the designated back-up) will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC). The RCC may be at a pre-designated fixed site, multiple sites or in a mobile command post vehicle.
- The chairperson of RESF 05 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of the Information and Planning Emergency Support Function. RESF 02, Communications, along with RESF 05 and RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, normally will be called out for any activation of the REM Plan.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

RESF 05, Information and Planning, begins communication and coordination operations at the occurrence of the regional emergency or upon a pre-incident emergency declaration. In some instances, this could precede the onset of a regional emergency (e.g., hurricane or blizzard), in which case RESF 05 would operate a monitoring function.

Initial activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Information and planning activities begin in the jurisdictions.
- Information will be shared through the regional emergency communications system.
- REM Plan agencies will use the regional emergency communications system to communicate and coordinate according to their respective emergency management functions.
- Conference calls and broadcast alert messages will be initiated, as required.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

RESF 05's actions last as long as necessary. Over time, the regional coordination responsibilities may transition to local jurisdictions. This transition does not change the mission of RESF 05, Information and Planning, nor does it affect the basic functions of information gathering, processing, analysis, dissemination, and planning. As the tempo of disaster operations slows, the level of effort for RESF 05 will gradually lessen, but support for local jurisdictions will continue, as necessary.

- The focus shifts to the economic impact of the regional emergency, the effectiveness of program delivery, and the identification of recovery issues.

- The emphasis in planning during the recovery phase shifts from the daily action plan to long-range management plans. RESF 05 will assist in regional coordination and communication related to this planning.
- Situation reporting and formal briefings should continue through the recovery phase, although the frequency of both gradually should be reduced.

### **3. Stand Down**

RESF 05 will scale down its operation as conditions warrant. The demobilization process will follow accepted NIMS/ICS practices.

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all participating agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 05**

### **A. RESF 05 responsibilities**

RESF 05, Planning and Information, is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of information relating to emergencies of regional significance. Regional Essential Elements of Information (EEI) have been defined as the minimum information for coordination among the RESFs.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations.
2. Participating agencies are responsible for providing information on their functional activities through the regional emergency communications system (when developed) to RESF 05 for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state, federal, and regional agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
  - Social, economic and political impact.
  - Status of transportation systems.
  - Description of significant service disruptions.
- REM Plan, RESF 05, Information and Planning.

- Status of communication systems.

- Access points to the disaster areas.
- Incident Action Plans.
- Status of operating facilities.
- Hazard-specific information.
- Weather data affecting operations.
- Seismic or other geophysical information.
- Status of critical facilities and distribution systems.
- Status of key personnel.
- Status of disaster or emergency declaration.
- Major issues and activities of RESFs.
- Resource and logistical issues.
- Donations.
- Historical and demographic information.
- Status of energy systems.
- Estimates of potential impact, evacuation needs or status.
- Status of recovery programs (human services, infrastructure, etc.).
- Needs assessment and damage estimates.
- Status of state or federal operations, if known.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase, all RESF 05 personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.

REM Plan, RESF 05, Information and Planning.

- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.

- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Train Regional Incident Dispatch Teams (RIDs) on the operation of a command post.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 05, Planning and Information, will establish the RCC and perform the information, planning, and coordination role described in the purpose section of this annex.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 05 will continue to perform any coordination functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function that aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the affected jurisdictions will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative information for RESF 05**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 5 operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional communication system will be administered by and through a yet to be designated entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Regional Incident Dispatch teams (RID) will be developed and coordinated by RESF 02, Communications.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).
- National Incident Management System.
- State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy Program (SHSAS).
- *A Nation Prepared*, FEMA Strategic Plan, fiscal years 2003-2008.
- *A National Strategy for the Physical Protection of Critical Infrastructures and Key Assets*, dated February 2003.
- *The National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction*, dated December 2002.
- The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (November 2002).
- *The National Strategy for Homeland Security*, dated July 2002.
- *The State of Connecticut Consequence Management Guide for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents*, dated October 2002.

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 06**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

Department of Defense

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security

Connecticut Army National Guard

### **Local Organizations**

Municipal and tribal governments and agencies with facilities suitable for mass care use

Municipal, tribal, and district Health Directors and departments

Municipal and tribal public works departments

### **Private Organizations**

American Red Cross

Salvation Army

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut, Food Center

Thames Valley Council for Community Action

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Connecticut

Various religious and charitable institutions

Foodshare

Connecticut Food Bank

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of the RESF 06, Mass Care, is to coordinate efforts to provide sheltering, feeding, and emergency first aid following a catastrophic disaster or other event requiring federal response assistance. RESF 06 is also responsible for operating a Disaster Welfare Information (DWI) System to collect, receive and report information about the status of victims and to assist with family reunification within the disaster area. In addition, RESF 06 coordinates with RESF 18, Donations Management, on bulk distribution of emergency relief supplies.

2. RESF 06 coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Nature of the emergency, as it affects mass care.
- Assessment of the need for mass care shelters.

REM Plan, RESF 06, Mass Care.

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- Location(s) of mass care facilities to be opened.
- Supplies to operate mass care shelters.

- Security and safety at mass care shelters.
  - Health and medical issues related to mass care.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:
- Incident Commander.
  - Local Emergency Operations Center.
  - Regional Coordination Center.
  - State Emergency Operations Center and other RESFs.
  - Connecticut Department of Public Health.
  - American Red Cross.
  - Salvation Army.
  - Other private organizations.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 06, Mass Care, is designed to monitor, coordinate and support providers of mass care services. Such providers include, but are not limited to, the American Red Cross and federal, state, municipal or tribal governments. RESF 06 is not intended to be a direct provider of mass care services. Rather, the mission of RESF 06 is to monitor the activities of organizations providing mass care and to coordinate those activities through RESF 05, Information and Planning. Such coordination will assure that essential mass care services are being provided and that redundancy is avoided. RESF 06 also supports mass care providers by securing resources and personnel necessary to sustain or augment their operations.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 06, Mass Care, will not usurp or override the authorities or policies of the federal, state, municipal or tribal levels of government.
2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 06 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).
3. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating agencies.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional communication system, as required by the incident. When developed, a regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

## **III. Situation**

## **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A major disaster/incident has occurred somewhere in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of mass care resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide emergency plan.
2. The regional mass care community will experience disruptions in the delivery of routine services.
3. A regional emergency could produce a large concentration of disaster victims with mass care needs.
4. Extended situations of several days or weeks will complicate issues regarding relocation, shelters, food and vehicles.

## **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The primary organization for providing mass care in a major disaster is the American Red Cross (ARC). The ARC is mandated by Congress to respond to all disasters.
2. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
3. The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) will promote inter- and intra-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination.
4. The associated stress of the incident may result in the region's mass care system becoming overwhelmed, producing urgent need for shelter and food and possibly requiring the opening of back-up mass care facilities beyond southeastern Connecticut.
5. Mass care services provided by the ARC generally include the serving of prepared meals, shelter accommodations, limited medical assistance, and either the distribution of bulk food commodities, or the issuing of vouchers for food and other essential needs.
6. Local authorities and local ARC chapters will generally be expected to meet mass care needs of disaster victims for the first 72 hours following a catastrophic disaster.
7. In a catastrophic disaster, the ARC will conduct a major relief operation, initially relying upon personnel and resources from ARC chapters within the state, supported after a short time by other ARC resources mobilized through the ARC regional and national

organizations. The American Red Cross Charter Oak Chapter, Southeastern Connecticut Branch, located in New London, serves as the central planning and operational office for all Red Cross response in the southeastern Connecticut region.

8. A significant number of the shelterees at mass care facilities will have limited or no fluency in English. Mass care facilities will need access to a pool of translators who can communicate effectively with shelter occupants who do not speak or read English. As resources permit, the region will develop Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT) to assist in communicating with segments of the population who do not speak English.

9. In preparation for a disaster of regional significance, it will be necessary to establish and train a designated number of emergency response shelter teams

#### **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

##### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 06, Mass Care, may be activated.

2. Private relief organizations shall direct requests for mass care assistance to the American Red Cross relief operation, which shall forward such requests to the RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

3. RESF 05, Information and Planning, shall review such requests. If the request is consistent with state response priorities, or should otherwise be accorded a high priority, RESF 05 shall coordinate the provision of the requested mass care assistance through available regional resources.

4. If assistance adequate for the nature of the incident is not available through regional agencies, then the RESF 05, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, shall evaluate the need to request state mass care assistance. Upon a determination that state assistance is needed, the RESF 05 chairperson shall request such assistance through the Connecticut Office of Emergency Management.

5. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the REM Plan.

6. RESF 06, Mass Care, will develop the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning mass care.



**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction or proper authority of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 05, Information and Planning, shall facilitate the multi-directional flow of communications.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 06, Mass Care, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 06.
- The chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 06, Mass Care, shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

RESF 06, Mass Care, will be activated through the RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC), through direction from the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC), or through the National Response Plan. Mobilization of

American Red Cross resources and personnel will follow ARC standard operating procedures.

## **2. Continuing Actions**

RESF 06 activities will last as long as necessary. Additional mass care activities may be initiated to deal with the support of first responders.

## **3. Stand Down**

RESF 06 will scale down its operation as conditions warrant. The demobilization process will follow ICS accepted practices.

## **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all mass care agencies and supporting RESFs

# **V. Execution for Emergency Support Function 06**

## **A. RESF 06 Responsibilities**

RESF 06, Mass Care, services regional partners participating in a regional response and will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system (to be developed), as required by the incident and the REM Plan.

## **B. Essential Elements of Information (EEI)**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the signatory agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the collection, exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information relevant to the emergency.

2. RESF 06, Mass Care, is responsible for providing Essential Elements of Information (EEI) on their functional activities through the regional emergency communications system to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations.

3. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state, and regional agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Shelter status and needs.

- Soup Kitchens.
- Mobile Canteens.
- Food Supply.
- Mass Care issues concerning schools, children, family assistance centers, family reunification centers, and foster care.
- Status of communications systems.
- Status of key personnel at ARC.
- Resource and logistical issues.
- Status of operating facilities.
- Status of the emergency response shelter teams.

## **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation-phase all RESF 06 personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Establish and train emergency shelter response teams.
- Recruit and train foreign language translators to facilitate communication at shelters.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 06, Mass Care, will establish/coordinate efforts to provide sheltering, feeding, disaster welfare information, and bulk distribution of emergency relief supplies.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 06 will continue to perform essential mission functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, RESF 06 will provide any necessary support for first responders.

## **VI. Administrative Information for RESF 06**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 06, Mass Care, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Internal ARC policies and procedures will be followed.
- Local officials shall make appropriate facilities available for mass care operations.

- Local officials shall notify utility company liaisons of mass care facilities without emergency power that should be prioritized for power restoration.
- The American Red Cross will work with RESF 06, Mass Care, and other agencies to coordinate the resources necessary to respond to mass care needs.
- Requests for assistance will be coordinated through the American Red Cross.
- The American Red Cross and the Salvation Army will coordinate to increase all resources with the help of their national organizations within 72 hours.
- Whenever possible, shelters will be set up in facilities already designated within the southeastern Connecticut region.
- The American Red Cross will work with all voluntary agencies to coordinate human resources needed for the mass care element of a regional response. Since the number of available volunteers fluctuates in all voluntary agencies, there is a need for coordination among agencies. Where appropriate, the region's Citizens Corps may be a source of supplemental volunteers.
- The Salvation Army and the American Red Cross will have stand-by agreements with merchants for basic supplies. These agreements will be utilized for initial response. The United Way of Southeastern Connecticut also may be of assistance in securing supplies for mass care operations.
- The ARC has 3 national and 2 local mass care vehicles located in the state to be used for response. They have several others available within a two-hour time period.
- The Salvation Army has access to canteen trucks.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 07**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Department of Transportation  
Department of Defense  
General Services Administration

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Transportation  
Connecticut Army National Guard  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Groton-New London Airport  
Adm. Harold Shear State Pier

### **Local and Private Organizations**

All local governmental jurisdictions  
All tribal governmental jurisdictions  
All local volunteer support organizations  
Southeast Area Transit District  
Windham Transit District  
Northeastern Connecticut Transit District  
Commercial Bus Services  
Trucking and Hauling Associations  
The American Red Cross  
Salvation Army (Southern New England Division – CT and RI)  
Citizen Corps

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 07, Resource Support, is to facilitate communication and coordination among regional jurisdictions and agencies concerning emergency resource issues and activities during a major disaster in the Southeastern Connecticut Region.
2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Nature of the emergency, as it affects resource support needs.
  - Level and type of resource support required.
  - Access to the incident site.

