

Enforcement Emergency Response Planning

Prepare DTSC staff to provide immediate assistance to local emergency response teams in the event of a major hazardous materials spill or release incident as required by the Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10) of the State Emergency Plan.

Goal: DTSC has existing obligations to respond to hazardous materials incidents under EF-10. Much of this response will require multi-disciplinary teams of technical staff (scientists, geologists, engineers, toxicologists, and laboratory analysts) and support staff (criminal investigators, public participation specialists, and attorneys) that are familiar with EF-10 and the incident command system. DTSC will identify, select, and train staff in each of the multi-disciplinary areas listed above over the next two years. As an ongoing process, DTSC will identify, select and train additional staff as part of the Department's succession planning.

Background: DTSC is in the process of assessing the funding and resource needs to fulfill this work plan. Senate Bill 48 (Chapter 766, Statutes of 1991) created the Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment (RAPID) Force. RAPID worked with existing local emergency response units to provide immediate onsite response in the event of a large scale release of toxic materials from surface transportation. During the three years of RAPID's funding, DTSC created the RAPID Plan and purchased and distributed emergency response equipment and training for local emergency response agencies. When RAPID funding ended in 1996, so did funding for local emergency response equipment and training. DTSC continued training a limited number of the RAPID Force units. Elements of the RAPID Plan have been incorporated into the State Emergency Plan, specifically EF-10, which requires DTSC to provide emergency response staff, contractors, and other technical support. EF-10 includes major incidents where DTSC may need to respond, such as, a major heat wave, large wildfire, a major rail or transit catastrophe, and localized flooding. DTSC Emergency Response staff continue to participate in statewide emergency response exercises.

Timeline:

6 months: July 2014 – December 2014

- Identify DTSC technical expertise and support required by EF-10.
- Develop training plan for technical and support staff needed for EF-10 response.
- Recruit and select technical staff and support staff for ICS and EF-10 training.

12 months: January 2015 – June 2015

- Finalize training plan for technical staff on ICS and integration of DTSC staff in support of EF-10 and State Emergency Plan.
- Train technical and support staff on ICS and integration of DTSC staff in support of EF-10 and State Emergency Plan.
- Develop and finalize succession plan for technical and support staff.

Beyond June 2015

- Implement succession plan for technical and support staff.
- Train new technical and support staff on ICS and integration of DTSC staff in support of EF-10 and State Emergency Plan.