

## Section 1: Basic Plan

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**Regional Hazardous Materials  
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**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PLAN SECTION OVERVIEW**

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose

The Washoe County Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan establishes the policies, responsibilities, and procedures required to protect the health and safety of Washoe County's populace, the environment, and public and private property from the effects of hazardous materials. It is a companion to the TRIAD Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), TRIAD Strategic Plan, as well as the regional commodity flow study.

The LEPC Plan is the principal guide for agencies of Washoe County, its incorporated cities, and other local government entities in mitigating hazardous materials emergencies. This plan is consistent with federal, state and local laws and is intended to facilitate multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional coordination, particularly between local, state, and federal agencies, in hazardous materials emergencies.

This plan is an operational plan as well as a reference document; it may be used for pre-emergency planning as well as emergency response. Agencies having roles and responsibilities established by this plan are encouraged to develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) and emergency response checklists based on the provisions of this plan.

### 1.2 Objectives

Enable emergency response personnel to evaluate hazardous materials emergencies and take appropriate emergency actions in order to save lives, reduce injuries, and prevent or minimize damage to property and the environment. These actions may include:

- a. Securing the *affected* area, isolating the hazard, and denying the entry of unauthorized persons into the area.
- b. Identification of the hazardous material(s) involved.
- c. Providing rapid and effective warning, information, and instructions to threatened populations.
- d. Providing means to access technical resources to stabilize the affected area and return to normal conditions as quickly as possible.
- e. Train and equip emergency response and allied medical personnel (hazmat team members as well as first responders) to efficiently and effectively mitigate hazardous materials incidents.
- f. Describe the overall emergency response organization for hazardous materials incidents occurring within Washoe County.
- g. Delineate the responsibilities of local, state, and federal agencies in the event of a hazardous materials incident in Washoe County.
- h. Establish lines of authority and coordination for hazardous materials incidents.
- i. Facilitate mutual aid to supplement local resources.
- j. Describe procedures for accessing outside funding (e.g., state and federal funding) for the mitigation of, and recovery from, hazardous materials incidents.

### **1.3 Scope**

- a. The policies, procedures, and provisions of this plan are applicable to all agencies and individuals; public and private, having responsibilities for hazardous materials emergency preparedness, response, recovery and/or mitigation in Reno, Sparks and Washoe County.
- b. For the purpose of this plan, a hazardous material is defined as:  
  
*Any substance that causes or may cause adverse health effects on health or safety of employees, the general public or the environment; any biological agent or other disease causing agent, or waste or combination of wastes.*
- c. This plan is intended to address releases and threatened releases of hazardous materials, including oil spills, radiological incidents and acts of terrorism. Acute releases require an immediate response in order to protect public health and safety, property, and the environment.
- d. This plan does not address the problems associated with the clean-up or remediation of non-emergency or long-term hazardous waste sites.

### **1.4 Authorities**

- a. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended. (Public Law 95-510)
- b. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- c. Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. (Public Law 99-499)
- d. Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, and regulations promulgated under that Act.

### **1.5 Relationship to Laws and Other Plans**

- a. All portions of this plan shall be in accordance with the current Federal, State and Local laws governing hazardous material emergency response.
- b. All portions of this plan shall be complementary to Federal, State and local fixed facility plans.
- c. All portions of this plan are in coordination with, and complementary to, the Emergency Management Plans of the cities, the county, and the Multi-Casualty Incident Plan of the Washoe County District Board of Health.

## **2 Situation and Planning Assumptions**

### **2.1 Situation**

Hazardous materials are used, stored, manufactured, and transported in and through Washoe County on a daily basis. To minimize the harm caused by a release of a hazardous material, an ongoing process of hazard and risk analysis, cooperative planning, resource identification, and preparation must be carried out. Because of limitations, the cities and county cannot prepare

for every possible type of release, but it can prepare for those that are most likely to occur based on a hazard and risk analysis.

Hazardous materials incidents may occur anywhere and at any time in Washoe County. The potential for a hazardous materials incident in Washoe County depends on the volume, distribution, and/or use of chemicals and other hazardous substances in a particular area. In general, the likelihood of a hazardous materials incident is greatest in the following areas:

- a. Transportation Routes - Highways, railways, and commercial and military aviation routes constitute a major threat because of the multitude of chemicals and hazardous substances transported along them. Interstate 80 and Highway 395 are areas of concern, as are the Union Pacific railroad tracks.
- b. Pipeline - Several pipelines travel through Washoe County carrying a wide variety of products for industrial, commercial and residential use. The Kinder Morgan Pipeline Company, possibly the largest of the pipelines, services the entire county with petroleum products. The Paiute and Tuscarora Pipelines supply high-pressure natural gas for service to the communities.
- c. Business and Industry - The manufacturing and industrial firms in and near the Cities of Reno and Sparks have the potential for hazardous materials incidents and use or store products which may be harmful to the sensitive ecosystems of the area.
- d. Agriculture - Accidental releases of pesticides, fertilizers, and other agricultural chemicals may be harmful to human health and the environment. The majority of the agricultural industry consists of ranching and farming operations located throughout Washoe County.
- e. Illegitimate Business - Illegitimate business, such as clandestine drug laboratories, are a significant threat to human health, property, and the environment. In many instances, the residue is dumped in remote areas of the county or along the side of the road, posing a serious health threat to any unsuspecting person who comes in contact with it.
- f. Hazardous Waste - Hazardous waste (e.g., used motor oil, solvents, or paint) is occasionally dumped in remote areas of the county or along roadways. Like drug lab residue, illegally dumped hazardous waste poses a threat to human health, property, and the environment.
- g. Radioactive Materials - Interstate 80, Highway 395, the railroads and air corridors are authorized routes for shipment of radioactive materials.
- h. Reno Tahoe International Airport and Stead Airport - A threat of downed aircraft exists because of the proximity of the airport to the City of Reno, Sparks and Washoe County. It is likely that area emergency crews would arrive prior to the arrival of airport personnel.
- i. Acts of Terrorism - Terrorist acts are more common today and much more sophisticated. Events of recent years have prompted a move towards preparedness for terrorist events.

## **2.2 Assumptions**

- a. Hazardous materials incidents may occur at any time, day or night, and in populated as well as remote areas of Washoe County.
- b. Hazardous materials incidents, even minor ones, usually require a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional response. It is essential that the Incident Command System be implemented immediately by responding agencies, according to TRIAD operating agreement.
- c. Hazardous materials incidents may pose significant risks to emergency response personnel. It is imperative that all emergency response personnel and potential first responders be properly trained in appropriate hazardous materials emergency response procedures.
- d. Hazardous materials incidents may require large-scale evacuations or shelter-in-place actions. These operations may present significant challenges in terms of warning and notification, logistics, and agency coordination.
- e. Hazardous materials incidents may generate widespread media and public interest. The media must be considered an ally in these emergencies; they can provide considerable assistance in emergency public information and warning.
- f. Hazardous materials incidents may pose serious long-term threats to public health, property, and the environment.
- g. Significant hazardous materials incidents may require an extended commitment of personnel and resources from involved agencies and jurisdictions.
- h. Jurisdiction over the site of the release will remain within the city or county, unless the city or county decides to relinquish its authority to another level of government.
- i. The emergency response official responding shall be the individual in charge of site specific Incident Command system, shall be qualified at Hazmat IC.