REM Plan, RESF 07, Resource Support.

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- Safety at the incident site.
- Deployment of resource support.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- State and federal support agencies.
- Private agencies.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 07 is designed to provide a framework for incidents that require inter-jurisdictional coordination and information sharing. The system developed is a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan), as well as facilitating interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan and the National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 07, Resource Support, will not usurp or override the policies of any federal agency, state government or municipal or tribal government or jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 07 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed via the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, a regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

## **III. Situation**

### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency may adversely affect the availability of emergency response resources throughout the region.

2. A major disaster/incident has occurred in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide disaster plan.

### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
3. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
4. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each participating municipality or tribal nation.
5. Local resources have been depleted. Capabilities and resources differ among the region's municipal and tribal jurisdictions.
6. Jurisdictions have different contracting capabilities.
7. Resource sharing will leverage emergency response capabilities across the region.
8. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions will inhibit efficient coordination of resource support during the immediate response and post-disaster period.
9. The availability of personnel with language skills will be critical. One objective of the REM Plan is the creation of Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT).
10. A wide range of incidents may affect the regional resource support system to varying degrees.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat or occurrence of a regional incident, the chair of RESF 07, Resource Support, will be notified via the regional emergency communications system, when developed.

2. Local municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.
3. Each jurisdiction/agency will implement its emergency contracting and procurement activities, as necessary.
4. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the REM Plan.
5. RESF 07, Resource Support, will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional resource-related issues, in conjunction with the RESF 05, Information and Planning.
6. Requests for information regarding resource issues will be directed to the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system, when developed, will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be made in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.
2. The activation of regional emergency communications system should follow this format:
  - A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
  - The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
  - The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF) of the situation/event and will provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.



- The chair of RESF 07, Resource Support, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 07.
- The chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 07 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports of the affected jurisdictions/agencies to the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

Regional resource support will depend on the severity and duration of the regional emergency. Evaluate continuing needs.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all resource agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 07**

### **A. RESF 07 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

All resource support agencies participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system (to be developed), as required by the incident and the regional emergency management plan (REM Plan) policies.

## **B. Essential Elements of Information (EEI)**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 05 annex contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) that have been identified as the minimum information for coordination among the RESFs and with the regional emergency communications system.

2. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state, and regional resource agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Status of transportation systems.
- Overall priorities of response.
- Status of communication systems.
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities.
- Other RESF's potentially impacted.
- Logistical problems.
- Liability issues and concerns.
- Recommendations for emergency ingress/egress for responders.
- Resource availability.
- Overall priorities for response.
- Status of upcoming events and requirements.
- Status of the RESF 18, Donations Management program.

## **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all resource support agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on REM Plan activation and implementation.

REM Plan, RESF 07, Resource Support.

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- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.

- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Conduct regional resource inventories. Resupply as needed.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 07 will be utilized to capacity as needed to stabilize regional resource shortfalls. RESF 07 resources shall be utilized in any function that will speed the recovery from the emergency.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 07 will continue to perform any emergency functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function that aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the affected municipality or tribal nation will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 07**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 07, Resource Support, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- Agency standard operating procedures.
- When developed, the regional communication system will be administered by a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Jurisdictional emergency procurement procedures.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

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## **Regional Emergency Support Function 08, Health and Medical Services Coordinating and Support Organizations for RESF 08**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)  
Tri-Town Planning Committee

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Food and Drug Administration  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)  
Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Department of Defense  
Department of Veterans Affairs

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services  
Connecticut Medical Examiners Office  
UCONN Health Center – John Dempsey Hospital

### **Local Organizations**

Municipal and tribal directors of health and health departments  
Ledge Light Health District  
Uncas Health District  
Municipal, tribal, and volunteer fire departments  
Municipal and tribal police departments  
Volunteer emergency medical service providers  
Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH)  
Southeastern Mental Health Authority  
Town of Ledyard Nursing Department

### **Private Organizations**

All area contract emergency medical service providers  
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital  
William W. Backus Hospital  
Westerly Hospital  
American Ambulance Service  
Hunter's Ambulance Service  
Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Connecticut  
Connecticut VNA, SE  
American Red Cross  
Pharmacies  
Nursing facilities

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

1. The purpose of RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, is to facilitate communication, cooperation, and coordination among local municipalities, tribal nations, health districts, and supporting agencies concerning health and medical services issues and activities in relation to a regional emergency.

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Damage assessment, as it may affect health and medical needs.
- Assessment of condition and extent of morbidity and mortality.
- Assessment of transportation needs of affected population.
- Determination of the health and medical resources needed.
- Deployment of health and medical resources.
- Access to the incident site.
- Determination of the need for decontamination.
- Supply, facility, and personnel issues.
- Safety of health and medical personnel.
- Limiting the spread of disease.
- Early detection and surveillance measures.
- Determination of isolation and quarantine measures.
- Risk communication and release of public information.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Connecticut Department of Public Health.
- Municipal, tribal and district health directors and departments.
- Various private health service providers.

### B. Scope

RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will focus on information regarding disruptions of health and medical services affecting southeastern Connecticut that require intergovernmental and interagency coordination.

## II. Policies

1. RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will not usurp or override the policies of any federal, state, municipal or tribal government or other jurisdiction.

2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 08 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.

REM Plan, RESF 08, Health and Medical Services.

3. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident or the REM Plan. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A major disaster/incident has occurred within southeastern Connecticut. The situation requires the mobilization of hospital, public health, or emergency medical resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide disaster plan.
2. If bio-surveillance detects anomalies indicating a possible issue regarding public health, preventive actions will be initiated to reduce the adverse effects on the region.
3. The regional health and medical community will experience disruptions in the delivery of routine services.
4. A regional emergency could produce a large concentration of fatalities, mass casualties, specialized injuries, widespread illness, chemical, biological or radiological contamination, and other problems that could overwhelm the region's healthcare community.
5. Extended situations of several days or weeks will increase the risk of disease and injury and pose a growing threat to public health. Specific areas of concern include evacuation, mass care shelters, vector control, sanitation, potable water, and wastewater and solid waste management.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. Neither the Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG nor RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will assume any command and control activities.
3. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
4. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of municipalities, tribal nations or other jurisdictions.

5. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating agencies.
6. Local and standard mutual aid resources have been depleted.
7. Decontamination procedures have been developed for field operations. These procedures will handle 100 wet-decon patients per hour and 100 dry-decon patients per hour.
8. Area hospitals will receive an influx of patients requiring bed space.
9. Many people coming to the hospitals will not have symptoms and can be seen elsewhere.
10. Hospital capacity could be limited or reduced by staffing limitations, by damage to the facility or by the loss of equipment/supplies as a result of the incident.
11. Energetic and early surveillance by the State Department of Public Health and the prompt distribution of information through the regional emergency communications system will alert area hospitals when a mass patient incident is or might be expected.
12. Hospitals have agreements or understandings with community clinics and other locations where ambulatory patients can be referred for outpatient care, reassurance and or education.
13. If the state has declared a public health emergency, one or both hospitals in the region or a state mobile hospital facility may be designated to handle only patients from the event.
14. Approximately 150,000 people in this region could be immunized over a ten-day period.
15. Transportation and communications capability is critical to the delivery of healthcare services.
16. Medical re-supply will be based on the requirements of the affected jurisdictions.
17. A terrorist use of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) may lead to toxic water/air/land environments that threaten surviving populations and response personnel. Potential dangers include exposure to hazardous chemicals, biological agents, radiological substances, and contaminated water supplies and food products. A further complication for healthcare personnel and facilities is the possibility that injured or sick victims of the attack may have to be decontaminated before they can be treated safely.



18. The region's mental health system may become overwhelmed, producing urgent need for mental health crisis counseling for emergency victims, response personnel, and the general public.

19. The availability of multi-lingual personnel will be critical. Development of Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT) will be a priority need in advance of an emergency of regional significance.

20. A large number of medical service providers may be unavailable as a result of the incident. This could be due to a variety of reasons, including injury, inability to reach a designated duty station or a personal decision. In the case of a threatened or actual terrorist attack, medical facilities may themselves be targets. Such a situation could significantly reduce the region's health and medical resources. This would require the region to seek assistance from beyond southeastern Connecticut, including help from the State of Connecticut and the federal government.

#### **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

##### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will be activated.

2. Municipalities, tribal nations, and health districts will coordinate and execute their respective health and medical service authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.

3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities, as outlined under the REM Plan.

4. RESF 08 will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional health, mental health, and medical-related issues, including disease surveillance. Such information and analysis will be distributed to appropriate entities through the regional emergency communications system, when developed.

5. Requests for information regarding health and medical issues may be directed to the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, if the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) has been established.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system, when developed, will provide a communication platform (or system) to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 05, Information and Planning, will coordinate the multi-directional flow of communications, in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.

2. The activation of regional communication system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 08.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

- Public Health – The public health element of RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will function in the role of advisor for the Incident Commander or the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) for any event directly related to health issues. Public Health will play the lead role in any bioterrorist event or incident involving infectious diseases. There are 15 municipal or district health directors/departments in the region; however, only four of these operate with full-time directors. Additionally, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation has its own health department. The Connecticut Department of Public Health has defined southeastern Connecticut in Emergency Public Health Preparedness Planning Region 10.

- Hospital Services – The two acute care regional hospitals, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital and William W. Backus Hospital, will mobilize staff and implement internal policy and procedures for the reception of large numbers of casualties. Westerly Hospital, adjacent to the region in Westerly, R.I., will be alerted and may choose to mobilize its resources as well.
- The federal government has created a Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) of antibiotics, chemical antidotes, antitoxins, life-support medications, IV administration, airway maintenance supplies, and medical/surgical items. The SNS is managed jointly by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Human Services. The SNS is designed to supplement and re-supply state and local public health agencies in the event of a national emergency anywhere and at any time within the United States or its territories. As necessary, the Strategic National Stockpile could be accessed in the event of a major regional emergency affecting southeastern Connecticut.
- Emergency Medical Services – EMS will play the major role in field operations involving Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI) or any event involving the delivery of emergency medical services or transportation of patients.
- Mental Health – The Mental Health component will assess the impact and stress of any given incident and use mental health professionals to effect a positive outcome for both the victims and the rescuers. Stress analysis will be continuous throughout the length of the incident and for a recommended post-event period.

## **2. Continuing Actions**

Each element performs its operational mission, information sharing, monitoring and tracking of developing situations.

## **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process for each of the RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, elements will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

## **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all health and medical services agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Emergency Support Function 08, Health and Medical Services**

### **A. RESF 08 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Health and medical services partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and the REM Plan.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 05 annex to the REM Plan contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes the Essential Elements of Information (EEI), which are the minimum information for coordination among the RESFs and with the regional emergency communications system, which will be developed.

2. In the event of a regional emergency, RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, state municipal, tribal, and regional agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Status of health and medical service personnel, resources, equipment, supplies and facilities affected by the incident/threat of incident.
- Actual impacts on the function and/or jurisdiction (social, economic, or political).
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Recommendations on emergency ingress/egress.
- Assessment of health/medical needs, including in-patient capacity.
- Health surveillance, including infectious disease surveillance.
- Patient identification, tracking and evacuation requirements.
- In-hospital care.
- Food/drug/medical device safety.
- Worker health safety.

- Radiological/chemical/biological hazards consultation and technical assistance, decontamination of victims and personnel.
- Mental health care for victims and emergency personnel.
- Public health information and risk communications.
- Need for and availability of mortuary resources.
- Vector control.
- Potable water/wastewater and solid waste disposal testing.
- Veterinary services and animal control.
- Victim identification.
- Credentialing requirements.
- Liability issues and concerns.
- Patient tracking/locator capabilities.
- RESF 06, Mass Care, issues concerning schools, children, family assistance centers, family reunification centers, and foster care.
- Agricultural services and related issues.
- Interaction with the regional pharmaceutical stockpile.
- Access to the Strategic National Stockpile.
- Distribution of prophylactic medications and immunizations.
- Security services at health and medical services facilities.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all RESF 08 personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

#### **a. Public Health**

- Develop and train on a health surveillance system for the region.

