

# Homeland Security Region D HazMat/WMD Response Plan

**I. Introduction:** Although the probability of terrorist events (hereinafter referred to as “WMD”) of a significant scale within Homeland Security Region D (hereinafter referred to “Region D”) is considered of minimal risk, planning for such events must be completed and tested through tabletop, functional, and full-scale exercises. Planning for WMD events must grow and mature as has planning for natural and other types of man-made events. Since hazardous materials response is an inherent component of WMD preparedness, the Region’s internal ability to support hazardous materials incident response should improve proportionate to the level of WMD planning completed. The Region D planning process will, over time, expand from hazardous materials/WMD to encompass all-hazards.

Within the 18-county area of Region D, there are six State recognized HazMat/WMD Regional Response teams. These include:

- A. Springfield/Logan-Rogersville (two teams)
- B. Joplin
- C. Branson/Taney County
- D. Nevada
- E. Neosho

Resources of these teams continue to be enhanced through federal grant funds acquired by the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). Each of these teams has developed a written agreement with SEMA that outlines their training, equipment, composition, and response commitment in the event of a terrorist incident in Southwest Missouri or elsewhere within the State. Planning takes the capabilities of these teams further than simply their role for WMD.

**II. Purpose:** This Plan has been developed to provide federal, State and local governmental, and emergency response organizations/agencies within Region D an easy means of incorporating the regional HazMat/WMD response plan within their individual county or city Emergency Operations Plan. This Plan also makes strives to make clear the expectations placed upon each jurisdiction and organization/agency that may become involved in a HazMat/WMD response in terms of training and support that may be required from response organizations in those jurisdictions should a HazMat/WMD response being requested and/or activated.

**III. Assumptions: Jurisdictions within Region D do...**

- A. recognize their responsibility in providing for the health and safety of residents from HazMat/WMD incidents within their jurisdiction.
- B. realize the need to regionally plan and prepare for response and recovery from both HazMat/WMD incidents due to the limited resources within the Region.
- C. recognize the need for some levels of training within their own resources, regardless of their dependence on regional resources for the majority of the response and recovery effort. Training in counter terrorism, intelligence gathering, response training, will play a critical role in how quickly hazardous materials and WMD incidents are handled.
- D. recognize that regional resources may be hours away, leaving local agencies to take delaying or defensive actions to lesson the impact of HazMat/WMD incidents until offensive capabilities arrive.

**IV. Concept of Operations:**

**A. Training:**

- 1. **Model for HazMat Training:** Figure 1 below provides a visual model for determination of training within Region D. The model accommodates each area of Region D, using the Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 Tier Two reporting process and quantity of transportation systems that transport hazardous materials as determinants. Areas with few Tier Two reporting facilities, and roads and rails, will have a much lower need for highly trained HazMat responders then those with growing numbers of reporting facilities or transportations pathways for hazardous materials.