## **3 Concept of Operations**

### **3.1 General**

- a. The problem of hazardous materials releases is not only a governmental responsibility, but also one that includes all private industry locations in the county. Hazard identification, planning, and response preparedness is constantly changing in the county and must be addressed by a cooperative partnership of the public and private sector.
- b. Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks are responsible for conducting emergency hazardous material operations within their own jurisdictions.
- c. The Incident Command System (ICS) provides the flexibility to rapidly activate and establish an organizational form around the functions that need to be performed in order to efficiently and effectively mitigate an emergency. For this reason, ICS will be used during all hazardous materials incidents in Washoe County.

**3.2 Inter-jurisdictional Coordination**

The Cities and the County recognize adjacent states, counties and the sovereign nature of Tribal Governments and may provide assistance, upon request, to prevent injuries, loss of life, and to protect property and the environment. The Cities and the County recognize the value and need to plan, respond, mitigate and recover from hazardous materials incidents.

**3.3 Predetermined Agreements**

Special agreements or contracts may exist between businesses and contractors to plan, respond to, mitigate and recover from hazardous materials incidents.

**3.4. Levels of Response**

Hazardous materials incidents are categorized as Level I, II, or III depending on the severity of the incident. The criteria used to determine the level of an incident includes:

- a. The characteristics of the hazardous material.
- b. The nature of its release.
- c. The area affected by the hazardous materials incident (e.g., populations, sensitive ecosystems, waterways, transportation routes, etc.).
- d. The extent of multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional involvement.
- e. Evacuations, injuries, or fatalities.
- f. The technical expertise and equipment needed to safely mitigate the incident.

<b>Response Level</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>I Potential Emergency Condition</b>	Any incident involving hazardous material/waste which can be abated by first responding fire department personnel from the agency having jurisdiction or may be abated by the members of TRIAD, from the agency having jurisdiction, i.e., minor fuel spills, small amounts of common materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 9-1-1 Dispatchers</li> <li>▪ Fire Department</li> <li>▪ Police Department</li> <li>▪ Public Information Officer</li> </ul>
<b>II Limited Emergency Condition</b>	Any incident which requires activation of the on-shift TRIAD members from the Triad agencies. A Level II response would be appropriate in any incident requiring specialized training and equipment, or any unknown or suspected chemical/substance. A Level II response may be requested at any time by the incident commander. Additional on-shift TRIAD members may be	All Agencies in Level I and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TRIAD</li> <li>▪ REOC Staff/County EM</li> <li>▪ Public Works Departments</li> <li>▪ Washoe County Health District</li> <li>▪ Red Cross</li> <li>▪ REMSA</li> </ul>

Response Level	Description	Contact
	called at the discretion of the incident Commander (IC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Area Hospitals</li> <li>▪ NHP</li> <li>▪ Public Utilities</li> <li>▪ CHEMTREC</li> <li>▪ National Response Center</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>III</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Full Emergency Condition</b></p>	Any incident which has exceeded or is expected to exceed the capabilities of the on-shift TRIAD members. A Level III response would be appropriate for an incident of a large scale, one of the long duration, those presenting extensive decontamination or evacuation/ rescue problems. The Incident Commander may declare a Level III incident at any time he/she deems necessary. A Level III response will necessitate the response of all on and off shift TRIAD members.	<p>All Level I and II Agencies plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mutual Aid Fire, Police. Emergency Medical</li> <li>▪ NDEM</li> <li>▪ NDEP</li> <li>▪ Nevada State Health Division</li> <li>▪ EPA</li> <li>▪ REMSA</li> <li>▪ ATSDR</li> <li>▪ FEMA</li> <li>▪ OSC/RRT</li> </ul>

**3.4.1 Level I (Lowest)**

Any incident involving hazardous material/waste which can be abated by first responding fire department personnel from the agency having jurisdiction or may be abated by the members of the TRIAD from the agency having jurisdiction, i.e. minor fuel spills, small amounts of common materials.

**3.4.2 Level II (Intermediate)**

Any incident which requires activation of the on-shift TRIAD agency members. A Level II response would be appropriate in any incident requiring specialized training and equipment, or any unknown or suspected chemical/substance. A Level II response may be requested at any time by the incident commander. Additional on shift TRIAD members may be called at the discretion of the Incident Commander (IC).

**3.4.3 Level III (Highest)**

Any incident which has exceeded or is expected to exceed the capabilities of the on shift TRIAD members. A Level III response would be appropriate for an incident of a large scale, one of long duration, those presenting extensive decontamination or evacuation/rescue problems. The Incident Commander may declare a Level III incident at any time he/she deems necessary. A Level III response will necessitate the response of all on and off shift TRIAD members.

**3.5 Response Function Appendices**

The Response Function Appendices are those areas of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan that require further explanation and direction of key elements of the plan. These functional

areas may include Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), checklists, statements of intent, phone lists, or a combination of documents. These areas may have multiple agencies or groups that input information or add resources to the sections. The LEPC shall review these Response Functions annually to assure that all of the criteria of the functions are met and that the sections contain the most recent information. The following sections have been determined by the LEPC to be Response Functions:

- a. Appendix A – Notification and Warning
- b. Appendix B – Communications
- c. Appendix C – Public Information
- d. Appendix D – Personal Protection of Citizens (Evacuation)
- e. Appendix E – Resource Management
- f. Appendix F – Training

## **4 Roles and Responsibilities**

### **4.1 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission**

- a. Review and approve the Washoe County Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan.
- b. Review the local recommendations and appoint membership of the LEPC.
- c. Participate in LEPC planning.
- d. Set guidelines for grants, planning, training and equipment.

### **4.2 Local Emergency Planning Committee**

- a. Consist of, as a minimum, one voting representative from the following groups:
  - Elected state and local officials
  - Law enforcement
  - Civil defense/Emergency management
  - Firefighters
  - Washoe County Health District, Emergency Medical Services, hospitals and first aid
  - Transportation personnel
  - Broadcast and print media
  - Community groups and other public agencies
  - Owners and operators of facilities subject to the requirements of SARA Title III

- b. Provide a membership request form to agencies interested in participating in the LEPC. The authorized agent of the agency must sign the form. Membership groups may jointly nominate a single representative. Each member of the LEPC shall have only one vote.
- c. Submit a list of members annually to the SERC for their approval.
- d. Perform the following duties:
  - Conduct meetings at least quarterly.
  - Post LEPC, executive and subcommittee meeting agendas in accordance with the open meeting law.
  - LEPC will operate on a July 1 through June 30 fiscal year.
  - Maintain minutes approved by the LEPC, and provide a copy to the SERC, LEPC members and other interested parties.
  - Update the Regional Hazardous Material Emergency Plan annually and submit to the SERC.
  - Conduct nominations and elect officers annually and as vacancies occur.
  - Plan, execute and prepare post-incident reports on training exercises at least annually.
  - Review and make recommendations on SERC grant requests (see exhibit A for grant process)
  - Maintain an inventory of equipment items greater than \$500 purchased with SERC grant dollars.
  - Monitor grant expenditures and provide quarterly reports to the SERC.
  - Approve grant amendment requests and forward to the SERC for their approval.
  - The chairperson of the LEPC or his or her designee will attend SERC meetings whenever possible, and act as the liaison with the SERC Chairperson and the SERC Executive Board.
  - Develop and revise bylaws as needed.
  - Make recommendations to the SERC for LEPC membership.