- Determine the procedures for mass immunization or mass prophylaxis, locally and in the region.
- Train on procedures for potable water/wastewater and solid waste disposal testing.
- Develop standards on isolation and quarantine.
- Develop standards for security of public health emergency operations.
- Develop voluntary resources of health/medical personnel, supplies, and equipment.
- Establish procedures for case management and coordination.
- Coordinate with RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering, regarding environmental issues affecting public health.
- Coordinate with RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, to ensure distribution of accurate public information regarding issues affecting public health.
- In the event of mass casualties, assure that sufficient mortuary resources are available.
- Coordinate with state and federal laboratories to facilitate identification/isolation of causative agent(s).
- Develop procedures for storage of a regional pharmaceutical stockpile.

### **b. Hospital Services**

- Train on and adopt the Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS).
- Develop procedures for quick identification of in-patient capacity.
- Develop procedures for the forward movement of patients.
- Develop standards for lock-down and security of hospital operations.
- Train on internal hospital decontamination procedures.
- Train first responders under their medical control in medical counter measures for chemical incidents.

### **c. Emergency Medical Services**

- Train on mass casualty incident procedures.
- Develop an ambulance and equipment relocation policy for the region.
- Train on procedures for patient identification and tracking.
- Train on field decontamination procedures.

### **d. Mental Health**

- Train first responders in stress assessment procedures for field operations.
- Establish policy for coordinating crisis intervention procedures among the various agencies.

**2. Emergency phase** – During the emergency phase, RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will perform all required mission-related activities in the safest manner. Coordination efforts will be through the regional emergency communications system and the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). Functions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Provide leadership in coordinating and integrating the overall regional effort to provide medical and public health assistance in the area(s) affected by the incident.
- Coordinate an assessment of health and medical needs.
- Determine the need for additional personnel and other resources.

- As appropriate, initiate requests through the State Emergency Operations Center for assistance to supplement local resources.
- Coordinate the activation and deployment of voluntary resources of health/medical personnel, supplies, and equipment (in conjunction with RESF 18, Donations Management, and RESF 15, Volunteer Management).
- Coordinate responses for:
  - Hazardous materials.
  - Personal protective equipment for first responders and workers.
  - Safety of food and drugs.
  - Radiological hazards.
  - Mental health issues.
  - Temporary treatment centers.
  - Quarantine and isolation, where necessary.
  - Vector control.
  - Potable water, wastewater, and solid waste issues (in conjunction with RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering).
  - Victim identification/mortuary services.
  - Dispensing of pharmaceuticals.
  - Mobilization of voluntary resources.
- Acquire and assess information about the emergency; continue to identify the nature and extent of health and medical issues.
- Coordinate the release of appropriate and timely public health information with RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.
- As appropriate, coordinate health and medical resources deployed in response to the incident.
- Coordinate the establishment of temporary treatment centers.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, will continue to perform any mission functions initiated during the emergency phase. In addition, concurrent or follow-on operations/missions that complement emergency operations will be instituted during this phase.

## **VI. Administrative Information for RESF 08**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.

- Support agency policy and procedures manuals.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).



# **Regional Emergency Support Function 09, Urban Search and Rescue**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 09**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
New London County Fire Chiefs Association  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Defense

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, State Police  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Transportation  
Connecticut State Fire/Disaster Response Plan  
State Fire Marshal's Office  
Connecticut Fire Academy  
Connecticut Task Force 1 – Urban Search and Rescue Team (CT-TF-1)

### **Local Organizations**

Local fire department technical rescue teams  
Area animal rescue teams  
Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, (USAR) is to facilitate communication and coordination concerning technical rescue capabilities during a major disaster in the Southeastern Connecticut Region.
2. The scope of such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Damage assessment.
  - Evaluation of the need for USAR resources.
  - Deployment of USAR resources.
  - Staging area(s).
  - Access to the incident site(s).
  - Safety of USAR teams.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following entities:
  - Incident Commander.

REM Plan, RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue.

- Local Emergency Operations Center.

- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Municipal or tribal fire departments.
- Various EMS support organizations.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 09 is intended to focus on developing and implementing a regional disaster response capability for USAR. The system developed will be a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan), as well as facilitating interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan and the National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or any other jurisdiction.
2. RESF 09 will support the Connecticut USAR Task Force 1 (CT – TF1) program.
3. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
4. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 09 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
5. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.
6. In a regional emergency requiring Urban Search and Rescue resources, RESF 09, in conjunction with the Statewide Fire/Disaster Mobilization System and the Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security, will take the lead on behalf of regional jurisdictions to facilitate and coordinate an effective USAR response.

## **III. Situation**

### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency may adversely affect the urban search and rescue infrastructure throughout the region.

2. A major disaster/incident has occurred in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of USAR resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide response plan.

### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
4. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
5. Local and standard mutual aid resources have been depleted.
6. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions will inhibit efficient coordination of USAR operations during the immediate response and post-disaster period.
7. The availability of personnel with language skills will be critical. The formation and training of Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT) is a priority.
8. A large number of fire service providers and their equipment may be injured, damaged or lost in the incident.
9. USAR operations may affect the movement of relief supplies throughout the region.
10. The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and/or RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will be the point of contact for the purposes of coordinating USAR operations.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, will be notified via the regional communications system, when developed..
2. Municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.

3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the REM Plan.

4. In conjunction with the regional emergency communications system, RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information related to regional search and rescue issues.

5. Requests for information regarding search and rescue issues will be directed to the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 05, Information and Planning, provides for the multidirectional flow of communications.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chairperson of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 09.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

- The chair of RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports to the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

### **2. Continuing Actions**

Continue information sharing. Evaluate continuing needs. RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, will coordinate with RESF 04, Fire Services, and RESF 02, Communications, for communication and coordination issues regarding regional needs.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all USAR/fire service agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 09**

### **A. RESF 09 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Urban Search and Rescue partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and the REM Plan.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among various agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the collection, exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 05 annex outlines the process of information exchange and describes the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) needed for coordination among the RESFs and with the regional emergency communications system.

2. In the event of a regional emergency, municipal, tribal, state, and regional USAR/fire service agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Overall priorities of response.
- Access points to emergency areas.
- Staging area(s).
- Incident Action Plans.
- Security procedures.
- Initial and continuing assessment of situation.
- Accountability procedures.
- Major issues affecting USAR.
- Resource shortfalls.
- Status of communication systems.
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities.
- Safety concerns.
- Radiological/chemical/biological hazards consultation and technical assistance, decontamination of victims and personnel.
- Logistical problems.
- Liability issues and concerns.
- Status of USAR operations.
- Injuries and medical emergencies, in coordination with RESF 08, Health and Medical Services.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase all USAR personnel will accomplish the following:

- Train on REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.

REM Plan, RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue.

- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.

- Assess regional capabilities.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request equipment, as appropriate.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, and all associated resources will be utilized to capacity, as needed to control and stabilize the emergency. RESF 09 resources shall be utilized in any function that will speed the recovery from the emergency incident within the parameters of their individual training and/or capabilities.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 09 will continue to perform any emergency functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function that aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the impact community(ies) will be performed.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 09**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 09, Urban Search and Rescue, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- Departmental standard operating procedures, standard operating guidelines, training manuals, general orders, and policy directives.
- Emergency medical procedures will conform to guidelines issued by medical control authorities, RESF 08, Health and Medical Services, hospital authorities, and public health authorities.
- The regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- National Response Plan.
- National Incident Management System.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.

- State of Connecticut, *Statewide Fire-Rescue Disaster Response Plan.*

- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).



# **Regional Emergency Support Function 10, Hazardous Materials**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 10**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments  
New London County Fire Chiefs Association  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Environmental Protection Agency  
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service  
U. S. Fire Administration  
Department of Defense  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
State Fire Marshal's Office  
Connecticut Fire Academy  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials (SERC)

### **Local Organizations**

Municipal and tribal fire departments  
Local Emergency Planning Committees (LERC)

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, is to coordinate the rapid mobilization, deployment, and utilization of regional resources during a major disaster in the southeastern Connecticut region involving hazardous materials.
2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Damage assessment, as it affects hazardous materials.
  - Assessment of the presence or threat of hazardous materials at the incident site.
  - Determination of the nature of any hazardous materials.
  - Determination of the resources needed to respond to the hazardous materials aspects of the regional emergency.
  - Deployment of appropriate personnel and equipment in response to the emergency.
  - Access to the incident site.

REM Plan, RESF 10, Hazardous Materials.

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- Staging area.

- Safety of personnel.
  - Need for decontamination facilities and procedures.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:
- Incident Commander.
  - Local Emergency Operations Center
  - Regional Coordination Center.
  - State Emergency Operations Center.
  - Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.
  - Connecticut Department of Public Health.
  - Appropriate federal agencies.
  - Municipal, tribal, and volunteer fire departments.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 10 is intended to focus on developing and implementing a regional hazardous materials response capability through the fire service. The system developed will be a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan), as well as facilitating interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan, and National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or any other jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating agencies.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.
5. In a regional emergency involving hazardous materials, RESF 10 will cooperate with appropriate federal and state agencies to facilitate and coordinate an effective regional response.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A major disaster/incident has occurred in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of or the stand-by status of regional hazardous materials response resources.
2. A regional emergency may adversely affect the hazardous materials response capability throughout the region.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The regional hazardous materials response resources will include public and private organizations.
2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
3. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
4. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each participating jurisdiction.
5. A large number of fire service providers and equipment may be injured, damaged or lost in the incident.
6. The presence of hazardous waste and/or response efforts may affect the movement of relief supplies throughout the region.
7. The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and/or RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will be the point of contact for the purposes of coordinating a response to an incident involving hazardous materials.

### **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

#### **A. General**

1. In the event of a regional incident, RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, will be notified.
2. Municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.

3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities, as outlined under the REM Plan.

4. In conjunction with the regional emergency communications system, RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information related to regional hazardous materials issues.

5. Requests for information regarding hazardous materials issues will be directed to the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional hazardous materials emergency, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communications platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 05, Information and Planning, provides for the multi-directional flow of communications.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 10.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

- The chair of RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, shall be responsible for calling/notifying any other members of that emergency support function.

## **B. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports via the Incident Commander (IC) of the affected jurisdictions through the regional emergency communications system.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

Continue information sharing, monitoring and tracking of trends. Evaluate continuing needs.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all fire service and hazardous materials agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 10**

### **A. RESF 10 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Fire services partners participating in a regional hazardous materials response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system or to RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC), as required by the incident and the REM Plan.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among agencies during emergency situations. RES 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the collection, exchange, analysis, reporting, and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 05 annex outlines the process of information exchange and describes the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) needed for coordination among the RESFs and with the regional emergency communications system.

2. In the event of a regional hazardous materials emergency, municipal, tribal, state, and regional fire service agencies concerned with hazardous materials will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Overall priorities of response.
- Products involved and stabilization plan.
- Description of significant disruptions in fire service delivery.
- Status of communication systems.
- Decontamination procedures.
- Hospital notification.
- Relevant demographic information.
- Recommendations on emergency ingress/egress.
- Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities.
- Firefighter safety.
- Radiological/chemical/biological hazards consultation and technical assistance, decontamination of victims and personnel.
- Logistical problems.
- Liability issues and concerns.
- Status of hazardous materials operations.
- Injuries and medical emergencies, in coordination with RESF 08, Health and Medical Services.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** – During the preparation phase the regional hazardous materials response team will accomplish the following:

- Plan and implement a 13/10-response capability for the regional HAZMAT team.
- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.

REM Plan, RESF 10, Hazardous Materials.

- Cross-train to function in any deployment role at the scene of a hazardous materials incident.
- Selected personnel will train as team members for incident command overhead teams.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request equipment, as appropriate.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning..

**2. Emergency phase** – During the emergency phase, RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, will be used to capacity to support efforts to stabilize the hazardous materials event. RESF 10 resources shall be maintained strictly for use in a nuclear, chemical, radiological, or biological event, including decontamination operations.

**3. Recovery phase** – During the recovery phase, RESF 10 will continue to be a restricted use resource.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 10**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 10, Hazardous Materials, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Departmental standard operating procedures, standard operating guidelines, training manuals, general orders, and policy directives.
- Emergency medical procedures will conform to guidelines or advisories issued by medical control authorities, hospital authorities, and public health authorities or by RESF 08, Health and Medical Services.
- Standard regional hazardous materials training documents or manuals.
- Regional response team standard operating guidelines.
- National Fire Protection Association standards.
- OSHA regulations and guidance.

- Standard regional guidance concerning decontamination procedures will be utilized by all regional agencies.
- The *State of Connecticut Consequence Management Guide for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents*, November 2003.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).



