



**GEORGIA**

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Emergency Support Function 10  
(Oil and Hazardous Materials Response) Annex  
to Georgia Emergency Operations Plan

**2023**



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# Record of Distribution

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## 1.0 Introduction

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### 1.1 Purpose

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR)-Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is the Emergency Support Function (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, and waterway 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 the Operation

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### 2.1 General

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

- DNR and the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (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 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. SOSC's will direct oil and hazardous materials response efforts and coordinate all other efforts at the scene of a release or potential release. SOSC's 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 emergency response actions will be in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Georgia Radiological Emergency Preparedness Base Plan and supporting Annexes.
- 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 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.

## 2.2 Plan Activation

When an ESF-10 HAZMAT or a support agency is made aware of a threat or incident requiring the activation of this Annex, they will contact the GEMA/HS State Warning Point with all pertinent information.

When activated, Georgia Department of Natural Resources with assistance from supporting departments and agencies, assesses and responds to requests for

assistance with management, maintenance, planning, and technical support of transportation infrastructure and networks.

During activation, the ESF-10 Oil and Hazardous Materials Coordinator serves as the point of contact for requests for ESF-10 Oil and Hazardous Materials related assistance that's received by the GEMA/HS State Operations Center (SOC). The ESF-10 Oil and Hazardous Materials Coordinator then ensures mission assignment completion through direct support or by delegation to the appropriate support agency.

## **3.0 Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities**

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### **3.1 ESF Coordinator**

The Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division serves as the ESF Coordinator and in partnership with GEMA/HS conducts ESF-10 planning, preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

#### 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 material 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 material 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/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, owners/shippers, 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.

### **3.2 Primary Agency Assignment of Responsibilities**

#### **Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency**

- Provides 24-hour State Warning Point for hazardous or radiological material incident reporting.
- Provides emergency planning and coordination capabilities for nuclear power plant incidents.

#### **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, Information and Planning.
- 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 is 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. If 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.

### **3.3 Support Agency Assignment of Responsibilities**

#### **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, and 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 Office of Insurance and Safety Fire 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.

## **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.

## **4.0 Direction, Control, and Coordination**

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### **4.1 Information Collection and Dissemination**

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

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 activities will be coordinated with ESF-15 External Affairs.

### **4.2 Communications and Documentation**

The GEMA/HS Planning Section has provided standard operating guide development templates and planning assistance to all ESF's listed in the GEOP. All ESFs will strive to develop operationally ready Standard Operating Guides (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.

### **4.3 Administration, Finance, and Logistics**

In conjunction with ESF-7 Logistics, 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.

Resource requirements will be primarily determined by affected County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Directors, working with assigned GEMA/HS Field Coordinators. Resource Requests flow from the County EMA Director (or the GEMA/HS Field Coordinator acting on his/her behalf) or other state agency to the SOC. Existing state resources, intrastate mutual aid, donations, Georgia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) provide the initial source of personnel, vehicles, equipment, supplies, and services to fulfill Resource Requests. Resource Requests that exceed the capability of these sources may be

fulfilled through state purchasing and contracting, interstate mutual aid or federal government assistance.

The GEOP ESF-7 Logistics Annex contains information on the provision of assets and resources through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, private-sector or NGO procurement procedures, and requests for assistance to FEMA.

## **5.0 Plan Evaluation, Maintenance and Revision**

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### **5.1 Evaluation**

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.

### **5.2 Maintenance and Revision**

This ESF 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.

## **6.0 Authorities and References**

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The authority for the Georgia Emergency Operations Plan is based on Official Code of Georgia, Title 38, Section 3, Articles 1 through 3, known as the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, and is compliant with the National Incident Management System and supports the National Response Framework.

O.C.G.A. § 38-3-1, to § 38-3-10, establishes legal authority for development and maintenance of Georgia's Emergency Management Program and organization, and defines the emergency powers, authorities, and responsibilities of the Governor and Director of GEMA/HS. Moreover, the State's Emergency Services and Disaster Laws require that state and local governments develop and maintain current Emergency Operations Plans to be prepared for a variety of natural and human caused hazards. Executive Orders by the Governor supplement the laws and establish specific planning initiatives and requirements.