
Incident Annexes



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Incident Annexes

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INCIDENT ANNEXES: INTRODUCTION

Purpose

This section provides an overview of the annexes applicable to situations requiring specialized, incident-specific implementation of the National Response Plan (NRP).

Background

The Incident Annexes address contingency or hazard situations requiring specialized application of the NRP. The annexes in the sections that follow address the following situations:

- Biological Incident
- Catastrophic Incident
- Cyber Incident
- Food and Agriculture Incident (to be published in a subsequent version of this plan)
- Nuclear/Radiological Incident
- Oil and Hazardous Materials Incident
- Terrorism Incident Law Enforcement and Investigation

Incident Annexes are organized alphabetically. Policies and procedures in the Catastrophic Incident Annex are overarching and applicable for all hazards. Similarly, the mechanisms in the Terrorism Incident Law Enforcement and Investigation Annex apply when terrorism is associated with any incident.

INCIDENT ANNEX CONTENTS

The annexes describe the policies, situation, concept of operations, and responsibilities pertinent to the type of incident in question.

Policies: Each annex explains unique authorities pertinent to that incident, the special actions or declarations that may result, and any special policies that may apply.

Situation: Each annex describes the incident situation as well as the planning assumptions, and outlines the approach that will be used if key assumptions do not hold (for example, how authorities will operate if they lose communication with senior decisionmakers).

Concept of Operations: Each annex describes the concept of operations appropriate to the incident, integration of operations with NRP elements, unique aspects of the organizational approach, notification and activation processes, and specialized incident-related actions.

Each annex also details the coordination structures and positions of authority that are unique to the type of incident, the specialized response teams or unique resources needed, and other special considerations.

Responsibilities: Each Incident Annex identifies the coordinating and cooperating agencies involved in an incident-specific response; in some cases this responsibility is held jointly by two or more departments.

INCIDENT ANNEX CONTENTS (Continued)

The overarching nature of functions described in these annexes frequently involves either the support to, or the cooperation of, all departments and agencies involved in incident management efforts. In some cases, actions detailed in the annex also incorporate various components of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other departments and agencies to ensure seamless integration of and transitions between preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation activities.

The responsibilities of the coordinating agency and cooperating agencies are identified below.

Coordinating Agency

Coordinating agencies described in the NRP annexes support the DHS incident management mission by providing the leadership, expertise, and authorities to implement critical and specific aspects of the response. In accordance with Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5, DHS retains responsibility for overall domestic incident management. Federal agencies designated as coordinating agencies, in close coordination with DHS, are responsible for implementation of processes detailed in the annexes that follow. Some of the Incident Annexes, such as Cyber, Nuclear/Radiological, and Oil and Hazardous Materials, list multiple coordinating agencies. In these annexes, the responsibilities of the coordinating agency may be shared or delegated based on the nature or the location of the incident.

The coordinating agency is responsible for:

- Orchestrating a coordinated delivery of those functions and procedures identified in the annex;
- Providing staff for operations functions at fixed and field facilities;
- Notifying and subtasking cooperating agencies;
- Managing tasks with cooperating agencies, as well as appropriate State agencies;
- Working with appropriate private-sector organizations to maximize use of available resources;
- Supporting and keeping ESFs and other organizational elements informed of annex activities;
- Planning for short-term and long-term support to incident management and recovery operations; and
- Maintaining trained personnel to provide appropriate support.

INCIDENT ANNEX CONTENTS (Continued)

Cooperating Agencies

The coordinating agency will notify cooperating agencies when their assistance is needed. Cooperating agencies are responsible for:

- Conducting operations, when requested by DHS or the coordinating agency, using their own authorities, subject-matter experts, capabilities, or resources;
- Participating in planning for incident management and recovery operations and development of supporting operational plans, standard operating procedures, checklists, or other tools;
- Furnishing available personnel, equipment, or other resource support as requested by DHS or the Incident Annex coordinator;
- Participating in training and exercises aimed at continuous improvement of prevention, response, and recovery capabilities; and
- Nominating new technologies or procedures to improve performance.

When requested, and upon approval of the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Defense (DOD) provides Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) during domestic incidents. Accordingly, DOD is considered a cooperating agency to the majority of Incident Annexes. For additional information on DSCA, refer to the NRP Base Plan.