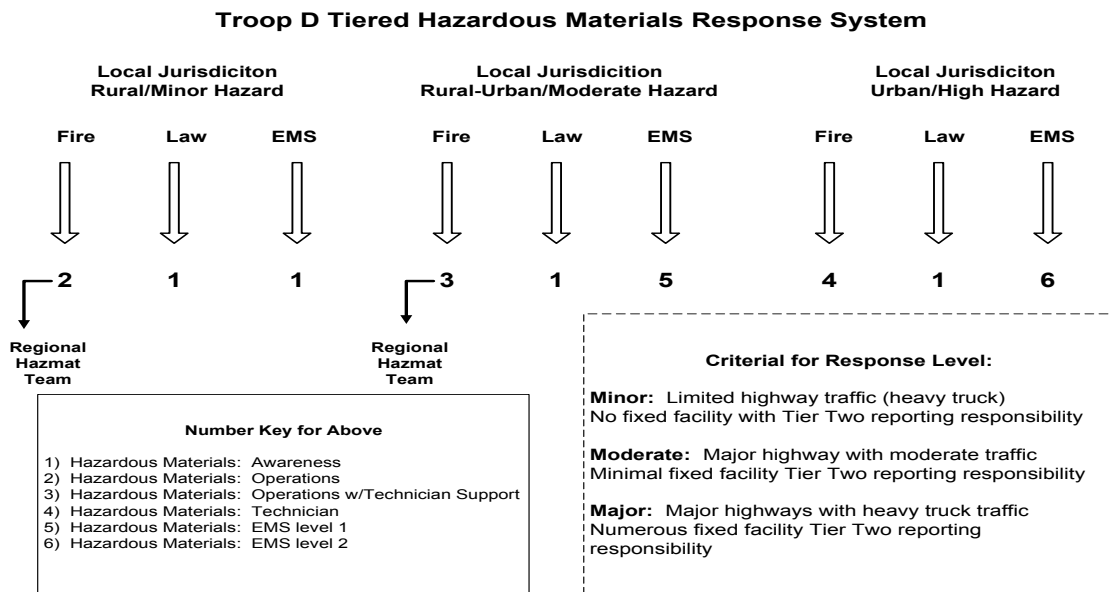


Figure 1

2. **HazMat/WMD Response Team Training:** Attachment 1 provides the training plan that will be used to support Region D HazMat/WMD Response teams. Maintenance of this plan will be through a subcommittee of representatives of these response teams that is formed from members of these teams. The chair of the committee will be the Regional Training Coordinator elected/appointed by the Planning Committee for Region D.

**B. Primary Assigned Response Areas:**

1. Each HazMat/WMD Response team has a primary area for response that has been developed in coordination among the teams within Region D. These areas are as follows:
  - a) Joplin: Jasper, Lawrence, Dade, and the area of Barton County south of US Hwy 160. They would still hold the responsibility for those parts of the city of Joplin that fall within Newton County.
  - b) Nevada: Vernon, St. Clair, Cedar, and the area of Barton County north of US Hwy 160.
  - c) Branson/Taney County: Stone, Taney, and the area of Christian County covered by the Highlandville Fire Protection District.
  - d) City of Springfield: Polk, Hickory, all of Greene County west of US 65 Hwy, all of Christian County north of the Highlandville Fire Protection District and west of US 65 Hwy.
  - e) Logan-Rogersville: Dallas, Webster, all of Greene County east of US 65 Hwy, and the area of Christian County east of US 65 Hwy and including the Chadwick and Sparta Fire Protection Districts.
  - f) Neosho: Newton, McDonald, and Barry Counties except for the portions of Joplin that are within Newton County but would normally be the response responsibility of the Joplin Fire, Police, or EMS.
2. The map included as Figure 2 below provides a pictorial representation of each Response Team's primary area of assignment.