#### **4.3 LEPC Subcommittees**

Standing subcommittees are:

- a. Grants and Finance Subcommittee
- b. Radiological Task Force

Subcommittee Chairpersons are appointed by the LEPC Chairperson and will submit written reports to the LEPC Chairperson. The Chairperson may appoint ad hoc committees as needed.

#### **4.3.1 Grants and Finance Subcommittee**

The Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Grants and Finance Subcommittee is a group of individuals that meet during each grant application period to review and prioritize all grant applications submitted to the LEPC. This subcommittee reviews and prioritizes each grant application submitted by disciplines of the LEPC and then makes recommendations for final approval to the LEPC General Membership.

#### **4.3.2 Radiological Task Force**

The Radiological Task Force was originally designed to assist the Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee by providing information concerning proposed nuclear waste shipments traveling through Washoe County for final storage at the Yucca Mountain facility in Southern Nevada.

The current focus of the Radiological Task Force is to provide Washoe County LEPC, responders, medical personnel and law enforcement with training and equipment specific to the transuranic nuclear waste shipments that will be transported through Washoe County and eventually end up at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant located outside of Carlsbad, New Mexico for final long term storage. Transuranic waste is legacy waste from the United State's involvement in the testing and creation of nuclear weapons during the Manhattan Project. This waste is made up of miscellaneous contaminated debris to include building rubble, gloves, gowns and other forms of personal protective equipment. This waste is mostly low-level alpha, beta and gamma emitters and is solid in form.

A release involving radiological/nuclear medicine shipments normally would not constitute a large scale hazard. But should an event occur, the Radiological Task Force will act as a liaison between the Emergency Management Office/LEPC and the TRIAD to gather lessons learned and disseminate information for LEPC members and LEPC plan updates.

#### **4.4 County Emergency Management Director**

- a. Serve as Community Coordinator to implement this plan. Coordinate response, recovery, mitigation and training activities.
- b. Administer the County Emergency Management program.
- c. Be a member of the LEPC.
- d. Coordinate planning and logistics activities for LEPC, as needed.

#### **4.5 Fire Services**

- a. Participate in LEPC planning with representatives from all the fire protection agencies in the county.
- b. Establish working relations with facilities in their jurisdictions.
- c. Enter into any approved agreements necessary.
- d. Comply with all hazardous materials training requirements and insure that their personnel receive the mandated amounts and types of training.
- e. Ensure that the Hazmat Incident Commander will coordinate the mitigation of the hazardous materials incident to the point when fire service assistance is no longer needed at the scene.

- f. Ensure that at a fixed facility incident, the IC will be in charge of the emergency response effort and work jointly with the facilities on-scene coordinator.
- g. Ensure a LEAD AGENCY shall effect overall management and coordination of a hazardous materials incident.
- h. Activate the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, as needed.
- i. Take appropriate action to mitigate the hazard, stabilize the situation, rescue any injured or trapped persons and evacuate the area, as necessary.
- j. Ensure control of the incident is turned over to the Washoe County Health District for further remediation and enforcement when the incident is no longer an emergency.
- k. Provide current resource lists for inclusion into the plan.
- l. Maintain TRIAD operating agreement for hazardous materials response.
- m. Review all materials sent to them by the fixed facilities.
- n. Utilize Incident Command in accordance with the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).
- o. Provide personnel to fill positions within the ICS as requested by the Incident Commander.
- p. Shall participate in Unified Command as necessary.

#### **4.6 Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (TRIAD)**

The Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (TRIAD) was formed through an inter-local agreement between Reno, Sparks and Washoe County/Truckee Meadows Fire Agencies. The sole purpose of the team is for hazardous materials response within the jurisdictional areas of the participating agencies.

The LEAD AGENCY shall effect overall management and coordination of a hazardous materials incident. The appropriate City Fire Department on behalf of the City Manager or Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District on behalf of the County Manager shall assume the role of lead agency for all hazardous materials incidents within their jurisdictional boundaries.

Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team will:

- a. Comply with all hazardous materials training requirements.
- b. Participate in LEPC planning
- c. Follow TRIAD operating agreement for hazardous materials response.
- d. Utilize Incident Command in accordance with the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).
- e. Conduct regular drills to ensure readiness and participate in the annual LEPC exercise.

**4.7 Law Enforcement**

- a. Participate in LEPC planning with representatives from all of the law enforcement agencies in the county.
- b. Comply with all hazardous materials training requirements and insure that their personnel receive the mandated amounts and types of training.
- c. Develop and maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for hazardous materials response.
- d. If first on the scene, act as the incident commander until relieved by the fire service. (Lead Agency)
- e. Provide perimeter control, traffic control and evacuation for the incident as directed by the Incident Commander.
- f. Provide security resources as required by the Incident Commander.
- g. Provide personnel to fill positions within the ICS as requested by the Incident Commander.
- h. Shall participate in Unified Command as necessary.
- i. Utilize Incident Command in accordance with the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).

**4.8 Washoe County Health District**

- a. Provide representatives to the LEPC with regard to coordination of public health, medical services, hazardous materials and other public health issues.
- b. Respond throughout Reno, Sparks and Washoe County to hazardous materials incidents.
- c. Perform other duties as assigned by the IC.
- d. Assume remediation oversight in accordance with Federal, State and Local regulations.
- e. Perform hazmat team functions in coordination with law enforcement activities involving clandestine drug laboratories.
- f. Respond to outside agency requests for technical assistance to hazardous materials releases.
- g. Monitor injuries to the public and responding personnel, and coordinate debriefings with responding agencies and hospitals as appropriate.
- h. Coordinate planning for medical and health responses to hazardous materials releases.
- i. Monitor air and water quality, and perform as feasible, plume tracking and reporting.
- j. Participate in field ICS in accordance with the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).

- k. Participate in EOC operations and unified command in the field or in an EOC as necessary.

**4.9 Public Works (also known as Community Services Department in Washoe County)**

- a. Participate in LEPC planning.
- b. Provide an updated list of equipment and personnel available to support emergency operations.
- c. Provide public works/CSD personnel with appropriate training in hazardous materials response.
- d. Assist in spill control, as requested.
- e. Perform actions to protect water and sewer systems, if endangered and as requested.
- f. Develop and maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for hazardous materials response.
- g. Provide personnel to fill positions within the ICS as requested by the Incident Commander.
- h. Shall participate in Unified Command as necessary.
- i. Utilize Incident Command in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

**4.10 Medical Services**

- a. Prehospital medical personnel will initiate the Multi-Casualty Incident Plan as appropriate; provide triage, treatment and transport of victims and incident personnel exposed to hazardous material after primary decontamination has been completed; staff the medical branch positions; and provide medical monitoring of the Hazmat team(s).
- b. The acute care hospitals will provide treatment of victims and incident personnel, provide primary decontamination of walk-in patients and secondary decontamination of patients received from the scene as necessary, and act as a resource for medical treatment information and on-line medical control of prehospital personnel.
- c. All medical personnel, both on and off scene, will maintain close communication regarding the identity; health effects and medical treatment of victims.
- d. Prehospital personnel and hospital staff will prevent additional exposure to victims, themselves and their vehicles, equipment and facilities through the use of appropriate precautions and personal protective equipment.
- e. The hospitals and REMSA will participate in LEPC planning and designate a representative to the LEPC.
- f. Develop and maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for hazardous materials response.

