



## Georgia Emergency Operations Plan

# Emergency Support Function # 10 Annex Hazardous Materials



2015

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## ESF Coordinator and Support Agencies

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### **ESF Coordinator**

*Georgia Department of Natural Resources*

### **Primary Agency**

*Georgia Department of Natural Resources*

*Georgia Emergency Management  
Agency/Homeland Security*

### **Support Agencies**

*Board of Regents of the University System  
of Georgia*

*Georgia Department of Agriculture*

*Georgia Department of Community Health*

*Georgia Department of Defense*

*Georgia Department of Human Services*

*Georgia Department of Public Safety*

*Georgia Department of Transportation*

*Georgia Forestry Commission*

*Georgia Mutual Aid Group*

*Georgia Office of the Commissioner of  
Insurance and Fire Safety*

## 1.0 Introduction

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### 1.1 Purpose

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR)-Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is the ESF Coordinator for ESF#10 and this ESF supports the National Response Framework ESF#10 (Oil and Hazardous Materials Response Annex).

An emergency or disaster could result from hazardous and radiological materials being released into the environment. Fixed facilities (e.g., chemical plants, nuclear power plants and facilities, tank farms, laboratories, operating hazardous waste sites) that produce, generate, use, store or dispose of hazardous materials, including radioactive materials, could be damaged so that spill control apparatus and containment measures are not effective. Hazardous and radiological materials that are transported may be involved in rail accidents, highway collisions, water-way and airline mishaps.

### 1.2 Scope

ESF#10 includes the appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, safety and welfare caused by actual or potential hazardous or radiological materials incidents.

In general, appropriate actions may include:

- Mitigation and minimization of potential hazardous or radiological materials releases.
- Detection and assessment of the nature and extent of contamination (including sampling, analysis and environmental monitoring).
- Stabilization of the release and prevention of the spread of contamination.
- Determination of options for environmental cleanup and waste disposition.
- Implementation of environmental cleanup.
- Direction for the storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous or radiological materials.
- Utilization of scientific and technical expertise in conjunction with other responding agencies to respond to chemical, biological or radiological threats.

## 2.0 Concept of Operations

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### General

Hazardous and Radiological Materials and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) Weapons Strategy

- DNR and GEMA/HS will coordinate with appropriate agencies and organizations to ensure operational readiness. DNR and GEMA/HS will develop and maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs);
- DNR will coordinate, integrate, and manage overall state efforts to detect,

- characterize, contain, clean up, dispose of or minimize releases of oil, hazardous substances, radioactive materials or CBRN weapons. DNR will coordinate, integrate and manage overall state efforts to prevent, mitigate, or minimize the threat of potential releases to the environment. DNR's Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will provide expertise on environmental effects of oil discharges, hazardous substance releases; CBRN weapons releases, pollutants, contaminants, and environmental pollution control techniques. To assure efficient response, damage information must be gathered quickly, analyzed, and response priorities established as soon as possible. DNR will provide a 24-hour response team consisting of State On-Scene Coordinators (SOSC) specifically trained, equipped and authorized to address the purposes identified in this Emergency Support Function. SOSCs will direct oil and hazardous materials response efforts and coordinate all other efforts at the scene of a release or potential release. SOSCs will integrate into the incident command system on sites and conduct activities through a unified command where possible. All activities will be conducted in accordance with the National Contingency Plan;
- GEMA/HS is responsible for coordination of primary and support agencies in response to an incident involving a nuclear power plant. All actions will be in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Georgia Radiological Emergency Base Plan;
  - GEMA/HS is responsible for training first responders for transportation-related incidents in conjunction with the transportation of nuclear materials, including those destined for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) provided through the U.S. Department of Energy;
  - Any person who has knowledge of any spill or release of oil or hazardous substance is responsible for notifying DNR through the State Operations Center as soon as the spill or release is known; and
  - Local government assumes the responsibility for the protection and well-being of the residents in their jurisdiction. Owners and transporters of hazardous materials are responsible for the containment and clean-up of hazardous materials emanating from facilities and transportation operations. Local governments, through designated response agencies, will respond to hazardous material and CBRN incidents, make initial assessments as to the severity and magnitude of the situation, and take appropriate first responder protection measures to prevent or minimize injuries and property damage.

