



ANNEX H Hazardous Materials

I. PURPOSE

To coordinate the response of personnel and emergency services of East Baton Rouge Parish in the event of an accident or incident involving hazardous materials. The purpose of such coordination is to control and minimize the potential catastrophic effects or threat to the health and safety of the public. This is achieved by using the resources of local, state and federal government as well as that of industry, separately, or in combination dependent on the magnitude of the incident.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. Many substances that fall in the hazardous materials category are being used, manufactured, stored, or transported across the Parish on a daily basis.

A hazardous material is any substance or material in a quantity or from which may be harmful or injurious to humans, domestic animals, wildlife, economic crops, or property when released into the environment, or any substance defined in the state law. Hazardous materials are classified in one of nine classes:

- a. Class 1 - Explosives
 - b. Class 2 - Gases (compressed, liquefied or dissolved under pressure)
 - c. Class 3 - Flammable/combustible liquids
 - d. Class 4 - Flammable solids or substances
 - e. Class 5 - Oxidizers/organic peroxides
 - f. Class 6 - Poisonous and infectious substances
 - g. Class 7 - Radioactive substance
 - h. Class 8 - Corrosives
 - i. Class 9 - Miscellaneous dangerous substances
2. East Baton Rouge Parish is located in the eastern central portion of the state bordered on the north by East Feliciana Parish, on the east by the Amite River, on the south by Ascension Parish and on the west by the Mississippi River.
 3. Hazardous materials within the parish are transported in five different modes:



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- a. Highways: Major highways include I-10, I-110, I-12, U.S. 190 and Hwy. 61 (Airline Highway).
 - b. Railroads: Kansas City Southern and Canadian National.
 - c. Water: Mississippi River, Port of Baton Rouge.
 - d. Air: Baton Rouge Metro Airport located in North Baton Rouge.
 - e. Pipelines: Listed in Appendix 1.
4. Refer to Appendix 7 for the Hazard Analysis which gives a detailed vulnerability and risk analysis.
 5. General

The basic response by local officials to a hazardous materials incident in this Parish would be the same whether the problem occurred by rail, highway, water, air or pipeline. The differences in response become apparent when levels of outside assistance are called upon, such as: Louisiana State Police (LSP), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and local industry.

B. Assumptions

1. Numerous emergency service agencies will be called upon to assist in their area of expertise during a hazardous materials incident. Coordination of these agencies is of utmost importance.
2. Experience has taught most officials dealing with hazardous materials accidents that procedures normally utilized in emergencies may not be effective, i.e., applying water to fires and normal evacuation procedures because of the short amount of time. For these reasons special knowledge through training must be acquired to effectively manage the operations.
3. Extreme caution must be used because of the nature of the products.
4. Incidents involving hazardous materials currently occur on a regular and ever-increasing basis.



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III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. All incidents involving the carrier of goods, material liquids or freight of any kind should be regarded as incidents involving hazardous materials until proven or verified otherwise.
2. The responsibility for the coordination of dealing with hazardous materials incidents (on the local level in the field) is assigned to the Baton Rouge Fire Department (BRFD) Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Division.
3. Certain governmental agencies are required to respond to hazardous materials incidents such as Fire, Police, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Department of Public Works (DPW). These agencies have responsibilities according to departmental guidelines. However, they are requested to coordinate and communicate their activities to other City-Parish agencies, via the On-Scene Command Post (so as not to duplicate or leave out vital services).
4. All incidents, accidents, and/or happening in East Baton Rouge Parish will follow Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III and Community Right-to-Know Guidelines.
5. All incidents, accidents, and/or happenings in East Baton Rouge Parish will be managed using the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
6. The Baton Rouge Fire Department is the designated agency to have access to all facilities within East Baton Rouge Parish pursuant to RS 30:2375.

A. Phases of Emergency Management

1. Prevention
 - a. Research the type of Hazardous Materials located in the area.
 - b. Exercise plans and update as necessary.
2. Mitigation
 - a. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49 (CFR-49) regulates the transportation of hazardous materials and is enforced by the LSP .



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- b. While the number of transportation lines that transport potentially dangerous materials is vast, the major transportation routes that these companies use have been identified. (See Appendix 2)
 - c. Facilities that manufacture, store or use potentially dangerous materials are being identified by federal and state regulations and are listed in Appendix 3.
3. Preparedness
- a. The Emergency Response Plan has been written and tested by both government and industry represented on the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and its subcommittees in the parish. The reason we chose to modify the Emergency Response Plan to be in compliance with SARA Title III is because the State Emergency Response Commission's (SERC) responsibility to review the plans.