- g. Provide personnel to fill positions within the ICS as requested by the Incident Commander.
- h. Shall participate in Unified Command as necessary.
- i. Utilize Incident Command in accordance with the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).

#### **4.11 Fixed Facilities and/or Transportation Companies**

- a. Submit a letter (SERC form) to the local fire department, LEPC, and SERC identifying the facility and the representative to the LEPC.
- b. Participate in the LEPC as requested.
- c. Provide information to the LEPC in accordance with SARA Title III and the Hazardous Materials Uniform Transportation and Safety Act of 1990 (it is preferred that organizations do this through the online Fire Marshall's database).
- d. Provide comprehensive information concerning hazardous materials at their facility or in transport, as requested by the LEPC.
- e. Provide information to health professionals, physicians, and nurses in accordance with the requirements of SARA Title III.
- f. Designate an emergency coordinator for the facility to be in charge of facility personnel and work jointly with the Incident Commander.
- g. Establish working relationships with the local fire service.
- h. Provide personnel to fill positions within the ICS as requested by the Incident Commander for incidents directly related to the fixed facility or Transportation Company. All other participation is voluntary.
- i. Shall participate in Unified Command as necessary.
- j. Provide immediate notification to the local fire department upon discovery of a release of hazardous materials as required by SARA Title III via telephone, radio, or in person.

#### **4.12 State Agencies**

- a. Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM):
  - NDEM is, under Nevada law, the coordinating agency for State emergency response.
- b. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP):
  - NDEP regulates hazardous wastes, provides advice on environmental matters, can conduct sampling, and makes final decisions on remediation when not performed by the Washoe County Health District.

- c. Nevada State Health Division:
  - The division is responsible for the public health and can test for contamination from chemical and organisms. Other sections of the division that may assist are:
  - Radiological Health is responsible for all incidents involving radioactive materials.
  - Emergency Medical Services may assist in coordinating emergency medical resources outside the county.
- d. Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT):
  - NDOT has highway maintenance yards throughout the state with heavy equipment and other resources that may be used by the local responder under certain circumstances. NDOT has the authority to close highways to traffic.
- e. Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety:
  - The department controls the licensing and regulation of commercial carriers throughout the state. The Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP) is part of the department and enforces highway transportation regulations in the State. NHP also controls the State law enforcement communication net that may be used for emergency communications.
- f. Nevada National Guard:
  - Can provide technical support in a variety of incidences as requested.
  - The Nevada National Guard Civil Support Team has nuclear, biological and chemical response capabilities. It may be requested through the County Emergency Manager, through NDEM and authorized by the Governor.
- g. Nevada OSHA:
  - Promulgates guidelines and enforces occupational safety and health standards for workers' safety.

#### **4.13 Federal Agencies**

- a. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):
  - The EPA has grants available for local governments for reimbursement of Hazardous spill costs up to \$25,000 per incident. The EPA is responsible for environmental matters at the Federal level. Support to the state includes, sending technical teams and On-Scene Coordinators to the sites of releases or dumps, providing advice, and enforcing environmental law.
- b. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):
  - FEMA is the lead agency under presidential directive for consequence management. FEMA can provide coordination on the Federal level and funds

training classes. FEMA provides grants for training under the provisions of Title III.

- c. Department of Transportation (DOT):
  - DOT publishes hazardous materials publications that are available to the local responders. The Coast Guard can provide hazardous materials assistance in some cases. The team serving this area is the Pacific Strike Team.
- d. Department of Energy (DOE):
  - The DOE Nevada Operations Office (NVOO), by agreement with NDEM, will provide radiological assistance to the State when requested. NVOO also has limited cleanup capability.
- e. Department of Interior (DOI):
  - DOI U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) all can provide technical information such as location of sensitive habitats and species, water data, natural resource information and land management/use information. BOR, BLM, USF&WS, BIA have trust responsibility for the lands they manage.
- f. U.S. Coast Guard Regional Response Team (Region 9):
  - Response support of DOI agencies can be accessed through the RRT such as National Interagency Fire Agency Support.
- g. Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA):
  - DEA will provide a specialist in the event of the discovery of an actual or suspected clandestine drug laboratory or dump of chemicals.
- h. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) of the Department of Health and Human Resources:
  - Can provide technical information on Hazardous Materials, health effects and have 24 hour Environmentalists and Toxicologists on call.
- i. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the Department of Justice:
  - Lead Federal agency under presidential directive 39 for crisis management of a terrorist event.

#### **4.14 Support Agencies**

Support agencies are those agencies that will supply support services or resources to the incident scene. They include:

- a. Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) (LEPC also serves as the County Citizen Corps Council)
- b. American Red Cross

- c. Regional Transportation Commission
- d. Salvation Army
- e. Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Teams
- f. Other Volunteer Organizations active in disaster. (VOAD)

Supporting agencies may:

- a. Participate in LEPC planning.
- b. Provide personnel to fill positions within the ICS as requested by the Incident Commander.

## **5 Appendices**

- Appendix A Notification and Warning
- Appendix B Communications
- Appendix C Public Information and Community Relations
- Appendix D Evacuation
- Appendix E Resource Management
- Appendix F Training

**Appendix A Notification and Warning**

**1 Notification and Warning Systems**

This section is critical when life-threatening materials are released. One organization will be responsible for alerting the public, response teams and the hospitals as soon as word of the release is received. The **Washoe, Reno, or Sparks 911 dispatch** will be used to make notifications. This plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

**2 Notification Guidelines**

Establish a Protocol Procedure.

- a. The Incident Commander may request outside municipal, state, federal or private resources at any time during a hazardous materials response without upgrading the incident response level.
- b. The Incident Commander may request other Hazmat Teams without declaring a Level III incident.
- c. PSAPs (9-1-1 Dispatchers) shall make Local, State, Federal, and Industrial agency notifications as requested and directed by the Incident Commander.

**3 Methods for Determining Release and Possible Affected Areas**

The Washoe LEPC anticipates two typical scenarios by which applicable authorities determine a potential release of hazardous materials, which includes notification by a citizen (including an employee from a Haz-Mat facility) and notification by a public safety or local government employee. The following flow charts document a typical scenario, wherein a release of hazardous materials is determined and reported.