#### **Actions (Mitigation / Preparedness)**

- Prepare an inventory including the location of existing threats and facilities list;
- Plan for responses to hazardous materials incidents;
- Develop detailed procedures for identification, control and clean-up of hazardous materials;
- Identify training and maintain a level of readiness through training for response personnel as specified in the SOPs;
- Provide for or obtain training in radiological monitoring for hospital and

- emergency personnel in self-protection;
- Maintain a listing of private contractors capable of performing emergency and/or remedial actions associated with a hazardous materials incident;
- Develop mutual aid agreements with local agencies, other state agencies, contiguous state agencies, federal agencies and private agencies/organizations;
- Collect and utilize licensing, monitoring and/or transportation information from the local, state or federal agencies and/or private organizations to facilitate emergency response; and
- Participate in and/or conduct exercises and tests.

### **Actions (Response / Recovery)**

- Assess the situation to protect life, health and the environment;
- Review initial reports of an incident and maintain surveillance over reported incidents that may require state personnel and resources;
- Request additional information necessary to evaluate a hazardous materials or radiological incident;
- Provide 24-hour response team capability and dispatch State On-Scene Coordinator(s) or appropriate personnel to the incident scene;
- Consult with support agencies to determine assistance necessary and/or available to mitigate health and environmental effects;
- Recommend evacuation or other protective measures;
- Determine the nature of the contaminant, the extent of the contaminated area and consult with support agencies/organizations to provide access and egress control to contaminated areas;
- Consult with local, state or federal agencies and/or private agencies/organizations about the need for decontamination;
- Coordinate decontamination activities with local, state and federal agencies;
- Coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies, federal ESF#10 representatives, and U.S. EPA Regional Response Team to ensure proper disposal of wastes associated with hazardous materials and CBRN releases and assist in the monitoring of such shipments to disposal facilities;
- Seek cooperation of response teams, owner/shipper and federal environmental personnel during clean-up operations;
- Provide area security and prohibit all unauthorized personnel from entering area;
- Determine, in coordination with appropriate agencies/organizations, guidelines for re-entry of emergency personnel and residents;
- Conclude clean-up operations when all danger is past and the area has been declared safe by responsible personnel and restored to the best condition possible;
- Coordinate with public information officers and provide updates to ESF 15, External Affairs. It may be necessary for the SOSC to communicate directly with the media/public on tactical operations and matters affecting public health and safety from the scene of an incident;

- Maintain financial records on personnel, supplies and other resources utilized and report expenditures to GEMA/HS upon request; and
- Resume day-to-day operations.

## 3.0 Assignment of Responsibilities

The assignment of responsibilities section establishes the organizations and agencies that will be relied upon to respond to a disaster or emergency situation. This section also includes tasks that these organizations and agencies are expected to perform.

### 3.1 ESF Coordinator

The Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division serves as the ESF Coordinator and in partnership with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security conducts ESF#10 planning, preparedness, response and recovery activities.

#### Georgia Department of Natural Resources

##### *Environmental Protection Division:*

- Provides expertise on environmental effects of hazardous materials and environmental pollution control techniques.
- Provides damage reports, assessments, and situation reports to support ESF#5 - Emergency Management.
- Provides technical, coordination, and administrative support and personnel, facilities and communications for ESF#10.
- Provides scientific expertise and assistance in mapping, biological resources, geology, and hydrology; earthquakes and other natural hazards; minerals; and identification of hazards.
- Provides laboratory support for analyzing pollutant samples obtained during the investigation of hazardous and radiological material incidents.
- Provides assistance with environmental sampling when suspected of being contaminated by hazardous and radiological materials.
- Coordinates, integrates and manages the statewide effort to detect, identify, contain, decontaminate, clean up and dispose of actual hazardous or radiological material releases or minimize the threat of potential releases.

##### *Wildlife Resources Division:*

- Assists the Environmental Protection Division with identifying animal and plant resources at risk during a hazardous or radiological material or oil spill incident.
- Prepares assessments of damages to wildlife populations and habitats resulting from a hazardous or radiological material or oil spill incident. In the event that wildlife are affected by an incident, coordinate with the appropriate Federal and State authorities to ensure proper handling of these affected wildlife, as well as, all other wildlife under the jurisdiction of the Department.