# Regional Emergency Support Function 11, Food Services

## Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 11

### Regional Organizations

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)

### Federal Government Organizations

Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

### Connecticut State Government Organizations

Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management

### Local Organizations

Municipal and tribal governments and agencies

Citizen Corps

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

### Private Organizations

American Red Cross

Salvation Army

Thames Valley Council for Community Action

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut

Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH)

Faith-based providers

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

1. The purpose of RESF 11, Food Services, is to support and coordinate the critical mission of providing food to both citizens and emergency responders during a major disaster in the Southeastern Connecticut Region.

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Damage assessment, as it affects the availability and distribution of food.
- Access to the incident site, to mass care facilities, and to other locations where food is needed.
- Transportation infrastructure and services, as these affect food distribution.
- Assessment of food service resources required.
- Deployment of food service resources.
- Availability of supplemental food supplies.
- Safety of personnel.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.

REM Plan, RESF 11, Food Services.

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- Local Emergency Operations Center.

- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Municipal and tribal officials.
- American Red Cross.
- Salvation Army.
- Other private organizations with support resources.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 11, Food Services, is focused on the development and implementation of a food distribution system. The scope of this system is to plan and organize to meet pre-event, event, and post-event food service requirements. Local and regional Emergency Response Teams (ERT) will be established to implement this mission. Such teams may be formed as part of the Citizen Corps. The system developed will be a component of the REM Plan, as well as facilitating interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan and the National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 11, Food Services, will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state municipal or tribal governments or of any other jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating agencies.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that the RESF 11 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and the REM Plan. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

## **III. Situation**

### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

A regional incident has occurred that requires mass food distribution to citizens and/or emergency response personnel.

2. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
3. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each participating jurisdiction.
4. Damage resulting from the regional emergency may inhibit the movement and distribution of food supplies to and within the region.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. In the event of a regional incident, RESF 11, Food Services, will be notified via the regional communication system, when developed.
2. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities, as outlined under the REM Plan.
3. Requests for information regarding food operations will be directed to the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center, (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional incident involving the prolonged need for food distribution, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 05, Information and Planning, provides for the multi-directional flow of communication.
2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:
  - A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.

- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 11, Food Services, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 11.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 11 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports via the Incident Commander (IC) of the affected jurisdiction through the regional emergency communications system.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

Continue information sharing, monitoring and tracking of trends in food distribution. Evaluate continuing needs. Take appropriate action to facilitate and coordinate food distribution.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all food distribution teams and agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 11**

### **A. RESF 11, Food Services, Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Food service partners participating in a regional emergency food distribution will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and the REM Plan.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among RESFs during emergency situations.

2. In the event of a regional incident requiring food distribution, municipal, tribal, state, and regional support agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Status of responding canteen units.
- Status of food/water supplies.
- Status of Emergency Response Teams (ERT).
- Status of communication systems.
- Logistical problems.
- Transportation issues affecting food distribution.
- Public Health inspection needs.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation Phase** - During the preparation phase, RESF 11 leadership, teams, and support agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train all Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) and supporting agencies on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Assess current arrangements to meet food supply needs during a regional emergency and strengthen these, as necessary.

**2. Emergency Phase** - During the emergency phase, RESF 11 will facilitate and coordinate food distribution services to the extent that the mission requires.

**3. Recovery Phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 11, Food Services, will continue to provide services initiated in the emergency phase. As necessary, additional food distribution services may be undertaken during the recovery phase.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 11**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 11, Food Services, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

# **Regional Emergency Support Function 12, Energy**

## **Coordinating and Support Organizations for RESF 12**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
New England Public Power Association  
New England Gas Association

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Department of Energy  
United States Army, Corps of Engineers

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Transportation  
Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (Energy Division)  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Public Utilities Control

### **Local Organizations**

Norwich Public Utilities  
Groton Public Utilities  
Jewett City Light Department  
Bozrah Light & Power  
Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative

### **Private Organizations**

American Red Cross  
Salvation Army  
Northeast Utilities  
Duke Energy  
Companies operating natural gas pipelines within southeastern Connecticut  
Connecticut Light and Power Company  
Dominion Nuclear Connecticut  
American Ref-fuel  
Wheelabrator  
Southeastern Connecticut fuel distributors (liquid and gas)

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 12, Energy, is to facilitate communication and coordination among regional jurisdictions to ensure an effective response to a potential or actual regional emergency involving energy infrastructure. Electricity, natural gas, and REM Plan, RESF 12, Energy.

petroleum-based fuels are the major mission area for this Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF).

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Damage assessment, as it affects energy supplies and distribution.
- Evaluation of the emergency demand for energy in relation to reduced supply.
- Development of energy response plans.
- Assessment of energy resources (personnel, equipment, fuel) needed.
- Priorities in allocating energy resources in response to the emergency.
- Deployment of energy resources.
- Access to incident site.
- Staging area(s).
- Personnel safety.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Municipal and tribal officials.
- Various state and federal agencies concerned with energy.
- Private entities involved in the production, storage or distribution of energy or fuels.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 12 will focus on disruptions of energy systems requiring regional coordination and information sharing. Energy is essential to providing practically every system or emergency support function. Disruptions in energy supplies and service will create significant emergency response problems in addition to extreme financial losses. The energy function is executed through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). The RCC is a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) and facilitates interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan, and National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 12, Energy, will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or of any other jurisdiction.

2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.

3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 12 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.



4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional communication system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

5. At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 12 will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and will participate in regional emergency decisions concerning energy. This action will provide technical expertise and the information necessary to develop an accurate assessment of an ongoing situation affecting energy supplies and distribution.

6. RESF 12 will share information with appropriate municipal, tribal, state, and federal agencies, utilities, the private sector, and non-profit organizations.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

A regional emergency may be of such severity and magnitude that it could adversely affect the energy resources and infrastructure in the region. This includes electricity generation, transmission, and distribution; the natural gas storage, transmission, and distribution systems; and the petroleum storage and distribution systems. Communication and transportation capabilities could be severely reduced at the same time as a significant surge in demand for energy.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will not assume any command and control activities. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.

2. Sharing information during a regional emergency will benefit all jurisdictions. There are immediate and continuous information needs unique to the jurisdictional decision-makers.

3. Energy infrastructure is critical to the region and may experience disruptions during and for some time after an incident of regional significance.

4. Energy infrastructure damage may limit the efficient coordination of resources during the emergency and post disaster period.

5. Energy disruptions may affect the execution of other emergency support functions in the region.

6. The energy infrastructure must be sensitive and responsive to state and federal contingency plans.
7. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will be the primary point of contact for municipalities and tribal nations regarding information about energy-related concerns and problems.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 12, Energy, will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and convene the appropriate agencies to provide technical expertise and information necessary to assess and analyze energy-related aspects of the emergency.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. RESF 12, Energy, will maintain an emergency notification matrix for use in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and by the regional emergency communications system. This matrix will identify the key energy resource personnel and agencies to be notified during a confirmed or potential regional emergency.
2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:
  - A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
  - The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
  - The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
  - The chair of RESF 12, Energy, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, to confer on immediate functions for RESF 12.

- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 12 shall be responsible for calling/notifying any other members of that emergency support function.
- Additionally, upon notification, the chair of RESF 12 will establish contact with state and federal agencies that may be involved in responding to the energy-related aspects of a regional emergency.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

- Upon detection of an energy-related incident, the Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG or any participating RESF 12 organization, agency, municipality or tribal nation will make an internal assessment of the situation.
- RESF 12 organizations, agencies, municipalities or tribal nations will provide information and recommend actions necessary to deal with the issue or problem. Essential Elements of Information (EEI) will be provided to RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

### **2. Continuing Actions**

- RESF 12, Energy, will serve as the coordinating point for addressing energy-related issues. RESF 12 will monitor and communicate through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and the regional emergency communications system.
- Through RESF 12, energy expertise will be available to support the data collection, analysis and recommendation processes of the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). The sources for such assistance include private, municipal, tribal, state, and federal authorities on energy. RESF 12 also will make recommendations on energy conservation for the region before, during, and following a regional emergency.
- RESF 12, Energy, will help locate fuel for transportation, natural gas services, generators, technical support, communications, and emergency operations.
- RESF 12 will coordinate the collection and reporting of energy supply information to the public through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.

### **3. Stand Down**

- Lingering energy problems following a regional emergency may result in RESF 12, Energy, continuing in an active mode longer than will be the case for some other RESFs.
- RESF 12 will stand down when the energy situation has stabilized sufficiently to no longer be a regional problem. The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

### **3. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all RESFs and supporting agencies involved in the response to energy issues.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 12**

### **A. RESF 12, Energy, Responsibilities**

RESF 05, Planning and Information, is responsible for the collection, exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. RESF 12 and its supporting agencies will assist RESF 05 in carrying out these functions as they relate to energy issues.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among various agencies during emergency situations.
2. Regional Essential Elements of Information (EEI) have been identified as the minimum information for coordination among the RESFs.
3. RESF 12 will provide Essential Elements of Information (EEI) related to energy issues through the regional emergency communications system to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations.
4. In the event of an emergency of regional significance affecting the supply or distribution of energy in southeastern Connecticut, municipal, tribal, state, and regional support agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
  - Jurisdictions involved.
  - Social, economic and political impact.
  - Status of transportation systems.
  - Status of communication systems.
  - Status of key contractors.

- Detailed damage report on any energy infrastructure.
- Weather data affecting operations.
- Seismic or other geophysical information.
- Status of critical facilities and distribution systems.
- Status of energy systems.
- Estimates of potential impact.
- Status of recovery programs.
- Needs assessment and damage estimates.
- Status of state or federal operations, if known.
- Response needs and priorities.
- Injuries and medical emergencies.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase, all RESF 12, Energy, personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** - When activated during the emergency phase, RESF 12, Energy, will assemble at the designated Regional Coordinating Center (RCC) and perform the information, planning, and coordination role described in the purpose section of this annex.

**3. Recovery phase** - During this phase, RESF 12, Energy, will continue to perform any necessary coordination and information functions initiated during the emergency phase.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 12**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 12, Energy, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional communication system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- National Response Plan.

- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## **Regional Emergency Support Function 13, Military**

NOTE: This RESF may be developed at a later date.

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# **Regional Emergency Support Function 14, Media and Preparedness Education**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 14**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team (CERRIT)  
Tri-town Local Emergency Planning Committee

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Federal agency public information officers

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials (SERC)  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
State agency public information officers

### **Local Organizations**

Mayors and First Selectmen for all participating municipalities  
Tribal Council Chairs for all participating tribal nations  
City, Town, and Tribal Managers for all participating municipalities and tribal nations  
Local public health departments and districts.  
Local agency Public Health Risk Communications Officers  
Local school boards and districts  
Utility public affairs officers

### **Private Organizations**

American Red Cross  
The Salvation Army  
Electronic and print news media  
Cable television companies  
Citizen Corps  
William W. Backus Hospital, Office of Communications  
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, Office of Communications

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, is to provide accurate, authoritative and timely information to the news media and public before, during and

after a potential or actual regional emergency. RESF 14 will coordinate with municipalities and tribal nations to communicate emergency information to the public through the media, employers, schools, and community organizations. Essential service information will be delivered before and during an emergency event in the region.

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Development and distribution of preparedness information to the public.
- Dissemination of information to the media and the public regarding any regional emergency.
- Assistance needed by any municipal or tribal Chief Executive Officers or Public Information Officers.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Municipal and tribal officials.
- Mass care shelter directors.
- News media covering the incident.

## **B. Scope**

1. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will cooperate with other entities to promote and encourage public preparedness in advance of a regional emergency. During an actual emergency, RESF 14 will execute its public communication functions through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). The RCC is a component of the Regional Emergency Management Plan (REM Plan) and facilitates interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan and the National Response Plan.

2. RESF 14 is a support function for both the REM Plan and the chief administrative officers of the municipalities/tribal nations directly affected by the emergency or for the regional experts in the other emergency support functions.

3. The principal mission of RESF 14 is to provide accurate, consistent, and easy-to-understand information. Additionally, RESF 14 will assist in coordinating communication among affected jurisdictions or agencies. Specific objectives include:

- Coordinate regional information and message development between involved agencies and the RCC.
- Convey the nature of the regional incident to the public.
- Provide critical information to the media and public about the regional response capability and status.
- Provide critical information about public support activities such as shelter, transportation, and recovery assistance.
- Provide critical public health/medical information.
- Minimize rumors through accurate, authoritative regional information.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or any other jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 14 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.
5. At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 14 will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and will participate in regional emergency decisions concerning the release of public information.
6. RESF 14 will share information with appropriate municipal, tribal, state, and federal agencies, utilities, schools, employers, and non-profit organizations.