CITIZEN NOTIFICATION	PUBLIC SAFETY NOTIFICATION
<p>Citizen recognizes release of hazardous material (or perceived release), relative to transportation container, a facility or a pipeline. Citizen recognition may be based on observation, odor or sound. In the case of an employee at a permitted facility, recognition may be the result of activation of a monitoring system</p>	<p>Public Safety Officer or other government employee recognizes release of hazardous material (or perceived release), relative to transportation container, a facility or a pipeline. Recognition may be based on observation, odor or sound. Recognition may also be the result of a facility's monitoring system that provides an audible alarm.</p>
<p>Citizen (or facility employee) calls 9-1-1. Depending upon the location the 9-1-1 call is made from, the call will be routed to Reno Dispatch, Sparks Dispatch or Washoe County Dispatch. Additionally, depending on the nature of the primary complaint, REMSA Dispatch could also be the receiver of information that determines a hazardous material release.</p>	<p>Public Safety Officer or other government official contacts their Dispatch Center by virtue of radio communication or by calling 9-1-1. Depending upon the location the 9-1-1 call is made from, the call will be routed to Reno Dispatch, Sparks Dispatch or Washoe County Dispatch. Additionally, depending on the nature of the primary complaint, REMSA Dispatch could also be the receiver of information that determines a hazardous material release.</p>

CITIZEN NOTIFICATION	PUBLIC SAFETY NOTIFICATION
<p>Dispatcher defines the nature, location and circumstances of the incident, by virtue of a series of targeted questions</p>	<p>Dispatcher defines the nature, location and circumstances of the incident, by virtue of a series of targeted questions</p>
<p>Dispatcher dispatches the applicable fire department and the Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD. NOTE: In areas of Washoe County not directly served by the Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD (Incline Village), the local fire department will assess the incident circumstances and request the response of the Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD as may be applicable.</p>	<p>Dispatcher dispatches the applicable fire department and the Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD. NOTE: In areas of Washoe County not directly served by the Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD (Incline Village), the local fire department will assess the incident circumstances and request the response of the Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD as may be applicable.</p>
<p>Based upon information collected by the Dispatcher, information gathered during response, and circumstances observed upon arrival (size-up process), fire department personnel and/or Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD will assess the area that is potentially affected by the release of hazardous materials and take appropriate action to protect lives, environment and property.</p>	<p>Based upon information collected by the Dispatcher, information gathered during response, and circumstances observed upon arrival (size-up process), fire department personnel and/or Regional Haz-Mat TRIAD will assess the area that is potentially affected by the release of hazardous materials and take appropriate action to protect lives, environment and property.</p>

**Appendix B Communications**

Specific provisions should be made for accurate and efficient communication among all of the various organizations during the response. This includes the use of radios, telephones, cellular phones, satellite, and computers. A plan identifying strategic and tactical networks among TRIAD and MCIP will be established.

**Note: For operations level communications, refer to the TRIAD operations manual.**

The primary frequency will be determined by AHJ on scene. This may be subject to change as incident needs dictate or an alternate communications plan is developed. The primary frequency for entry team use by the TRIAD will be Channel 2 (State White 2).

## Appendix C Public Information and Community Relations

It is important to provide accurate information to the public concerning hazardous materials releases. This section describes the method of distributing information to the public. The following hazardous materials incident sample announcement formats should be used to guide the Public Information Officer during incident reporting.

### Message #1 – Unidentified Hazardous Materials Incident

This is a public announcement from (insert agency name here). An unidentified substance that may be hazardous has been spilled/released at (location). Please avoid the area, if possible, while crews are responding. The best alternate routes are (list routes). If you are already in the area, please be patient and follow directions of emergency response personnel. Specially trained personnel will evaluate the substance. Further information will be released as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Message #2 – Low Risk Hazardous Materials Incident

This is the Washoe County Emergency Management in Reno and Sparks. A small amount of (material), a hazardous substance, has been spilled/released at (location). Streets are blocked, traffic is restricted, and authorities have asked residents in the immediate area to evacuate. Please avoid the area. The material is slightly/highly toxic to humans and can cause the following symptoms: (symptoms).

If you think you may have come in contact with this material, you should (provide health instructions and hotline number, if available). For your safety, please avoid the area if at all possible. Alternate routes are (routes) and traffic is being diverted. If you are now near the spill/release area, please follow directions of emergency response personnel. Cleanup crews are on the scene.

### Message #3 – High Risk Hazardous Materials Incident (Evacuation Mandatory)

This is the Washoe County Emergency Management in Reno and Sparks. A large/small amount of (material), a highly hazardous substance, has been spilled/released at (location). Because of the potential health hazard, authorities are requesting/requiring all residents within (number) blocks/miles of the area to evacuate. If you are within (evacuation zone boundaries), you and your family should/must leave as soon as possible/now. Go immediately to the home of a friend or relative outside the evacuation area or to (indicate shelters). If you can drive a neighbor who has no transportation, please do so. If you need transportation, call (provide telephone number). Children attending the following schools: (list schools) will be evacuated to (locations). Please do not drive to your child's school. Pick your child up from school authorities at the evacuation center. Listen to this station for further instructions.

The material is highly toxic to humans and can cause the following symptoms: (symptoms). If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, seek help at a hospital outside the evacuation area, or at the evacuation center at (location). To repeat, if you are in the area of (location/boundaries), you should/must leave for your own safety. Do not use your telephone unless you need emergency assistance. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Message #4 – Hazardous Material Incident-Summary Statement**

At approximately (time) a.m./p.m. today, a spill/release of a potentially hazardous substance was reported to this office. Emergency services personnel were immediately dispatched to cordon off the area and direct traffic.

The material was later determined to be (substance), a (hazardous/harmless) chemical/substance/material/gas which, upon contact, may produce symptoms of (list symptoms). Precautionary evacuation of the (location) area surrounding the spill was (requested/required). Approximately (number) of persons were evacuated.

Clean-up crews from (agency/company) were dispatched to the scene, and normal traffic had resumed by (time), at which time residents were allowed to return to their homes. There were no injuries reported-OR- (number) persons, including (number) of emergency personnel, were treated at area hospitals for (injuries/symptoms) and (all/number) were later released. Those remaining in the hospital are in (condition) condition. Response agencies involved were (list agencies).

## **Appendix D Personal Protection of Citizens**

### ***Evacuation Procedure***

#### **1 Objective**

To reduce the potential of injury or death while providing for the safety of the people of Washoe County through the process of sheltering in place, evacuation, or relocation.

#### **2 Introduction**

Sheltering in place is sometimes more effective than evacuation. Keeping people indoors with the doors and windows shut and air supplies controlled is sometimes safer than moving people outdoors in a hazardous environment.

Evacuation of citizens from their homes during an emergency requires the coordinated effort of several agencies. This involves two basic activities:

- a. The movement of people out of the evacuated area
- b. The temporary relocation of people in shelters and mass care facilities

#### **3 Primary Agencies**

- a. Washoe County Sheriff's Office
- b. Reno Police Department
- c. Sparks Police Department
- d. Nevada Highway Patrol
- e. Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District
- f. Reno Fire Department
- g. Sparks Fire Department
- h. Washoe County Health District
- i. (-1-1 Dispatchers

#### **4 Support Agencies**

- a. American Red Cross
- b. Salvation Army
- c. Nevada Department of Transportation
- d. Washoe County School District
- e. Acute Care Hospitals and other health facilities
- f. Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster (VOAD)
- g. Nevada Division of Emergency Management

- h. Media, including Television and Radio
- i. Reverse Dial/Emergency Alert System/Wireless Emergency Alerts
- j. REMSA

## **5 Regional Procedures for Issuing Evacuation Orders and Opening Shelters**

**Step 1:** Incident Commander (IC), or designee, contacts Washoe or Reno 911 Dispatch to advise an Evacuation is necessary to create an exclusionary zone and to request notification of the Washoe County Emergency Shelter Council (ESC). It may be necessary for the IC to make an immediate interim evacuation site determination until the Emergency Shelter Council can coordinate additional evacuation locations, in this case the IC will select a location from the Regional Evacuation & Shelter Map. Washoe County Animal Services will make initial determinations about evacuation locations for animals and will act as liaison to the IC.