- Provides traffic supervision and control for inland water transportation routes adversely affected by a hazardous or radiological material release.
- Determines if motorized equipment may be used on the beaches or shores of an area affected by hazardous material release during turtle nesting and hatching season.
- Provides aerial reconnaissance and security.

*Coastal Resources Division:*

- Assists the Environmental Protection Division with investigation of hazardous or radiological material releases or oil spills from a vessel as necessary or during a moderate or major coastal pollutant release.
- Prepares assessments of damages to wildlife populations and habitats in tidal and marine environments resulting from a hazardous or radiological material or oil spill incident. In the event that habitat or wildlife are affected by an incident, coordinate with the appropriate Federal and State authorities to ensure the capture, cleaning and rehabilitation of these affected wildlife, as well as, all other wildlife under the jurisdiction of the Department.
- Determines if motorized equipment may be used on the beaches or shores of an area affected by a hazardous material release during turtle nesting and hatching season.
- Determines closures of recreational and commercial fishing areas (for species such as shrimp, oysters, and crab) as needed to protect human health.

### **3.2 Primary and Support Agencies**

**Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security - Operations Division**

- Provides 24-hour initial warning point for hazardous or radiological material incidents.
- Provides emergency planning and coordination capabilities for nuclear power plant incidents.

**Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia**

- Provides personnel trained in radiological matters, including monitoring and dosimetry.

**Georgia Department of Administrative Services**

- Provides access to telecommunications (voice and data) equipment, procurement services to obtain equipment and services, and vehicles.

**Georgia Department of Agriculture**

- Assists in developing protective measures and damage assessments.

- Provides technical assistance in the disposal of livestock and poultry contaminated hazardous materials.
- Provides technical assistance for pesticide related incidents.
- Provides laboratory support for analyzing pollutant samples obtained during the investigation of pollutant or hazardous material incidents.

#### **Georgia Department of Defense**

- Provides staff and logistical support, including aircraft, access control, disposal, for the containment and clean-up of a pollutant incident.
- Provides water tankers and tractors during a pollutant or hazardous materials discharge incident or a natural disaster.

#### **Georgia Department of Community Health**

- Provides assistance on all matters related to the assessment of health hazards related to a hazardous materials incident and protection of response workers.
- Determines whether illnesses, diseases, or complaints may be attributable to exposure to a hazardous material.
- Establishes disease/exposure registries and conducts appropriate testing.
- Provides information on the health effects of toxic substances.
- Provides assistance with sampling water supplies when they are suspected of being contaminated by a pollutant or hazardous material.

#### **Georgia Department of Public Safety**

- Provides staff and logistical support, including aircraft, access control, transportation escorts, during a hazardous materials incident.
- Provides assistance with conducting criminal investigations at the site of a pollutant or hazardous substance discharge incident, particularly a transportation-related incident.

#### **Georgia Department of Transportation**

- Coordinates and assists with the containment and cleanup of any discharge that occurs on a State maintained road or right-of-way.
- Determines load variances on State roads to assist with the movement of heavy equipment during a hazardous material incident.
- Provides vehicles and drivers to be used in the transporting of hazardous materials from the scene of the discharge, to staging or disposal sites.
- Coordinates and assists with the delivery of bulk absorbents to the scene of a pollutant or hazardous material incident.

#### **Georgia Forestry Commission**

- Provides fire suppression services at hazardous materials incidents outside of local fire services jurisdictions.

- Provides fire investigation services at hazardous materials incidents.
- Provides personnel and equipment to develop or augment hazardous material staging and disposal sites.

#### **Georgia Insurance and Fire Safety Commissioner**

- Provides fire investigation services at hazardous materials incidents outside of local fire services jurisdictions.
- Provides fire investigation services at hazardous materials incidents.
- Provides personnel and equipment to develop or augment hazardous material investigation, staging and disposal sites.

### **3.3 Direction, Control, and Coordination**

This section describes the framework for all direction, control, and coordination within the State of Georgia and other States.

#### **3.3 A: ESF Coordination within State Operation Center**

ESF#10 will report all activities to the ESF#5 Situation Unit for inclusion in the development of incident action plans and situational reports. All public information reports regarding ESF# 10 activity will be coordinated with ESF#15 – External Affairs.