**C. Team Deployments:**

1. The Regional Teams will have three (3) levels of response based on the information received:

## Homeland Security Planning Region D

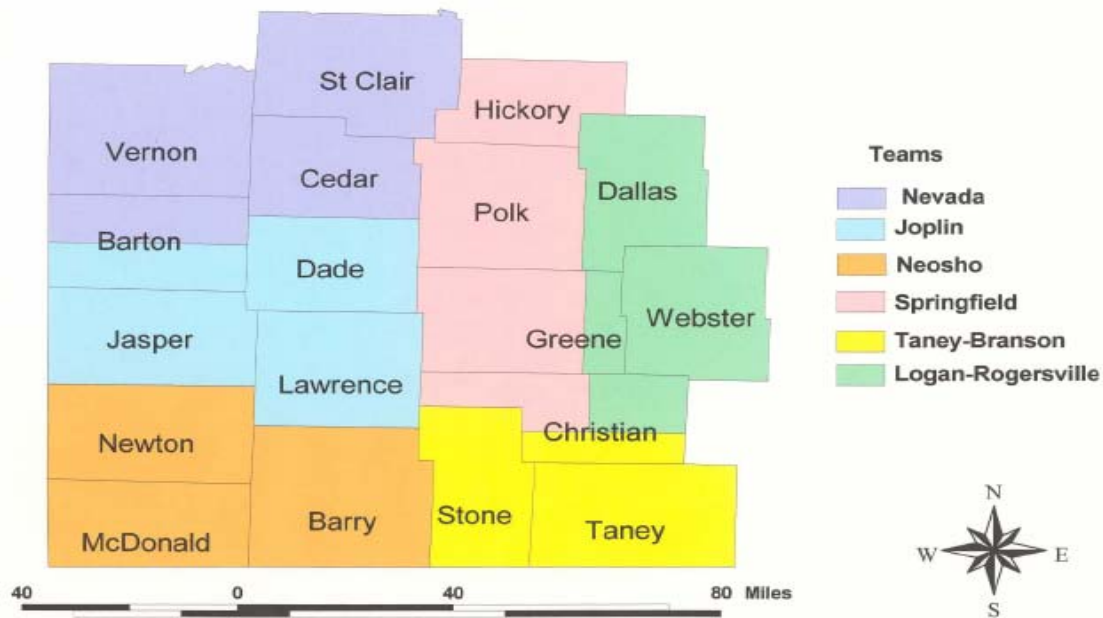


Figure 2

- a) Technical Advise - When information is received that the incident where a team is requested is minor in nature and may be handled by firefighters who are present if given minimal guidance or the information is very sketchy or questionable, a technical advisor may be sent to ascertain the level of response needed or to provide technical advise to the to the requesting agency.
  - b) Partial Technical Team Deployment - When the information received indicates that the objective can be accomplished with less than a full team response the technical team will respond only those resources needed. Response will be based on information supplied by trained individuals on scene.
  - c) Full Technical Team Response - When information received indicates that a full response is needed the technical team will respond the resources needed. If required the team may request assistance from other teams.
2. Methods of Requesting Response by a Technical Team - each team may have unique methods of receiving requests. It is recommended that you contact the regional team for your area to verify the preferred method. Each team should make a list of numbers and contacts to be given to

region fire chiefs and dispatch agencies. Considerations should include:

- a) Requests for assistance for WMD incidents should be made to the State Emergency Management Agency (573-751-2748) first if possible. This agency would coordinate re-imbursement of the teams.
  - b) Contact the agency responsible for dispatching a team. Normally this will be the Dispatch center for the Team. The request should come from the Chief Elected Official, SEMA, City Administrator, Presiding Commissioner, etc.
  - c) Make a formal request through the State-wide Fire Mutual Aid System. Region D Coordinator is Chief Rich Stirts, Logan Rogersville Fire Protection District, 3427 S. State Hwy 125, Springfield, MO 65803, HM Phone (417) 753-2442, WK Phone 417-753-4265, or FAX 417-753-4340. The coordinator will then make a request to the technical team assigned to the area. If for some reason the assigned team is unable to respond, the next closest team will be requested.
  - d) As a last resort the Chief of the Department can be notified directly.
3. What can be expected of the Technical Team - The capabilities of each team may vary according to training and equipping. It is suggested that each department request information from assigned teams on their capabilities. In general you can expect the following from the teams.
- a) The teams will supply technically trained personnel to perform mitigation of the incident. The team will not allow or request untrained personnel to operate in the "hot zone". The technical team will operate under the incident command system.
  - b) Because of OSHA and EPA regulations team supervisors will become the incident commander of WMD or hazardous materials incidents if the local agency does not have an operations trained commander. If a trained commander is in charge the team supervisor will become the operations officer. At no time will the team supervisor turn oversight of the team to another entity. The use of a liaison officer is suggested. The team supervisor may request that the local agency staff some non-technical positions.
  - c) The technical team will bring as much equipment as possible, but may request that the local agency assist in obtaining equipment.
  - d) The technical team may request the local entity to assume responsibility for charging back costs for equipment and supplies when a responsible party is identified. All requests will be in accordance with applicable state laws. If local agencies have not adopted regulations for charge back of these items. It is recommended

they adopt them.