**Step 2:** Washoe or Reno 911 Dispatch will issue a notification to "WC\_Evac." The Washoe County Emergency Manager (office: 337-5898 or Cell: 742-6944) will work with the evacuation group to coordinate evacuation support (options for public notification are media release, "reverse dial," and/or Emergency Alert System [EAS]/Wireless Emergency Alerts [WEA]). Washoe or Reno Dispatch will also provide name/telephone number to contact the IC. If Washoe or Reno Dispatch cannot activate the WC\_Evac Text Group, they may contact the County Emergency Manager directly, or if unable to contact the Washoe County Emergency Manager, or his/her designee, they agree to contact the American Red Cross directly.

**Step 3:** The Washoe County Emergency Manager notifies the Emergency Shelter Council (ESC)

- a. Northern Nevada American Red Cross
- b. City of Reno Emergency Manager or City of Sparks Emergency Manager (if within either City's jurisdiction and on-duty resources are being utilized)
- c. Washoe County School District
- d. Washoe County Social Services
- e. Washoe County Animal Services
- f. Washoe County Health District
- g. Washoe County and/or City of Reno/Sparks Public Information Officer
- h. Washoe County Search and Rescue
- i. Washoe County Community Emergency Response Team

**Step 4:** The ESC will determine and coordinate activation of the shelter locations and conducts a Pre-Shelter Activation Meeting to coordinate appropriate details based on the specifics of the incident.

**Step 5:** Additional or alternate human and animal shelters are activated. The Washoe 311 is activated (if necessary), and additional media releases are distributed.

**Step 6:** When the IC determines citizens may return to their homes because circumstances indicate shelters are no longer necessary, Washoe or Reno 911 Dispatch and the IC are notified

of the closures by the ESC. The ESC shares lessons-learned to ensure continual process improvement.

*\* NOTE: This process is designed to remove the burden of shelter coordination from Incident Commanders and Washoe or Reno 911 Dispatch staff. It provides for continuity of emergency services and ensures that public safety is maintained and the appropriate responsible regional partners are involved in shelter decisions/operations.*

## **5.1 Methods for determining probable affected areas and populations for releases**

*(Triggers for citizen notification regarding shelter-in-place or evacuations)*

The following procedures are an excerpt from the HAZ-MAT TRIAD Standard Operating Procedures (SOP):

The HAZ-MAT Triad employees a three tier approach to determining probably affected areas. This begins with simple actions, progresses to more complex, and ends with modeling –

- a. Start by collecting signs and symptoms relayed by 9-1-1 dispatchers and on-scene human intelligence.
- b. Next, collect data from hand-held monitoring devices.
- c. Finally, develop computer-generated plume modeling through approval model suite.

This method is scalable, so only the steps required by situation need to be implemented.

Once the affected area is determined, then the regional notification system can be employed. This “reverse dial” system, known as Code Red, can be employed through Washoe or Reno Dispatch, or any web-enabled device at [www.ReadyWashoe.com](http://www.ReadyWashoe.com). The Emergency Alert System and the Wireless Emergency Alerts (EAS/WEA) may also be used. Detailed procedures for these systems are also contained in the Regional Emergency Operations Plan (REOP).

## **6 Evacuation Plan and Shelter Locations**

For purposes of evacuation and shelter planning, Washoe County is divided into several sectors. The attached map depicts general evacuation directions and preplanned shelters. However, when a crisis occurs, local public safety personnel will identify official shelters and routes based on the current situation.

- a. **Sector 1** – North of the Truckee River, and west of US 395. The two primary shelters are McQueen and Hug High Schools. The primary large animal shelter areas are the UNR Fields and the Livestock Events Center. Lawlor Events Center is designated as a potential large-scale shelter. Evacuation routes lead away from the river and downtown areas north generally along McCarran and Virginia/US 395.
- b. **Sector 1A** – Verdi/Mogul area. Residents of this area will use Sector 1 shelters/routes. If passage to Sector 1 is blocked, options included movement to Truckee, California; or temporary refuge on high ground in the Dog Valley area.
- c. **Sector 2** – North of the Truckee River, and east of US 395. The primary shelters are North Valleys, Spanish Springs, Reed, and Sparks High Schools. The primary large animal shelter areas are Lazy 5 Regional Park, Lemmon Valley Horseman’s Arena,

- and Gandolfo Rodeo Arena. Evacuation routes lead away from the river and downtown Sparks north generally along US 395 and Pyramid Lake Highway.
- d. **Sector 3** – South of the Truckee River, and west of US 395. The primary shelters are Reno, and Wooster High Schools. The primary large animal shelter is Bartley Ranch Regional Park. The Convention Center is designated as a potential large-scale shelter. Evacuation routes in this region lead away from the river and downtown area south general along Virginia/USA 395/I-580.
  - e. **Sector 4** – South of the Truckee River, and east of US 395. The primary shelter is Damonte High School. The primary large animal shelter is Hidden Valley Regional Park. Evacuation routes in this region will proceed south generally along Virginia/US 395/I-580.
  - f. **Sector 5** – Washoe Lake area. Residents in this area will proceed either north into sectors 3 or 4; or if that direction is unsafe, south towards Carson City. Potential shelters include Galena or Damonte Ranch High Schools, or Carson City High School in neighboring Carson City County. The primary large animal shelter is Washoe Lake State Park.
  - g. **Sector 6** – Incline Village/Crystal Bay. The primary Shelter is the Incline Village High School. Additional shelter areas are the Community Center and Ski Beach. Evacuations routes are HWY 431, or SR 28 towards either Kings Beach or South Lake Tahoe.
  - h. **Section 7A** – Wadsworth/Nixon area. It includes the Tribal Nation of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. Potential shelter sites include Reed High School in Sparks, or Fernley High School in neighboring Lyon County.
  - i. **Sector 7B** – Antelope Valley/Rancho Haven area. The Cold Springs Middle School is a designated shelter for this sector.
  - j. **Sector 7C** – Gerlach/Empire area. The Gerlach High School is a designated shelter for this sector.

## **7 Evacuation Checklist**

- a. Incident Command shall determine if evacuation is required.
- b. Determine area to be evacuated or secured.
- c. Determine if evacuation, relocation, or shelter in place is appropriate.
- d. Determine if the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) should be activated.
- e. Determine the need to activate emergency notification systems.
- f. Notify all agencies to assist with evacuations.
- g. Coordinate the activation of shelters with the city, county or appropriate agency.
- h. Establish traffic control and evacuation route plans.
- i. Provide information to the community through the public information officer or the broadcasting system. The following information needs to be provided:

- Which people and areas are to be evacuated?
- Where will they go?
- What will they take with them?
- What security measures are being planned?
- What special instruction should be given to special needs groups?