When ESF#10 is activated, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, with assistance from supporting departments and agencies, assesses and responds to requests for assistance with the management and or maintenance of transportation systems and planning or technical assistance from impacted local, state or federal agencies or other ESFs.

In addition to the SOC, ESF#10 may provide personnel to field operations established in Georgia, including but not limited to: Joint Field Offices (JFO), Joint Information Centers (JIC), Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) and any other incident facility established to meet operational demands for each particular incident requiring the activation of the GEOP.

#### **3.3 B: Coordination of EMAC Request**

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a national mutual aid agreement between the 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia. It is based on 13 Articles which have been enacted into state law by each state. In Georgia, EMAC is addressed in the O.C.G.A., Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 5.

States may only request assistance via EMAC when their governor has declared a state of emergency. EMAC requires that the state requesting assistance reimburse the state that provides the assistance. The Director of GEMA/HS is the EMAC Authorized Representative (AR) for the State of Georgia. The AR is

tasked with the authority to commit and accept resources through EMAC partnerships. The AR may delegate this authority to the Operations Director, Deputy Operations Director and Finance Director of GEMA/HS. The GEMA/HS Logistics Program Manager is the designated contact (DC) for EMAC. In the absence of the Logistics Program Manager, the agency has identified alternate designated contacts. The DC is commonly referred to as the EMAC Coordinator. The DC coordinates EMAC operations and prepares the official EMAC Request for Assistance (commonly referred to as the REQ-A). When completed, the REQ-A becomes a contract between the requesting and assisting states for the provision of assistance in accordance with EMAC. When the SOC is activated, the Logistics Section Mutual Aid Unit coordinates and manages EMAC missions. This unit will be initially staffed with GEMA/HS personnel, but will likely be augmented by trained EMAC personnel from other states as soon as possible. This unit is also referred to as an EMAC "A" Team.

ESF#10 will coordinate all EMAC requests with the GEMA/HS EMAC DC or the SOC Logistics Section Mutual Aid Unit, when the SOC is activated. No resource (personnel or equipment) may deploy to another state via EMAC until the REQ-A has been approved and signed by the ARs of the requesting and assisting states, and they have been provided a copy, briefed and prepared for the mission. To facilitate obtaining any assistance Georgia may need via EMAC, state ESFs should identify their shortfalls in capability and where resources may be obtained to provide this capability. This may be accomplished via informal coordination with sister agencies in other states to determine if the needed resource is available for potential deployment to Georgia, the location and the point of contact for the resource. Such information is critical in expediting a request for assistance via EMAC. For more information on EMAC, contact the GEMA/HS EMAC Designated Contact at 404-635-7200.

### **3.3 C: ESF Activation, Exercise & Improvement Planning**

GEMA/HS systematically coordinates and conducts event debriefings and compiles after action reports for any incident that calls for the activation of all or any portion of the GEOP. ESF#10 shall participate in this process when applicable. After Action Reports will document areas for improvement, resource shortfalls and corrective action planning requirements which will be incorporated into the GEOP, its annexes or ESF SOGs when applicable.

GEMA/HS conducts all exercises within the structure provided by the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP). ESF#10 will participate in all exercise activities when applicable and will follow the HSEEP process to include active participation in planning and evaluation meetings, workshops and conferences.

### **3.3 D: Development of Standard Operating Guides**

The GEMA/HS Planning Section has provided standard operating guide development templates and planning assistance to all ESFs listed in the GEOP. All ESFs will strive to develop operationally ready SOGs for inclusion in the GEOP. ESF#10 will meet as necessary to develop, review and refine SOGs that discuss specific operational processes and procedures.

### **3.3 E: Development of Resources Capability List**

In conjunction with ESF#7 – Resource Support, ESF#10 will develop, review, refine and maintain lists of all resources currently available and under the control of the primary or support agencies listed in this plan. The development of these lists may be completed by several organizations and professional groups, which currently operate within this ESF. These resource lists should be compliant with the resource typing standards outlined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

## **4.0 ESF Annex Development and Maintenance**

This Emergency Support Function Annex will be reviewed every two years and updated as required. In addition the document shall be evaluated for recommended revisions and corrective measures as an integral part of the Agency Exercise or Event After Action Reports / Improvement Plans, as well as internal reviews that will follow the issuance of any Governor Executive Order or passage of legislation impacting the Agency.