## **III. Situation**

### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. There are several different levels of regional incidents and regional emergencies that may require different types of coordination and communications. Three condition levels are described below:
  - A Major Regional Incident (MRI) or emergency will produce significant disruptions in multiple essential services. This type of event is likely to be life-threatening to some extent. Normal means of communicating in the affected jurisdictions may be destroyed or disrupted. RESF 14 will be activated for the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) by means of the regional emergency communications system, when developed. RESF 14 personnel will assist the chief administrative officers of the affected jurisdictions where possible, but will not function as the Public Information Officer (PIO) or Public Health Risk Communications Officer (PHRCO) for a specific Incident Commander (IC).
  - A Disruptive Regional Incident (DRI) or emergency may or may not be life-threatening to the general public. Communications are probably functional. Mobility, public safety, and health may be adversely affected. Early release of employees or school children may

be necessary. RESF 14 will be activated for use in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

- A Standard Regional Incident (SRI) or emergency may create problems in the delivery of essential services, but these are definable or limited in impact. This type of event may be life threatening, but on a very limited scale. In this situation, RESF 14 may be activated for use in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

## **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will not assume any command and control activities. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.

2. Sharing information during a regional incident will benefit all jurisdictions.

3. Accurate and timely information is critical to the region.

4. There will be a frontline Public Information Officer (PIO) and Public Health Risk Communications Officer (PHRCO) at the incident functioning under the Incident Commander (IC). RESF 14 personnel shall not function in these capacities unless specifically authorized to do so by the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, and with the concurrence of the Incident Commander.

5. The focus of RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will be on information related to regional impacts, in-depth analysis, expert opinions, and media relations regarding regional aspects of the emergency.

6. When requested to do so, RESF 14 may work directly with the chief administrative officer of any given jurisdiction.

7. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will be the principal point-of-contact for municipalities or tribal nations to coordinate information about regional concerns and problems.

8. RESF 14 will work in coordination with state and federal media efforts.

9. In certain types of emergencies, some information may be controlled or highly sensitive law enforcement or national security data. This information is to be protected and will be released only through or with the concurrence of the proper authorities.

1. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will provide support to chief administrative officers, chairpersons of other emergency support functions, the REM Plan, RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.

## IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination

### A. General

Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG, or regional experts in functional areas of the RESFs. The primary responsibility of RESF 14 is to coordinate information among local jurisdictions accurately and in a timely manner. Requests for information regarding a regional emergency will be coordinated through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) or the Public Information Officer (PIO) and the Public Health Risk Communications Officer (PHRCO) of the affected jurisdiction.

2. In situations where the incident or emergency occurs within one jurisdiction, the lead Public Information Officer (PIO) and the Public Health Risk Communications Officer (PHRCO) for the incident will be the affected jurisdiction's representative.

3. In situations where a regional emergency affects multiple jurisdictions, a designated Public Information Officer (PIO) and a Public Health Risk Communications Officer (PHRCO) from RESF 14 will be located at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). With the mutual agreement of all jurisdictions and agencies involved in the incident, RESF 14 will assume the additional responsibility of coordinating reports from each agency. This will create an accurate and useful summary of the incident that can be transmitted to the public through timely releases to the media. Under this scenario, individual agencies will refer all media inquiries to the RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) in order to ensure accurate and consistent public messages.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will be notified in the initial alert or request or support notification. At RESF 05's request or the establishment of a Regional Coordination Center (RCC), RESF 14 will respond to the designated location.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units or 40 additional police officers, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.

- The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 14.
- The chair of RESF 05 will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.
- Additionally, upon notification, RESF 14 will establish contact with state and federal agencies that may be involved.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

- Before, during, and after a regional incident or emergency, RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will coordinate with the chief administrative officers and Public Information Officers (PIO) and Public Health Risk Communications Officers (PHRCO) of the affected jurisdictions and agencies. The purpose of such coordination is to deliver accurate news information, public messages, and background analysis to the news media. This will include notification of the media regarding the event, and notification that the region is responding cooperatively. RESF 14 may supplement and complement the incident jurisdiction's Public Information Officer (PIO) and Public Health Risk Communications Officers (PHRCO) by providing regional information and regional analysis.
- RESF 14 will participate in planning meetings, conferences, and decision-making sessions of the subject-matter experts.
- The chief administrative officer from each affected jurisdiction will provide information about the region's emergency response efforts and will work with other officials to develop a unified message.

- Based on the nature and the extent of the situation, the Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG or any participating organization, agency, municipality or tribal nation may request a message development meeting to discuss the emergency. In such instances, RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will facilitate the coordination of a common message.
- RESF 14 is responsible for developing talking points on regional information/messages for the chief executive officers and/or chief administrative officers of affected jurisdictions.
- RESF 14 is responsible for providing overviews, regional information coordination, information on regional issues, media tracking, background analysis, and analysis of regional effects. Information dissemination regarding non-regional issues is the responsibility of the affected jurisdictions.
- RESF 14 is responsible for conducting additional in-depth analysis to complement the messages delivered. Additionally, RESF 14 will monitor media coverage for the region.
- RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will be responsible for establishing and directing a regional information operation aimed at employers, community organizations, and educational institutions.

## **2. Continuing Actions**

RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will coordinate issues related to information. Additionally, RESF 14 will:

- Assist RESF 05, Information and Planning, in providing information to all affected agencies and municipalities.
- Assist RESF 05, Information and Planning, in maintaining contact and exchanging information with regionwide umbrella organizations.
- Be responsible for providing news briefings on regional issues, as needed and directed.

## **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS practices.

## **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique to include all public information partners and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 14**

### **A. RESF 14 Responsibilities**

RESF 05, Planning and Information, is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will support the mission of RESF 05 through its media and education functions.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations. Regional Essential Elements of Information (EEI) have been identified as the minimum information to satisfy coordination needs among the RESFs.

2. RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, is responsible for providing information on their functional activities through the regional emergency communications system (when developed) to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations. Essential elements of information include:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Media on scene.
- Status of press releases.
- Information on evacuation, sheltering, and food supply.
- Social, economic and political impact.
- Status of communication system.
- Estimates of potential impact.
- Fact sheets on public health effects.
- Measures for treatment of medical conditions.
- Measures for preventing the spread of disease.
- Status of recovery programs.
- Needs assessment and damage estimates.
- Status of state or federal operations, if known.



- Response needs and priorities.
- Major issues/activities of RESFs.
- School closures.
- Citizen assistance requests.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase, all RESF 14 personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Develop and distribute preparedness literature.
- Establish media contacts and develop protocols for dealing with the media in an emergency.

**2. Emergency phase** - When activated during the emergency phase, RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, will assemble at the designated Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and perform the information and coordination role described in the purpose section of this annex.

**3. Recovery phase** - During the recovery phase, RESF 14 will continue to perform any coordination and information functions initiated during the emergency phase. As necessary, RESF 14 will perform any additional functions during the recovery phase that will speed the recovery and stabilization of affected jurisdictions.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 14**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.

- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.

REM Plan, RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.

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- Local Emergency Operation Plans.

- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

# Regional Emergency Support Function 15, Volunteer Management

## Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 15

### Regional Organizations

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
Citizen Corps Council

### Federal Government Organizations

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

### Connecticut State Organizations

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Public Health

### Local Organizations

Municipalities and tribal nations

### Private Organizations

American Red Cross  
Salvation Army  
Citizen Corps  
Faith-based organizations  
United Way of Southeastern Connecticut  
Retired Senior and Volunteer Program (RSVP)  
Service-based organizations  
Amateur Radio Relay League

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

1. The purpose of Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF) 15, Volunteer Management, is to facilitate communication and coordination among regional jurisdictions regarding the need for volunteer services before, during, and after a regional emergency. Full-time volunteers serving in an on-going capacity for an emergency support function are not included under RESF 15. For example, volunteer firefighters, fire-police programs, and fire or police cadet programs do not fall within the responsibilities of RESF 15.

2. The scope of RESF 15 coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Damage assessment, as it affects the need for volunteers and their deployment.
- Specific volunteer resources needed.

REM Plan, RESF 15, Volunteer Management.

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- Deployment of volunteers.

- Staging area(s) for volunteers.
- Transportation of volunteers.
- Interface of volunteers with first responders.
- Safety considerations, as they affect the use of volunteers.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 15 focuses on activities in response to the disruption of resource availability and ensuring that assets are available on both local and regional scales. RESF 15, Volunteer Management, shall have the specific responsibilities outlined below:

1. RESF 15 is responsible for the coordination of and communication with volunteer organizations, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Citizen Corps elements, and walk-on volunteers.
2. RESF 15 will develop a strategic volunteer management plan to meet regional needs. When completed and approved, this plan will become an annex to the REM Plan. The volunteer management plan will include public education, training opportunities, volunteer programs, and the requirements of special needs segments of the region's population. Additionally, RESF 15 will coordinate with and support the implementation of the statewide strategic plan for CERT.
3. RESF 15 will coordinate regional recruiting initiatives for all elements of the Citizen Corps. Included here is the responsibility for marketing activities and promotional programs in conjunction with RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.
4. RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will establish a tracking system to account for all elements and individuals of the Citizen Corps. Included in this responsibility is the issuing of identification and accrediting of all Citizen Corps elements. Uniform regional identification is suggested. Accreditation will be issued by appropriate officials or organizations to individuals who successfully complete specific training programs.
5. RESF 15 will work to foster an increased collaboration between first responders and volunteer groups.
6. RESF 15 will recruit regional training teams to administer the applicable CERT training programs.

7. RESF 15 will work within existing channels of communication to provide efficient and effective support during regional emergencies.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 15, Volunteer Management, shall be knowledgeable of and will comply with the policies of any federal, state, municipal or tribal governmental jurisdiction. The affected jurisdiction or agency where the incident occurs will be the lead jurisdiction for response to that event.

2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NMIS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.

3. The Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 15, Volunteer Management, procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.

4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

5. RESF 15 shall comply with and implement appropriate elements of any official memoranda of understanding (MOU's) that exist between an organization and any entity of government.

6. Jurisdictions will respect existing contractual agreements so as to eliminate competition for resources and assets. Specifically recruited volunteers (such as volunteer firefighters) will not be considered as elements of the Citizen Corps.

7. RESF 15 will be used to collect information, to communicate, and to coordinate activities among regional organizations, agencies, and local jurisdictions concerning volunteer management.

8. As required, RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will provide liaison to RESF 05, Information and Planning, and/or to the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). Additionally, RESF 15 will work closely with all other emergency support functions, as required by the incident.

9. RESF 15 will be responsible for managing unsolicited volunteers and will determine how best to utilize their skills to meet the needs of the specific emergency.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

A regional emergency may result from natural causes, a human-caused accident or a deliberate act of terrorism. A large-scale regional emergency could seriously affect the demand for response resources, including volunteers. Such a situation will place heavy demands on RESF 15, Volunteer Management, to coordinate the deployment of volunteers to supplement first responders.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Regional communication and coordination will eliminate redundancy and facilitate an efficient and effective response.
2. Agencies and organizations cooperating with RESF 15 will perform tasks under predetermined operational procedures and mission assignments for the individual Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs). During an emergency, RESF 15 will provide response elements to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for assignment in the field.
3. Emergency situations may be localized or may involve multiple jurisdictions. Incidents may affect primarily structures, with variable numbers of casualties from minimal injuries, or they produce a regional-scale disaster with mass casualties.

### **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

#### **A. General**

1. RESF 15, Volunteer Management, members will engage in planning, training, and evaluation activities.
2. Before, during, and after a regional incident, the organizations, agencies, and jurisdictions that comprise RESF 15 will execute their responsibilities and authorities within their individual operation plans and communicate and coordinate under the REM Plan via the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) and RESF 05, Information and Planning.
3. RESF 15 will collect information regarding volunteer availability, and will provide this to RESF 05, Information and Planning, and to regional organizations, agencies, and jurisdictions through the regional emergency communications system.

4. As dictated by the emergency, RESF 15 will coordinate volunteer management functions with the other RESFs. The intent will be to maximize the safe and effective use of volunteers in a variety of settings.