(Note: Plan information should be disseminated in Spanish, for the hearing and sight impaired, for the physically disabled, and for the elderly.)

- a. Make plans for access and security in the area.
- b. Assign assistance to special needs groups, such as hospitals, convalescent centers, children's homes, day care centers, the elderly, and the disabled.
- c. Plan for possible redistribution of resources, such as food, medical supplies, equipment, and fuel.
- d. Plan with prisons and develop operating guidelines for correctional facilities.

## **8 Evacuation Routes and Rate of Evacuation**

- a. See the Washoe County Evacuation Traffic Management Plan (Updated 2018 map is contained below).



**Appendix E Resource Management**

Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (TRIAD):

1. Reno Fire Station #3
  - Dedicated and fully equipped haz-mat van with laboratory
  - Dedicated and self-contained haz-mat decontamination trailer
  - Supply of extra equipment stored in fire station
  - Specially equipped “haz-mat fire engine,” with staffing
  - “Haz-mat truck company,” with staffing
2. Truckee Meadows Station #14
  - Specially equipped “haz-mat fire engine and trailer,” with staffing
3. Sparks Fire Station #3
  - Dedicated and fully equipped haz-mat van with laboratory
  - Dedicated trailer, with secondary equipment and supplies
  - Two (2) “conex” storage units, containing secondary equipment and supplies for extended haz-mat incidents
  - Specially equipped “haz-mat fire engine,” with staffing

Health District:

1. Response vehicle, with testing and containment equipment

Law Enforcement:

1. Regional Bomb Squad, with CBRNE disposal trailer, and with robot
2. Regional S.W.A.T. Team and Regional CLEAR Team
3. RAVEN Helicopter
4. AGC (Associated General Contractors) Auxiliary; a 24-hour standby list of area contractors that can provide a variety of equipment to support emergency operations.
5. Approximately 931 law enforcement officers trained at a minimum of Hazardous Materials Awareness level, with pertinent officers and command staff trained at higher levels of Operations and ICS.

Fire Departments:

1. Five (5) area fire departments provide approximately 707 first responders trained at minimum of Hazardous Materials Awareness level, with career personnel trained at a minimum of Operations level, and pertinent command staff trained at ICS level and Hazmat Safety Officers as well as Hazmat IC’s.

REMSA (Regional Emergency Medical Services Agency):

1. Approximately 120 personnel trained at a minimum of Hazardous Materials Operations level

Medical Centers

1. The five (5) hospitals within Washoe County maintain equipment to establish decontamination operations for patients affected by a hazardous materials incident. These hospitals include Washoe Medical Center, St. Mary's Hospital, Northern Nevada Medical Center, Veteran's Hospital and Incline Medical Center.

Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC):

Washoe County maintains a state of the art Emergency Operations Center, co-located with the Regional Dispatch Center.

## **Appendix F Training and Exercise Program**

### **1 Incident Critique**

- a. The Incident Commander will host and facilitate a critique following hazardous materials incidents as per (29CFR1910.120(q)).
- b. An after-action report shall be prepared by the Incident Commander and will be distributed to those agencies involved in the hazardous materials incident upon request.

### **2 Training**

- a. Initial and refresher training will be consistent with the provisions of 29CFR 1910.120(q) and Guidelines for Public Sector Hazardous Materials Training. The LEPC will notify holders of this plan of training opportunities associated with hazardous materials emergency response sponsored by the LEPC.
- b. This plan will be exercised at least annually. The Washoe County LEPC will conduct hazardous materials emergency response exercises in accordance with its annual exercise schedule. The LEPC Chairman will distribute an after action report to LEPC members.
- c. Agencies having assigned responsibilities under this plan must ensure their personnel are properly trained to carry out these responsibilities.
- d. Individual agencies are responsible for maintaining training records.

#### **2.1 Hazardous Materials Response Teams**

SARA Title III and OSHA mandates that all emergency personnel who respond to a hazardous materials incident shall be trained to the level that he/she is expected to perform at the incident. The following training standards list the minimum requirements set by OSHA 1910.120(q) for the various levels of training.

The OSHA standard sets minimum requirements for training emergency response personnel who may be required to respond to hazardous material incidents. These personnel are required to complete training that is based on the duties and functions that they will perform at a hazardous material incident. All personnel must receive training prior to being permitted to take part in actual emergency operations at an incident involving hazardous materials. There are five recognized training and competency levels:

- a. First Responder Awareness
- b. First Responder Operational
- c. Hazardous Material Technician
- d. Hazardous Materials Specialist
- e. On-Scene Incident Commander

## 2.2 Certification

Department certifications are issued by the responsible agencies for their respective personnel.

## 2.3 Training Authorities

Per OSHA 29CFR 1910.120(q)(6), training shall be based on the duties and function to be performed by each responder of an emergency response organization. The skill and knowledge levels required for all new responders, those hired after the effective date of this standard, shall be conveyed to them through training before they are permitted to take part in actual emergency operations on an incident. Employees who participate, or are expected to participate, in emergency response, shall be given training in accordance with the following paragraphs:

### ..1910.120(Q)(6)(i)

**First Responder Awareness Level** – First responders at the awareness level are individuals who are likely to witness or discover a hazardous substance release and who have been trained to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper authorities of the release. They would take no further action beyond notifying the authorities of the release. First responders at the awareness level shall have sufficient training or have had sufficient experience to objectively demonstrate competency in the following areas:

### ..1910.120(q)(6)(i)(A)

- (q)(6)(i)(A) An understanding of what hazardous substances are, and the risks associated with them in an incident.
- (q)(6)(i)(B) An understanding of the potential outcomes associated with an emergency created when hazardous substances are present.
- (q)(6)(i)(C) The ability to recognize the presence of hazardous substances in an emergency.
- (q)(6)(i)(D) The ability to identify the hazardous substances, if possible.
- (q)(6)(i)(E) An understanding of the role of the first responder awareness individual in the employer's emergency response plan including site security and control and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Emergency Response Guidebook.
- (q)(6)(i)(F) The ability to realize the need for additional resources, and to make appropriate notifications to the communication center.

### ..1910.120(q)(6)(ii)

(q)(6)(ii) **First Responder Operations Level** – First responders at the operations level are individuals who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response to the site for the purpose of protecting nearby persons, property, or the environment from the effects of the release. They are trained to respond in a defensive fashion without actually trying to stop the release. Their function is to contain the release from a safe distance, keep it from spreading, and prevent exposures. First responders at the operational level shall have received at least eight hours of training or have had sufficient experience to objectively demonstrate

competency in the following areas in addition to those listed for the awareness level and the employer shall so certify:

(q)(6)(ii)(A) Knowledge of the basic hazard and risk assessment techniques.

(q)(6)(ii)(B) **Know how to select and use proper personal protective equipment provided to the first responder operational level.**

(q)(6)(ii)(C) **An understanding of basic hazardous materials terms.**

(q)(6)(ii)(D) **Know how to perform basic control, containment and/or confinement operations within the capabilities of the resources and personal protective equipment available with their unit.**

(q)(6)(ii)(E) Know how to implement basic decontamination procedures.

(q)(6)(ii)(F) An understanding of the relevant standard operating procedures and termination procedures.