- e) The technical team may request replacement of some equipment by the local governing authority if a responsible party cannot be identified. In accordance with existing regulations, the governing authority will be required to make application for re-imbusement through FEMA, SEMA or other agencies. Technical team coordinators will supply assistance to the best of their ability.
- f) What the technical team will expect from the requesting agency -
  - 1) Complete concise information is essential. If the local entity has awareness, operations, or technician trained personnel it is requested that they evaluate the situation before calling and be able to supply as much information as possible.
  - 2) It is suggested that each local entity work with the assigned team to be able to assist in areas that may be critical to the team. These areas may include assisting in decontamination, supplying hose streams and water supplies, and coordination with obtaining supplies from local jurisdictions.

**D. Springfield Watershed HazMat Spill Support and Response:**

- 1. Whenever there is a spill in any areas of the Springfield Watershed area (See Map at Attachment 2), responding organizations are requested to contact City Utilities at one of the following numbers:
  - a) Primary number: (417) 818-7071
  - b) Secondary numbers: Use sequentially the following numbers if the above primary cell number carried by the standby person is busy or indisposed:

<b>Individual</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Home</b>
Dave Fraley	417-831-8778	417-882-2370
Gary Pendergrass	417-831-8501	417-887-1081
Ted Salveter	417-831-8848	417-751-2669
Daniel Hedrick	417-831-8916	417-889-5955

- 2. The HazMat/WMD Response Team assigned for each area will be the primary support for spills in the Watershed area. Since City Utilities has an arrangement with the Springfield Fire Department for support of HazMat spills that affect its resources. Should City Utilities deem the spill of sufficient threat to the Watershed, it may request Springfield respond and support other teams or responders who are already at the

spill location.

- E. **Resources:** A list of resources available as a minimum for HazMat/WMD response will be compiled using an Microsoft Access database and provided to fire, police, EMS, and/or Emergency Management organizations/agencies within Region D. Only those resources that have been identified to the oversight organization for this information will be contained in the database. Updates of the information will be made available semi-annually.
- F. **Communications:** The Communications Plan for Region D is available at Attachment 3.
- G. **Exercises:** A minimum of one tabletop exercise that affects resources of the entire area of Region D will be conducted annually. Drills, functional or full-scale exercises are encouraged as resources will permit.
- H. **Updates to this Plan:** As a minimum, this plan in its entirety shall be reviewed by the Region D planning committee for update annually and following each exercise.
- I. **The Regional Planning Process:**
  - 1. The Regional HazMat/WMD planning process responsibility has been placed by regional agreement within a planning committee established and supported through the Southwest Missouri Emergency Support Organization (hereinafter referred to as SMESO).
  - 2. The planning committee will elect from its membership a chair or chairpersons who will oversee the committee's organization, operation, and produce generation. Regular meetings as determined by the committee will be held and business conducted as determined by the chair or co-chairs of the committee. Agendas and minutes will be developed and appropriately distributed to make the process as open and fluid as possible to those within the region or elsewhere who have a need to know, understand, or participate in the planning process.
  - 3. Meeting locations will be as established by the committee to best support its planning needs and those of its membership.
  - 4. The Chair or Co-Chairs of the Committee may appoint ad hoc subcommittees or workgroups as needed to meet its planning responsibilities.

5. Updates from the Planning Committee will be announced at each quarterly SMESO meeting.

Note: The Region D Planning Committee, structure, and process began at a regional meeting held in August 2002. Some 135 fire departments and a number of other organizations were invited to participate in this process. Meetings have been held with few exceptions on a monthly basis ever since.

**Attachment 1**  
**Training Plan**

**Under Development**



**Attachment 3**  
**Communications Plan**

Under Development by the Communications Subcommittee