## **B. Organization**

Coordination and communication activities for a regional event will begin with notification of an actual or possible implementation of the REM Plan through the regional emergency communications system, when developed. RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will activate the various teams involved with RESF 15, as dictated by the incident and direction from RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**C. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual emergency of regional significance, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be made in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Command Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official(s).
- The chair of RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 15.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

- The chair of RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency as it relates to the need for volunteers. Provide periodic situation reports via the regional emergency communications system regarding the availability and/or deployment of volunteers to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

### **2. Continuing Action**

The level of involvement of volunteers will depend on the severity and duration of the regional emergency and on the number and capabilities of the available volunteers. RESF 15 will continue to evaluate needs related to volunteers.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include agencies and supporting RESFs concerned with volunteers.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 15**

### **A. RESF 15 Responsibilities**

The primary purpose of RESF 15 is to facilitate communications and coordination among various CERT teams, organizations, agencies, and jurisdictions concerning volunteer activities in the region that are related to emergency response. Local responders will function within their established operating procedures. The regional emergency communications system will be used for information exchange.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among various agencies during emergency situations.



2. Regional Essential Elements of Information (EEI) have been identified as the minimum information, including the need for assistance, to coordinate among all regional emergency support functions.

3. RESF 15 will provide Essential Elements of Information (EEI) related to volunteer management issues through the regional emergency communications system to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations.

4. In the event of a regional emergency affecting the use of volunteers to supplement first responders, municipal, tribal, state and regional support agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Status of volunteer organizations and CERT teams.
- Overall priorities for the use of volunteers.
- Credentials and certification of affiliated and non-affiliated volunteers.
- Status of transportation system and facilities.
- Status of food supply and distribution schedule.
- Location of useable mass care facilities.
- Availability of first aid support.
- Location of hazardous areas.
- Status of potable water supply.
- Status of efforts under local, state, and federal emergency operations.
- Security controls.
- Logistical problems.
- Priority of services/deliveries.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation Phase** – During the preparation phase, all regional emergency support function personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on IMS/ICS protocols.

- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Identify regional equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency Phase** – During the emergency phase, RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will function in their assigned mission within the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) or designated operational area.

**3. Recovery Phase** – During the recovery phase, RESF 15 will continue to perform all assigned mission duties. Additionally, emergency phase operations involving volunteer management may intensify during this phase, depending on the length of the recovery operations.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 15**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 15, Volunteer Management, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Connecticut Statewide Strategic Plan for CERT Operations.
- Performance requirements as specified in CFDA No. 83.564 Citizen Corps/CERT grant process – Connecticut Military Department, Division of Homeland Security.
- Regional Citizen Corps Strategic Plan.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

# Regional Emergency Support Function 16, Law Enforcement

## Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 16

### Regional Organizations

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)  
Law Enforcement Council of Southeastern Connecticut

### Federal Government Organizations

Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Drug Enforcement Administration

### Connecticut State Government Organizations

Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Connecticut State Police  
Statewide Narcotics Task Force

### Local Organizations

Municipal and tribal police departments

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

1. The purpose of RESF 16, Law Enforcement, is to facilitate communication and coordination among regional jurisdictions and agencies with law enforcement responsibilities during a regional emergency. Within this context, specific areas of concern include traffic control, perimeter control, the identification and security of evidence, security at mass care facilities, and the protection of citizens and property.
2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Damage assessment, as it affects law enforcement.
  - Assessment of the response required of law enforcement agencies.
  - Assessment of the law enforcement resources available to respond to the incident.
  - Deployment of law enforcement personnel and equipment.
  - Traffic control issues.
  - Security issues.
  - Access to the incident site.
  - Safety of personnel.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Incident Commander.
  - Local Emergency Operations Center.
  - Regional Coordination Center.
  - State Emergency Operations Center.
  - Municipal and tribal law enforcement agencies.
  - State and federal law enforcement agencies.

REM Plan, RESF 16, Law Enforcement.

### B. Scope

RESF 16 will develop and implement a regional disaster response capability to mobilize law enforcement personnel and other resources in the event of an emergency of regional significance. The policies and procedures developed will be a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 16 will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state, municipal or tribal governments, or of any other jurisdiction.
2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among participating jurisdictions to ensure that RESF 16 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
3. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and by existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.

## **III. Situation**

### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A major disaster/incident has occurred somewhere in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of law enforcement personnel in large numbers to deal with the unfolding incident. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional plan, mutual aid agreements, and/or the statewide disaster plan.
2. The regional law enforcement community will experience disruptions in the delivery of routine services.
3. A regional emergency could significantly disrupt public order and traffic flow, which could compromise the safety and security of the public and responders.
4. Emergency situations extending over several days or weeks would complicate safety and security issues and would stress the law enforcement resources within the region.

### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.

2. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will not assume any command and control activities.
3. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring. Command will reside with the local Incident Commander.
4. The REM Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each member jurisdiction.
5. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be used by all participating jurisdictions and agencies.
6. Local resources have been depleted.
7. The REM Plan will provide for the activation of specialized response teams. These teams may include, but would not be limited to, SWAT teams, SCUBA teams, or K-9 units. These specialized teams would not necessarily be units regularly based within the region.
8. Mutual aid agreements within southeastern Connecticut can provide additional officers to supplement local police resources during an emergency
9. Law enforcement personnel will support the transportation function by controlling key access points and the mass care function by providing site security.
10. A terrorist use of WMD may lead to toxic water/air/land environments that threaten surviving populations and response personnel. Potential risks include exposure to hazardous chemicals, biological agents, radiological substances, and contaminated water supplies and food products.
11. Multi-lingual messages and the availability of police and dispatchers with language skills will be critical. The creation and training of Foreign Language Emergency Response Teams (FLERT) will be a high priority.
12. Law enforcement personnel and equipment may be injured, damaged or lost in the incident.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, RESF 16, Law Enforcement, REM Plan, RESF 16, Law Enforcement.

will be activated and all applicable regional personnel will also be called upon.

2. Municipalities and tribal nations will coordinate and execute their respective law enforcement authority during the regional emergency.
3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the REM Plan.
4. RESF 16 will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional law enforcement issues. In so doing, RESF 16 will utilize the regional emergency communications system (when developed) and will coordinate with RESF 05, Information and Planning.
5. Requests for information regarding the law enforcement aspects of a regional emergency will be directed to the regional emergency communications system or to RESF 05, Information and Planning, at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, the regional emergency communications system will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be made in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Command Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official(s).
- The chair of RESF 16, Law Enforcement, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 16.

REM Plan, RESF 16, Law Enforcement.

- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 16, Law Enforcement, will be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of that emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports of the affected jurisdictions/agencies to the regional emergency communications system or directly to RESF 05, Information and Planning. Jurisdictions or agencies requesting law enforcement assistance will provide the following information:

- Specific personnel resources requested.
- Specific asset resources requested.
- Identification of a staging area.

### **2. Continuing Actions**

During the active period of the emergency each element of RESF 16, Law Enforcement, will perform its operational mission. The level of regional support will depend on the duration and severity of the emergency. Evaluate continuing needs related to law enforcement.

### **3. Stand Down**

The demobilization process for each of the RESF 16 elements will follow ICS accepted practices.

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all law enforcement agencies and supporting RESFs.

## **V. Execution for Emergency Support Function 16, Law Enforcement**

### **A. RESF 16 Participating and Supporting Agencies**

Law enforcement regional partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to the regional emergency communications system,

as required by the incident and the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## **B. Essential Elements of Information (EEI)**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among agencies during emergency situations. RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information relevant to the emergency. The RESF 05 annex contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) identified as the minimum for coordination among the RESFs and with the regional emergency communications system.

2. In the event of a regional emergency, RESF 16, Law Enforcement, state, municipal, tribal, and regional agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:

- Jurisdictions involved.
- Status of law enforcement personnel, resources, vehicles, and equipment.
- Status of citizens and facilities affected by the actual or threatened incident.
- Effects of the incident on the function and/or jurisdiction (social, economic, or political).
- Relevant historical and demographic information.
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Description of significant disruptions in the transportation system.
- Status of communication systems.
- Short-term and medium-term recovery plans.
- Other RESFs potentially affected by the law enforcement aspects of the emergency.
- Status of state or federal operations, if known.

## **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** – During the preparation phase all RESF 16 personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.

- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.

REM Plan, RESF 16, Law Enforcement.

- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.



- Train on the Regional Coordination Center setup, on the regional emergency communications system, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.

**2. Emergency phase** – When activated during the emergency phase, RESF 16, Law Enforcement, will assemble at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and perform the information, planning, and coordination role described in the purpose section of this annex.

**3. Recovery phase** – During this phase, RESF 16 will continue to perform any necessary coordination and information functions initiated during the emergency phase. As the situation stabilizes, outside resources should be returned to their respective agencies as soon as possible.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Emergency Support Function 16**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 16, Law Enforcement, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- Support agency policies and procedures manuals.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).



# **Regional Emergency Support Function 17, Animal Protection**

## **Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 17**

### **Regional Organizations**

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)

### **Federal Government Organizations**

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness  
Department of Agriculture

### **Connecticut State Government Organizations**

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security  
Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
University of Connecticut, School of Agriculture  
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
Connecticut Department of Public Health

### **Local Organizations**

Municipal and tribal health departments  
Municipal and tribal animal control authorities  
Municipal and tribal public works departments

### **Private Organizations**

Connecticut Humane Society  
Veterinarians  
Veterinary hospitals

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The primary purpose of RESF 17, Animal Protection, is to facilitate communication and coordination among jurisdictions and agencies that would deal with the effects of an emergency of regional significance on the animal populations, both wild and domestic, of southeastern Connecticut. The objective is to enhance animal protection during an emergency, to deal effectively with animal casualties following the emergency, and to protect the health of the public from risks, including animal-borne disease or animal-induced injuries.

2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Effects of the emergency on the region's animal populations, both wild and domestic.
- Effects of the emergency on animal protection response resources.
- Emergency response plans, as they may affect animal populations.
- Nature of the animal protection response required.

REM Plan, RESF 17, Animal Protection.

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- Availability of supplemental animal protection resources, as necessary.

3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:

- Incident Commander.
- Local Emergency Operations Center.
- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center.
- Connecticut Department of Public Health.
- Municipal and tribal health departments.
- Municipal and tribal public works departments.
- Municipal and tribal animal control authorities.
- Mass care shelter managers.
- Veterinarians and veterinary hospitals.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 17 will focus on establishing lines of communication among regional jurisdictions, agencies, and private practitioners within and beyond southeastern Connecticut that have responsibilities/resources regarding animal protection or control. The intent is to foster and provide for mutual assistance in responding to a regional emergency that affects animals. The functions of RESF 17 will be executed through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC). The RCC is a component of the *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) and facilitates interaction with the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan and the National Response Plan.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 17, Animal Protection, will not usurp or override the policies of federal, state, municipal or tribal governments or of any other jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
3. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 17 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.
5. At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 17, Animal Protection, will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and will participate in regional emergency decisions concerning animal control and protection. This action will provide technical expertise and the information necessary to develop an accurate assessment of an REM Plan, RESF 17, Animal Protection

ongoing situation affecting the animal population within the region. It also will facilitate communications to access resources to assist in a significant regional emergency.

6. RESF 17 will share information with appropriate municipal, tribal, state, and federal agencies and authorities.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

A regional emergency may be of such severity and magnitude that it could adversely affect the animal population within the region. The animal population is diverse, consisting of a variety of wild creatures, farm animals, service animals for disabled individuals, and various types of domestic pets. A serious disaster could result in animals being separated from their owners, many injured animals or significant numbers of dead animals that would constitute a public health hazard. In the case of an intentional or unintentional biological incident, domestic animals may be affected and could be a source of human exposure or infection. Increased numbers of displaced, wandering or stray animals may present an increased risk of injuries, such as bites, to the public.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will not assume any command and control activities. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
2. Sharing information during a regional emergency will benefit all jurisdictions. There are immediate and continuous information needs unique to the jurisdictional decision-makers. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will be the primary point of contact to serve this purpose.
3. The region contains a significant animal population that must be considered in planning for and responding to an emergency of regional significance. In many ways, animals will be affected in the same manner as the human population. They may be lost and disoriented; they may need shelter and care; they may be sick or injured; they may be killed. Any one of these conditions calls for a response on humane grounds and for practical reasons of health and safety.