The LEPC will stay in operation and meet at least annually after exercises to be held each year to improve and update this plan as changed circumstances in the parish or at any facility may require. A list of its members is in Appendix 4. Due to the high expense of these exercises, the plan will only be exercised once a year, utilizing the state training available to us for sufficient personnel. We will also ask that state observers participate and evaluate the exercises.
 - b. Emergency Response Personnel are trained in the identification and recognition of hazardous materials and the use of reference materials.
 - c. Evacuation routes and procedures have been identified and tested and are publicized for the general public. They are discussed in detail in Annex D, Evacuation.
 - d. The BRFD will maintain the operation of the HazMat Unit to respond to and prepare for possible emergencies.
 - e. Community awareness programs such as distributing information on procedures to follow in hazardous material emergencies to the public and speaking at community group meetings shall be on-going and everlasting. A copy of the Emergency Operations Plan will be available in each branch of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library. Any reproduction of this plan will be done at actual reproduction costs.
 - f. Training in handling hazardous materials incidents is on-going and includes persons in the fields of fire suppression, health and medical, and law enforcement.



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- g. A Hazard Analysis has been completed by the LEPC which identifies facilities, types of hazards, vulnerability zones, and risks located in Appendix 7. A copy of the chemicals listed with MOHSEP can be reproduced at an expense of \$1.00 a page.
 - h. A resource list of support personnel and equipment has been developed by the Baton Rouge Area Mutual Aid System (BRAMAS). This information is stored and easily accessible from the computer located in BRFD Communications and in Appendix 9.
4. Response
- a. Fire Department

The Fire Department is responsible for the containment or removal of the hazardous chemical threat, determination of life threat, the establishment of an Incident Command Post and the coordination of multi-agencies on-scene response.

The Fire Department's HazMat Division is responsible for responding to any calls that may involve materials which pose a threat to life or property and which cannot be extinguished or contained by conventional means. They coordinate line fire companies at hazardous materials incidents.
 - b. Law Enforcement

Law Enforcement is responsible for evacuation, crowd and traffic control, controlling access into the hazardous area, protection of evacuated area, escorting special equipment to the area and assisting designated persons of industry having required technical knowledge in getting to the scene and providing technical assistance when available.
 - c. MOHSEP

MOHSEP is responsible for the activation of the EOC, coordination of support activity, technical advice, declaration of emergency, when required, furnishing personnel and equipment, when required, and the forwarding of any forms to the LSP Hazardous Materials Office.
 - d. Department of Public Works

DPW is responsible for providing man power and special equipment such as: dozers and dump trucks as the situation dictates.



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DPW's environmental section will provide technical assistance specifically in clean up procedures.

e. Emergency Medical Service

EMS is responsible for providing emergency medical care for injured personnel including emergency response personnel.

5. Recovery

- a. The BRFD HazMat Division shall determine when the respective incident has been stabilized and made safe. Information for this decision will come from DEQ, EPA, DHH, & LSP. At such time, procedures for entry of residents or employees will be allowed and traffic control, as well as other support elements, will be released in an orderly way through the EOC or Incident Command Post.
- b. Agencies such as DEQ will be called upon to execute their authority and responsibility of over-seeing the clean-up operations.
- c. DPW Environmental Section will work with DEQ in clean-up operations and stay abreast of the situation.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Fire Department

1. Upon the report of a hazardous materials accident or incident, the BRFD Communications will dispatch to the scene the BRFD HazMat Unit, at least one engine and a chief officer from the appropriate fire district. Additional equipment can be assigned as per the policy of the department or as needs dictate.
2. The first arriving unit on the scene will survey or size-up the situation to determine if a disaster exists. Should either situation exist, control of the situation will be assumed by the initial responding fire department officer until relieved by the BRFD HazMat Unit, who will coordinate the following activities:
 - _____a. Identify the hazardous material involved.
 - _____b. Conduct appropriate fire-fighting and rescue response, as the situation permits. If fire does not exist, but there is a danger for ignition, extinguish all ignition sources in the hazardous area.



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- _____c. The immediate establishment of an Incident Command Post at the location of their discretion.
 - _____d. The incident commander will determine if protective actions (shelter-in-place, evacuation, etc.) are necessary. If so, coordinate protective action procedures with the local law enforcement agency immediately. Determine the area to be included in the protective action recommendation to ensure the safety of the general populace and the safety of those members of the emergency services involved in the hazardous material operation.
 - _____e. Initiate other measures which may be required for the specific situation at hand. All or some of the warning methods of notifying the public may be used. Refer to Annex C for a listing of all existing methods.
3. The area to be evacuated can be determined through:
- _____a. Information given in the publication of the Office of Hazardous Material, U.S. Department of Transportation titled, "Emergency Response Guide Book".
 - _____b. Information from any printed document of the carrier, such as Way Bill or Bill of Lading.
 - _____c. Information on the label of the containers.
 - _____d. Advice from CHEMTREC or other such agencies whose purpose is to supply such information.
 - _____e. Information or advice from an official representative of the shipper, manufacturer, user or a fixed facility representative.
 - _____f. Information obtained in computer air dispersion modules, i.e., CAMEO or Toxchem.
 - _____g. Final evacuation perimeters should be set up from air sampling carried out by either BRFD HazMat, DEQ, LSP, EPA, USCG, or local industry.
4. When deemed necessary to evacuate beyond the area of the immediate scene due to the type of hazardous material, the amount of material, weather conditions, location of incident, exposure, type of carrier, fire present or probability, then the following shall be carried out:



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- _____a. Notify the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in that area who will be responsible for the following:
 - _____1. Evacuate the populace.
 - _____2. Establish traffic control.
 - _____3. Secure the area from unauthorized entry and protect from looting.
- _____b. Notify MOHSEP who will activate the EOC, dispatch equipment and personnel to the scene to assist if requested, notify the appropriate ARC representative to shelter and care for evacuees, have emergency declared, if necessary, supply weather information, assist with transportation and coordinate Parish directors as required for support activity.
- _____c. Notify designated fire department personnel.
- _____d. Establish Command Post at a safe location.
- _____e. Establish contact with mass news media, giving correct information and instructions frequently to keep panic under control. At the scene, media contact will be made only from the Command Post and only the Command Post will issue press releases and statements relative to the incident at hand.

5. Refer to Fire Service, Annex I.

B. MOHSEP

- _____1. Upon notification of a hazardous materials incident, MOHSEP will maintain an alert status notifying other parish departments, as needed. Personnel and equipment will be made ready should assistance be requested or required.
- _____2. On confirmation of a hazardous materials incident which could be or is a threat, MOHSEP will go on active stand-by with skeleton force at the EOC and will notify the appropriate School Board and ARC officials.



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_____3. When it is determined that due to specific locations, weather conditions, time of day, type of hazardous material or chemical involved, that citizens must be evacuated and/or a disaster emergency must be declared, the EOC will be activated to coordinate the efforts of other parish agencies and personnel. Notification will be given to the ARC Chapter and operational units available to East Baton Rouge Parish will be activated to assist as required.

_____4. The Emergency Alerting System and other public warning systems will be activated if necessary.

C. Department of Public Works

_____1. Upon notification of a hazardous materials incident DPW will go on stand-by ready to provide resources as the situation dictates.

_____2. The DPW Environmental Section will respond to the Command Post and provide essential information and stay informed of clean-up procedures mandated by DEQ.

_____3. Refer to Public Works Annex R.

D. Law Enforcement

1. The law enforcement agency with jurisdiction upon confirmation of a hazardous materials incident will respond to the Command Post and provide resources available to them that may be needed.

2. If an evacuation is NECESSARY, the agency will:

_____a. Coordinate the evacuation of the populace.

_____b. Establish traffic control of the area.

_____c. Secure the area from unauthorized entry and protect from looting.

_____d. Call upon mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement agencies if necessary.

3. Refer to Law Enforcement, Annex G.

E. Emergency Medical Services

_____1. Upon confirmation of a hazardous materials incident EMS will respond to the Command Post and coordinate emergency medical care for injured personnel.



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- ____2. EMS will stay on the scene until all hazards are removed or the clean up operation are turned over to a private company.
- ____3. While on scene EMS will monitor emergency response personnel to insure no exposure to hazardous materials has occurred and that personnel working in protective clothing maintain appropriate vital signs.
- ____4. Refer to Health and Medical, Annex O.

F. Other Agencies

- ____1. BRFD Communications will notify LSP and DEQ and request their assistance as needed.
- ____2. Other agencies responding to hazardous materials incidents will coordinate their activities with the BRFD at the Incident Command Post.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

See Annex H Appendix 11 for Organizational Chart.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- A. The East Baton Rouge Parish EOC is designated as the interfacing point for decision-making, coordination, administration, resource information exchange and emergency response preparedness by Parish Officials.
- B. The Incident Command Post shall be established for all Hazardous Materials incidents and shall follow NIMS procedures to coordinate the on-scene response so that no vital services are left out.
- C. All necessary records and reports will be maintained on each incident.
- D. MOHSEP, Baton Rouge Fire Department – Hazmat and the Parish Attorney’s Office will review all hazard materials incidents to determine responsibility and liability. The responsible party will be billed for all expenses above and beyond normal operating expenses incurred by the city and parish emergency response agencies as a result of the incident.

VIII. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- A. MOHSEP will be responsible for the maintenance and updating of this annex.



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- B. Annual testing of the plan through drills will be conducted and followed up by critiques. Deficiencies in the response or plan will be addressed at that time.

IX. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

Lines of succession are in accordance with the Basic Plan. The EOC is directly responsible for proper coordination of the resource management area.

X. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

Basic Plan.

NRT-1.

NRT-1A.

Technical Guidance for Hazards Analysis.

North American Emergency Response Guidebook, 1996.

Fire Protection Guide on Hazardous Materials, 7th Edition, 1978.

Civil Preparedness Guide 1-8, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

XI. APPENDICES FOR ANNEX H

- 1) Pipeline Map
- 2) Major Transportation Routes
- 3) List of Regulated Companies
- 4) LEPC Members
- 5) Agency and Personnel Call Out List
- 6) Procedures for Industry to Follow
- 7) Hazards Analysis
- 8) Training
- 9) Resource List



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- 10) Incident Level Chart
- 11) Organizational Chart
- 12) Abbreviations/Definitions