..1910.120(q)(6)(iii)

**(q)(6)(iii) Hazardous Material Technician** – Hazardous materials technicians are individuals who respond to releases or potential releases for the purpose of stopping the release. They assume a more aggressive role than a first responder at the operations level in that they will approach the point of release in order to plug, patch or otherwise stop the release of a hazardous substance. Hazardous materials technicians shall have received at least 24 hours of training equal to the first responder operations level and in addition have competency in the following areas and the employer shall so certify:

**(q)(6)(iii)(A)** Know how to implement the employer's emergency response plan.

**(q)(6)(iii)(B)** Know the classification, identification and verification of known and unknown materials by using field survey instruments and equipment.

**(q)(6)(iii)(C)** Be able to function within an assigned role in the Incident Command System.

**(q)(6)(iii)(D)** Know how to select and use proper specialized chemical personal protective equipment provided to the hazardous materials technician.

**(q)(6)(iii)(E)** Understand hazard and risk assessment techniques.

**(q)(6)(iii)(F)** Be able to perform advance control, containment, and/or confinement operations within the capabilities of the resources and personal protective equipment available to the unit.

**(q)(6)(iii)(G)** Understand and implement decontamination procedures.

**(q)(6)(iii)(H)** Understand termination procedures.

..1910.120(q)(6)(iii)(I)

(q)(6)(iii)(I) Understand basic chemical and toxicological terminology and behavior.

..1910.120(q)(6)(iv)

(q)(6)(iv) **Hazardous Materials Specialist** – Hazardous materials specialists are individuals who respond with and provide support to hazardous materials technicians. Their duties parallel those of the hazardous materials technician; however, those duties require a more directed or specific knowledge of the various substances they may be called upon to contain. The hazardous materials specialist would also act as the site liaison with Federal, State, local and other government authorities in regards to site activities. Hazardous materials specialists shall have received at least 24 hours of training equal to the technician level and in addition have competency in the following areas and the employer shall so certify:

(q)(6)(iv)(A) Know how to implement the local emergency response plan.

(q)(6)(iv)(B) Understand classification, identification and verification of known and unknown materials by using advanced survey instruments and equipment.

(q)(6)(iv)(C) Know the state emergency response plan.

(q)(6)(iv)(D) Be able to select and use proper specialized chemical personal protective equipment provided to the hazardous materials specialist.

(q)(6)(iv)(E) Understand in-depth hazard and risk techniques.

(q)(6)(iv)(F) Be able to perform specialized control, containment, and/or confinement operations within the capabilities of the resources and personal protective equipment available.

(q)(6)(iv)(G) Be able to determine and implement decontamination procedures.

(q)(6)(iv)(H) Have the ability to develop a site safety and control plan.

(q)(6)(iv)(I) Understand chemical, radiological and toxicological terminology and behavior.

(q)(6)(v) **On-Scene Incident Commander** – Incident Commanders, who will assume control of the incident scene beyond the first responder awareness level, shall receive at least 24 hours of training equal to the first responder operations level and in addition have competency in the following areas and the employer shall so certify:

(q)(6)(v)(A) Know and be able to implement the employer's incident command system.

(q)(6)(v)(B) Know how to implement the employer's emergency response plan.

(q)(6)(v)(C) Know and understand the hazards and risks associated with employees working in chemical protective clothing.

(q)(6)(v)(D) Know how to implement the local emergency response plan.

- (q)(6)(v)(E) Know of the state emergency response plan and of the Federal Regional Response Team.
- (q)(6)(v)(F) Know and understand the importance of decontamination procedures.
- (q)(7) Trainers – Trainers who teach any of the above training subjects shall have satisfactorily completed a training course for teaching the subjects they are expected to teach, such as the courses offered by the U.S. National Fire Academy, or they shall have the training and/or academic credentials and instructional experience necessary to demonstrate competent instructional skills and a good command of the subject matter of the courses they are to teach.
- (q)(8) Refresher training
  - (q)(8)(i) Those employees who are trained in accordance with paragraph (q)(6) of this section shall receive annual refresher training of sufficient content and duration to maintain their competencies, or shall demonstrate competency in those areas at least yearly.
  - (q)(8)(ii) A statement shall be made of the training or competency, and if a statement of competency is made, the employer shall keep a record of the methodology used to demonstrate competency.

## **2.4 Documentation**

All hazardous materials specific training shall be documented by the respective agency.

## **2.5 National Incident Management System**

The Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) as well as the County Emergency Manager, have implemented NIMS and made NIMS compliance a priority.

The LEPC plan has been updated to reflect the change as put forth by the NIMS-INTEGRATIONS CENTER (NIC-2005) and is committed to follow the evolutionary process as it evolves in future years.

The committee as well as the emergency manager recognizes this is a “work in progress” issue and are firmly committed to keeping the county and its citizens, first responders and adjacent entities involved in this process.

Washoe County has met or exceeded all NIMS compliance goals so far to include:

- a. Emergency Manager or his designee shall complete the National Incident Management System Introduction online course IS 700. Date completed June 2004.
- b. Formally recognizing NIMS and adopting NIMS principles and policies. The county will establish an Executive Order or Resolution officially adopting NIMS. Date completed, April 2005.
- c. Establish a baseline by determining which of the NIMS requirements the county already meets and have implemented the concepts as identified in NIMS. Completed 08-16-2005.

- d. Establish a timeframe and develop a strategy for full NIMS implementation. See as listed above 08-16-2005.
- e. Institutionalizing the use of the Incident Command System (ICS) consistent with the principles as taught by Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The county first responders are currently using the ICS and offers yearly ICS classes to be consistent with DHS-NIC-NIMS.

**2.6 Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Yearly Training and Exercising Plan**

Washoe County conducts an aggressive training and exercise program. The RPSTC website maintains a current list of upcoming training, a high percentage of these courses address hazardous materials, and the Incident Command System ([www.rpstc-reno.com/](http://www.rpstc-reno.com/)). The REOC maintains a calendar of events with additional training opportunities ([www.readywashoe.com](http://www.readywashoe.com)). Both of these training event lists are update on a weekly basis. The Nevada/Washoe Multi-Year TEP is the roadmap for both the State of Nevada and the County to accomplish the priorities described in each of the respective Homeland Security Strategies, and the State Emergency Response Commission guidance. Washoe County pursues a coordinated strategy that combines enhanced planning, new equipment purchases, innovative training, and realistic exercises to strengthen the LEPC. Training and exercises play a crucial role in this strategy, providing the Washoe County LEPC with a means of attaining, practicing, validating, and improving new hazardous materials response, recovery and mitigation capabilities. This year's TEPW was conducted in November 2018, and can be found at <http://www.washoecounty.us/em/tepw.html>.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (USDHS) National Preparedness Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Exercise Division requires that every State conduct a Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan Workshop (TEPW) annually. Washoe County participates in this process, and a copy of the Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) is on file at both the Division of Emergency Management and the Washoe County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office.

2019	2020
Airport Full-Scale Exercise May, 2019	Region-wide Functional Spring-timeframe

Washoe County conducts training and exercises in accordance with Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation (HSEEP) guidelines. Thus after action reviews, improvement plans, and corrective actions are conducted/implemented following each exercise.

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