### **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

#### **A. General**

At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 17, Animal Protection, will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and convene the appropriate agencies to REM Plan, RESF 17, Animal Protection.

provide technical expertise and information necessary to assess and analyze animal protection aspects of the emergency.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification section of all other RESFs.)*

1. RESF 17, Animal Protection, will maintain an emergency notification list for use in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and by the regional emergency communications system. This list will identify the key resource personnel and agencies to be notified during a confirmed or potential regional emergency expected to affect the animal population.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system, when developed, will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 17, Animal Protection, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 17.
- The chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 17 shall be responsible for calling/notifying any other members of that emergency support function.
- Additionally, upon notification, the chair of RESF 17 will establish contact with state and federal agencies and with private resources that may assist in responding to the animal protection aspects of a regional emergency.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

- Upon detection of an incident, the Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG or any participating RESF 17 organization, agency, municipality or tribal nation will make an internal assessment of the situation.
- RESF 17 organizations, agencies, municipalities or tribal nations will provide information and recommend actions necessary to deal with the issues or problems related to animals. Essential Elements of Information (EEI) will be provided to RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

### **2. Continuing Actions**

- RESF 17, Animal Protection, will serve as the coordinating point for addressing animal-related issues. RESF 17 will monitor and communicate through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and the regional emergency communications system.
- Through RESF 17, appropriate expertise will be available to support the data collection, analysis and recommendation processes of the Regional Coordination Center (RCC), as these may be related to the animal population.
- Where appropriate, RESF 17, Animal Protection, will coordinate the deployment of resources to deal with the rescue, shelter, care, medical treatment, reunion with owners, humane euthanasia or disposal of animals affected by the regional emergency.
- RESF 17 will coordinate the collection and reporting of animal-related information to the public through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.

### **3. Stand Down**

RESF 17 will stand down when the situation has stabilized sufficiently to no longer be a regional problem. In certain situations, issues associated with animal populations will linger for some time after the major effects of the emergency have passed. In this event, RESF 17 will continue its functions until animal protection is no longer a regional issue. At that time, the demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

### **3. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all RESFs and supporting agencies involved in the response to animal protection issues.

## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 17**

### **A. RESF 17, Animal Protection, Responsibilities**

RESF 05, Information and Planning, is responsible for the collection, exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. RESF 17 and its supporting agencies will assist RESF 05 in carrying out these functions as they relate to animal protection issues.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among various agencies during emergency situations.
2. Regional Essential Elements of Information (EEI) have been identified as the minimum information for coordination among the RESFs.
3. RESF 17 will provide Essential Elements of Information (EEI) related to animal protection through the regional emergency communications system (to be developed) to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations.
4. In the event of an emergency of regional significance affecting animal populations in southeastern Connecticut, municipal, tribal, state, and regional support agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
  - Jurisdictions involved.
  - Animal protection status and needs.
  - Social, economic and political impact.
  - Status of transportation systems.
  - Status of communication systems.
  - Status of key contractors.
  - Weather data affecting operations.
  - Seismic or other geophysical information.
  - Status of critical facilities and distribution systems.
  - Status of energy systems.
  - Estimates of potential impact.



- Status of recovery programs.
- Needs assessment and damage estimates.
- Status of state or federal operations, if known.
- Response needs and priorities.
- Injuries and medical emergencies.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation phase** - During the preparation phase, all RESF 17, Animal Protection, personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Develop contact lists to access resources to deal with the animal protection aspects of a regional emergency.
  - Identify local facilities to serve as shelters for both small and large animals.
  - Develop and maintain a list of volunteers qualified to provide husbandry and medical care as needed, including veterinarians and technicians.
  - Identify sources of food and medications.
  - Identify resources for disposal of carcasses.
  - Identify resources for the transportation of animals, especially livestock.

**2. Emergency phase** - When activated during the emergency phase, RESF 17, Animal Protection, will assemble at the designated Regional Coordinating Center (RCC) and perform the information, planning, and coordination role described in the purpose section of this annex.

- Contact and mobilize volunteers to catch displaced animals, to provide medical care, and provide housing, as needed.
- Provide support, as needed, in assessing the magnitude and impact of the emergency event on the animal population.

**3. Recovery phase** - During this phase, RESF 17, Animal Protection, will continue to perform any necessary coordination and information functions initiated during the emergency phase.

- Facilitate the return of animals to their owners, when possible.

- Phase down and close shelter and medical care facilities, as appropriate.

## **VI. Administrative Information for Regional Emergency Support Function 17**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 17, Animal Protection, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).
- Internet Web Sites:
  - <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1367&q=259106&doagNav=|>
  - <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1367&q=259102&doagPNavCtr=|39903|>
  - <http://www.cthumane.org/contact.asp>
  - <http://www.ctvet.org/>
  - <http://www.avma.org/disaster/vmat/vmat.asp>

# Regional Emergency Support Function 18, Donations Management

## Coordinating or Support Organizations for RESF 18

### Regional Organizations

Emergency Management Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)

### Federal Government Organizations

Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness

Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

### Connecticut State Government Organizations

Connecticut Military Department, Office of Emergency Management

Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security

### Local Organizations

Municipalities and tribal nations

### Private Organizations

American Red Cross

Salvation Army

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut

Faith based organizations

Other charitable organizations

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

1. The purpose of RESF 18, Donations Management, is to facilitate communication and coordination among regional jurisdictions regarding the management of donations before, during, and after a regional emergency.
2. Such coordination may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Damage assessment, as it affects the need for donations.
  - Determination of the types of donations desired.
  - Drop-off or receiving points for donated goods.
  - Inventory and storage of donated goods.
  - Distribution of donated goods.
  - Transportation issues, as they affect the distribution of donated goods.
  - Record-keeping.
3. The process of coordination may involve, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Incident Commander.
  - Local Emergency Operations Center.

- Regional Coordination Center.
- State Emergency Operations Center
- Citizen Corps
- Various private organizations, such as the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

## **B. Scope**

RESF 18 will respond to the disruption of the normal food distribution system and emergency supply capabilities of the region. It will coordinate efforts to ensure that survival supplies are available to deal with an emergency of regional proportions. RESF 18 shall have the specific responsibilities outlined below.

1. RESF 18 will coordinate the distribution of emergency donations, food supplies, medical supplies, and emergency-related items of all types, both planned and unplanned.
2. RESF 18, Donations Management, will develop regional initiatives for all elements of the emergency donation and redistribution system. This includes responsibility for marketing activities and promotional programs in conjunction with RESF 14, Media and Public Education.
3. RESF 18 will establish a tracking system to account for all elements of the donated and distributed materials.
4. RESF 18 will recruit regional mission support teams to administer the donation management program. These may be provided through existing charitable agencies that are experienced in managing donations programs.
5. RESF 18 will work within existing channels of communications to provide efficient and effective response to all emergencies. RESF 18 will coordinate with other agencies that receive and manage donations so as to reduce duplication and redundancy.
6. RESF 18 will coordinate donation receipt activities during an emergency and will provide for the efficient and effective distribution of donated materials, clothing, and supplies.

## **II. Policies**

1. RESF 18, Donations Management, will not usurp or override the policies of any federal, state, municipal or tribal governmental jurisdiction. Also, it will seek to avoid duplicating functions already being performed by other qualified entities within the region.
2. RESF 18 will not usurp or override any official memoranda of understanding (MOU) that exist between an organization and any entity of government.

3. Jurisdictions will respect existing contractual agreements to eliminate competition for resources and assets.
4. The National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) will be the organizational structure used during a response.
5. The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 18 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the REM Plan.
6. Essential information will be conveyed through the regional emergency communications system, as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be provided through a yet to be determined entity.
7. At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 18, Donations Management, will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and will participate in regional emergency decisions concerning donations. This action will provide the technical expertise and information necessary to develop an accurate assessment of the need for and status of emergency donations. It also will facilitate communications to access resources to assist in a significant regional emergency.
8. RESF 18 will share information with appropriate municipal, tribal, state, and federal agencies and authorities and with other entities involved in securing, managing or distributing donations.
9. RESF 18 will cooperate with other agencies to coordinate operations concerning the solicitation, receipt and distribution of donations.
10. RESF 18 will coordinate with RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education, to reduce redundancy and excess from unsolicited donations and to provide public information on collection stations for incoming donations.

### **III. Situation**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

A regional emergency may result from a significant natural or man-made disaster, including a deliberate terrorist attack. A regional emergency could adversely affect the availability of survival supplies, placing serious demands on RESF 18, Donations Management. Any major regional emergency will require the coordination efforts of RESF 18.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will not assume any command and control activities. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction(s) where the incident(s) or event(s) is(are) occurring.
2. Regional communication and coordination will eliminate redundancy and will facilitate an efficient and effective response to an emergency. This function will be performed through RESF 05, Information and Planning, which will be accessed through the regional emergency communications system, when developed.
3. During an emergency, RESF 15, Volunteer Management, will provide Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) for donations mission support activities. After consultation with RESF 18, RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine the most productive field assignments for these ERTs.
4. Emergency situations may be localized or may cover multiple jurisdictions. Incidents could be specific to certain economic or demographic groups. Emergencies could affect the availability of food, water, shelter, household supplies, clothing, etc. An emergency could be any event that would require the emergency transportation or distribution of donated supplies.

## **IV. Concept of Activation/Coordination**

### **A. General**

1. At the request of RESF 05, Information and Planning, RESF 18, Donations Management, will staff the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and convene the appropriate agencies to provide technical expertise and information necessary to assess and analyze the donations aspects of the emergency.
2. Before, during, and after a regional incident, the organizations, Emergency Response Teams (ERTs), agencies, and jurisdictions that comprise RESF 18 will execute their responsibilities and authorities within their individual operation plans and will communicate and coordinate under the REM Plan.
3. RESF 18 will collect and analyze information regarding donation needs and will provide this information to regional organizations, agencies, and jurisdictions through the regional emergency communications system.
4. As dictated by the emergency, RESF 18 will coordinate donation management functions with the other regional emergency support functions. Coordination may include, but is not limited to:
  - RESF 01, Transportation – the transportation of donations.
  - RESF 02, Communications – the distribution point locations.
  - RESF 03, Public Works and Engineering – the provision of potable water.

- RESF 05, Information and Planning – data collection and analysis; the assignment of ERTs.
- RESF 06, Mass Care – donations for displaced persons.
- RESF 07, Resource Support – incoming resources through donations.
- RESF 08, Health and Medical Services – donated medical supplies.
- RESF 11, Food Services – donated food items.
- RESF 14, Media and Public Education – public information messages regarding donations.
- RESF 16, Law Enforcement – security of donations and distribution locations.
- RESF 17, Animal Protection – the distribution of donated animal food and supplies.

**B. Notification** *(Note: This entire section will be rewritten at a later date to reflect the actual configuration of the regional emergency communications system. Parallel changes will be needed in the Notification sections of all other RESFs.)*

1. Upon notification by any jurisdiction or authorized representative of the Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG of a potential or actual regional incident requiring RESF 18 support, the regional emergency communications system will execute standard alert procedures. RESF 05, Information and Planning, will determine the immediate or planned future involvement of RESF 18 in the unfolding incident. Communications will be made in accordance with regional emergency communications system protocols and in cooperation with RESF 02, Communications.

2. The activation of the regional emergency communications system should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls the regional emergency communications system and requests specific resources (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, etc.) or the activation of the REM Plan. If the REM Plan is activated, the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- The regional emergency communications system will broadcast the REM Plan activation message over a common interoperable radio frequency, when developed.
- The regional emergency communications system will notify the chair of each RESF of the situation/event and will provide the contact number in the message for the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 18, Donation Management, will call the chair of RESF 05, Information and Planning, or their back-up, to confer on the immediate functions of RESF 18.
- The chair of RESF 05 will determine, based on the request and situation, the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

- The chair of RESF 18, Donations Management, shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of the emergency support function.

## **C. Coordination**

### **1. Initial Actions**

- Upon detection of an incident, the Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG or any participating RESF 18 organization, agency, municipality or tribal nation will make an internal assessment of the situation.
- RESF 18 organizations, agencies, municipalities or tribal nations will provide information and recommend actions necessary to deal with the issues or problems related to donations. Essential Elements of Information (EEI) will be provided to RESF 05, Information and Planning, in the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

### **2. Continuing Actions**

- RESF 18, Donations Management, will serve as the coordinating point for addressing issues related to donations. RESF 18 will monitor and communicate through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and the regional emergency communications system.
- Through RESF 18, appropriate expertise will be available to support the data collection, analysis and recommendation processes of the Regional Coordination Center (RCC), as these may be related to donations.
- RESF 18 will participate in the collection and public release of information on donations through the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) and RESF 14, Media and Preparedness Education.

### **3. Stand Down**

RESF 18 will stand down when the situation has stabilized sufficiently to no longer be a regional problem. In certain situations, issues associated with donations will linger for some time after the major effects of the emergency have passed. In this event, RESF 18 will continue its functions until donations are no longer a regional issue. At that time, the demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices.

### **4. After Action Critique**

The Emergency Management Committee of the SCCOG will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all RESFs and supporting agencies involved in donations management.



## **V. Execution for Regional Emergency Support Function 18**

### **A. RESF 18 Responsibilities**

RESF 18, Donations Management, will facilitate communications and coordination among regional jurisdictions and agencies regarding donations before, during, and after a regional emergency. In so doing, RESF 18 will cooperate with RESF 05, Information and Planning, and will utilize the regional emergency communications system, to be developed.

### **B. Essential Elements of Information**

1. One of the primary purposes of the REM Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among various agencies during emergency situations.
2. Regional Essential Elements of Information (EEI) have been identified as the minimum information for coordination among the RESFs.
3. RESF 18 will provide Essential Elements of Information (EEI) related to donations through the regional emergency communications system to RESF 05, Information and Planning, for Regional Coordination Center (RCC) operations.
4. In the event of an emergency of regional significance in southeastern Connecticut, municipal, tribal, state, and regional support agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
  - Jurisdictions involved.
  - Status of transportation system and facilities.
  - Status of food supply and distribution schedule.
  - Location of useable mass care facilities, including shelters and feeding stations.
  - Sources of donations.
  - Donations needed.
  - Availability of first aid support.
  - Status of bulk distribution networks.
  - Status of the Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) being used as mission support teams.
  - Status of potable water supply.
  - Status of efforts under local, state, and federal emergency operations.

- Credentials of affiliated and non-affiliated volunteers.
- Receiving/collection points.
- Security controls.
- Logistical problems.

### **C. Functions Before and During a Regional Emergency**

**1. Preparation Phase** – During the preparation phase, all RESF 18, Donations Management, personnel and supporting agencies will accomplish the following:

- Train on the REM Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Identify equipment needs and request needed equipment.
- Train on the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) setup, on the regional emergency communications system setup, and on the coordination function of RESF 05, Information and Planning.
- Develop working relationships with other entities involved in donations management.

**2. Emergency Phase** – When activated during the emergency phase, RESF 18, Donations Management, will assemble at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) or other designated operational area to perform the information, planning, and coordination role described in the purpose section of this annex.

**3. Recovery Phase** – During the recovery phase, RESF 18 will continue to perform all assigned mission duties. Emergency phase operations involving donation management may intensify during this phase, depending on the nature of the recovery operations.

## **VI. Administrative information for Regional Emergency Support Function 18**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 18, Donations Management, operations are contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- When developed, the regional emergency communications system will be administered by and through a yet to be determined entity.
- Plain language text will be used in all regional communications.
- National Response Plan.
- State of Connecticut Emergency Response Plan.
- The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan).

## 9. APPENDICES AND ATTACHMENTS

### **APPENDIX 1: INTERGOVERNMENTAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMPACT FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT PLANNING REGION**

#### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this compact is to provide a structure within which municipalities, federally-recognized tribal nations, state and federal agencies, and appropriate private organizations can work jointly to strengthen emergency management functions within the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region.

#### 2. STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION

Intermunicipal cooperation is authorized under various sections of the Connecticut General Statutes. Section 28-7 provides that any two or more municipalities may, with the approval of the State Director of Emergency Management, form a joint organization for civil preparedness. Public Act 01-117 permits two or more municipalities to perform jointly any function that a single municipality may perform separately.

#### 3. NAME AND STATUS

This compact shall establish the Southeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee (hereinafter the Committee). Said Committee shall function as a subcommittee of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (hereinafter the SCCOG). Within available resources, the SCCOG shall provide staff and logistical support to the Committee and, as appropriate, shall serve as the fiduciary agent for the Committee.

#### 4. LIMITATIONS OF THE COMPACT

Participation in this compact shall be voluntary. It is not the intent of the compact to assume, diminish or intrude upon the responsibilities and authorities granted to any of the parties to the compact under state or federal law. It is understood that no action taken under this compact shall commit any of the parties to the compact to an expenditure of their funds or to a financial obligation without the concurrence of the parties affected.

## 5. PARTIES ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE COMPACT

There are three classes of possible signatories to this compact.

- a) All municipalities within the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region, as defined by the Secretary of the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, shall be eligible to enter into this compact. These municipalities are: the Towns of Bozrah, Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Ledyard, Lisbon, Montville, North Stonington, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown, and Waterford; the Cities of Groton, New London, and Norwich; the Borough of Stonington.
- b) Federally-recognized tribal nations within the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region, consisting as of 2003 of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and the Mohegan Tribal Nation, may be parties to the compact. Such action and future participation on the Committee is not intended to, and shall not, infringe on the sovereignty of the tribal nations.
- c) The Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments may be a party to the compact.

## 6. ENACTMENT OF THE COMPACT

- a) The participation of eligible municipalities in the compact shall be through the action of the municipal chief executive officer, in accordance with appropriate state statutes or municipal charter provisions.
- b) The participation of eligible, federally-recognized Native American tribal nations in the compact shall be through the action of the tribal chairman, in accordance with tribal council procedures.
- c) The participation of the SCCOG in the compact shall be by an authorizing resolution adopted by the council.

## 7. EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE COMPACT

- a) This compact shall be effective when it has been formally accepted and signed by at least sixty percent (60%) of the total number of municipalities eligible to participate in it and by the SCCOG.
- b) Parties to the compact are free to withdraw from participation at any time by written notification to the SCCOG of action to withdraw having been taken by the appropriate municipal or tribal legislative or governing body. Should the number of

- c) municipal parties to the compact fall below forty percent (40%) of the total number of municipalities eligible to participate in it, the compact shall be dissolved.
- d) Within sixty (60) days following the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) anniversary of the effective date of the compact, the Southeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee and the SCCOG jointly shall assess the performance of the Committee under the compact since its inception. The Committee and the SCCOG shall consider the findings of this evaluation and shall determine: 1) whether the compact should be amended; 2) whether additional resources to support the Committee are needed; or 3) whether the compact should be dissolved.

#### 8. REPRESENTATION, VOTING

- a) Municipalities, tribal nations, and the SCCOG each shall be entitled to appoint one representative and one alternate to the Southeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee. Such appointments shall be made by the chief executive officer of each member municipality, by the chairman of the tribal council in the case of member tribal nations, and by the chairman of the SCCOG, as appropriate
- b) Each member municipality and tribal nation and the SCCOG shall be entitled to one vote on matters coming before the Committee. In the absence of the regular representative for a municipality, tribal nation or the SCCOG, that individual's alternate shall be entitled to vote.
- c) When formed, the Committee also may invite the participation in an affiliate status of emergency management personnel from municipal government, tribal nations, state and federal agencies, and appropriate private organizations. Such representatives shall be entitled to participate in discussions but shall not be entitled to vote.

#### 9. FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

It is the intent of this compact that the Southeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee perform, but is not limited to, the following functions with respect to emergency management within the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region. As resources permit, the Committee shall:

- Facilitate the exchange of information relating to emergency management.
- Coordinate emergency management planning within the region.
- Advocate for and assist in securing state or federal funding to strengthen emergency management capabilities within the region.

- Advocate for the provision of equipment and training for emergency management personnel.
- Encourage and aid in the conduct of periodic exercises to test the effectiveness of local and tribal Emergency Operations Plans.
- Encourage and assist in developing formal mutual aid agreements among the various municipalities and tribal nations within the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region.

#### 10. AMENDMENT OF THE COMPACT

This Compact may be amended by an affirmative vote of a majority of the parties to the Compact.

#### 11. RATIFICATION OF THE COMPACT

In witness of their acceptance of this Compact and their intent to participate in the Southeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee created through the Compact, the following parties have authorized their chief executive officers to ratify this document with their signatures.

*Town of Bozrah*  
*Town of Colchester*  
*Town of East Lyme*  
*Town of Franklin*  
*Town of Griswold*  
*City of Groton*  
*Town of Groton*  
*Town of Ledyard*  
*Town of Lisbon*  
*Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation*  
*Mohegan Tribal Nation*

*Town of Montville*  
*City of New London*  
*Town of North Stonington*  
*City of Norwich*  
*Town of Preston*  
*Town of Salem*  
*Town of Sprague*  
*Borough of Stonington*  
*Town of Stonington*  
*Town of Voluntown*  
*Town of Waterford*

## APPENDIX 2: LIST OF POTENTIAL TARGETS

This appendix has not been published to protect sensitive information.

## APPENDIX 3: ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS

This appendix will be developed at a later date.

## **APPENDIX 4: HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY SYSTEM (HSAS)**

The Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) provides a national framework for the federal alert systems, allowing government officials and citizens to communicate the nature and degree of terrorist threats. This advisory system characterizes appropriate levels of vigilance, preparedness and readiness in a series of graduated Threat Conditions. The Protective Measures that correspond to each Threat Condition will help the government and citizens to decide what actions they take to help counter and respond to terrorist activity. Based on the threat level, federal agencies will implement appropriate Protective Measures. States and localities are encouraged to adopt compatible systems.

The *Regional Emergency Management Plan for the Southeastern Connecticut Region* (REM Plan) will utilize the Homeland Security and Advisory System. The REM Plan will be partially activated during an Elevated Threat Condition (yellow) and fully activated during a High Threat Condition (orange) or a Severe Threat Condition (red). A summary of the five levels of Threat Condition and of appropriate Protective Measures follows.

### **Low Threat Condition (Green)**

Low risk of terrorist attacks. The following Protective Measures may be applied:

- Refining and exercising preplanned Protective Measures.
- Ensuring personnel receive training on HSAS, departmental or agency-specific Protective Measures.
- Regularly assessing facilities for vulnerabilities and taking measures to reduce them.

### **Guarded Threat Condition (Blue)**

General risk of terrorist attack. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Checking communications with designated emergency response or command locations.
- Reviewing and updating emergency response procedures.
- Providing the public with necessary information.

### **Elevated Threat Condition (Yellow)**

Significant risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Increasing surveillance of critical locations.
- Coordinating emergency plans with nearby jurisdictions
- Assessing further refinement of Protective Measures within the context of the current threat information.



- Implementing, as appropriate, contingency and response plans.

(**Note:** An Elevated Threat Condition will trigger a partial activation of the REM Plan.)

**High Threat Condition (Orange)**

High risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Coordinating necessary security efforts with armed forces or law enforcement agencies.
- Taking additional precautions at public events.
- Preparing to work at an alternate site or with a dispersed workforce and restricting access to essential personnel only.

(**Note:** A High Threat Condition will trigger full activation of the REM Plan.)

**Severe Threat Condition (Red)**

Severe risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Assigning emergency response personnel and pre-positioning specially-trained teams.
- Monitoring, redirecting or constraining transportation systems.
- Closing public and government facilities.
- Increasing or redirecting personnel to address critical emergency needs.

(**Note:** A Severe Threat Condition will trigger full activation of the REM Plan.)

## APPENDIX 5: TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

ARC	American Red Cross
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive
CCC	Citizen Corps Council
CEO	Chief Elected Official or Chief Executive Officer
CERRIT	Connecticut Eastern Regional Response Integrated Team
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CFR	United States Code of Federal Regulations
CONNDOT	Connecticut Department of Transportation
CONPLAN	U. S. Government Interagency Domestic Terrorism Concept of Operations Plan
DHS	U. S. Department of Homeland Security
DRI	Disruptive Regional Incident
DWI	Disaster Welfare Information System
EEI	Essential Element(s) of Information
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
ERT	Emergency Response Team
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FLERT	Foreign Language Emergency Response Team
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HEICS	Hospital Emergency Incident Command System
HSAS	Homeland Security Advisory System
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
LEOP	Local Emergency Operations Plan
MCI	Mass Casualty Incident
MDT	Mobile Dispatch Team
MRI	Major Regional Incident
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NRP	National Response Plan

ODP	Office of Domestic Preparedness
OEM	Connecticut Office of Emergency Management
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSET	Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
RCC	Regional Coordination Center
RESF	Regional Emergency Support Function
REM Plan	Regional Emergency Management Plan
RID	Regional Incident Dispatch Team
RPO	Regional Planning Organization
SCCOG	Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments
SNS	Strategic National Stockpile
SCRRA	Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority
SCWA	Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority
SEAT	Southeast Area Transit
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials
SRI	Standard Regional Incident
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue
WMD	Weapon of Mass Destruction