

Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan

Washoe County Emergency Management and
Homeland Security Program
December 17, 2020



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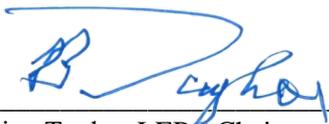
LETTER OF PROMULGATION

To the Citizens of Washoe County,

Hazardous materials, when properly controlled, are important in everyday life. Uncontrolled, they may cause injury, death, destruction, and lingering effects that may last for many years. To meet the risk, a concerted effort must be made to identify, locate, quantify, and have some knowledge of the hazardous materials in Washoe County. The routes and modes of transportation of these chemicals must also be known to assess the possible danger posed by these materials.

Emergency planning for hazardous materials releases cannot be solved successfully by any one organization or group, but must be accomplished through the cooperative efforts of local, state, and federal authorities working in cooperation with the private sector. Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-499) mandates that local jurisdictions develop a plan for the emergency response to accidental releases of hazardous materials. The results of this local planning effort are set forth in this Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan. This plan will include the study of the problem itself, the resources available to handle the problem, and the emergency procedures to follow in the case of a release.

This plan provides a starting point for hazardous materials incident preparedness and response efforts. To achieve an optimal reasonable level of preparedness for potential hazardous materials incidents, all emergency response agencies need to become familiar with its contents, train their personnel to meet these situations, and develop an agency specific plan to reinforce and amplify the operational area plan. Like all emergency plans, this is a living document that will be revised and refined as we gain more knowledge about incidents and as new capabilities are developed to manage and mitigate the consequences. On-going efforts to build and enhance preparedness must include regular drills and exercises involving all agencies involved in an actual response. These drills and exercises, together with after-actions reports from actual HAZMAT incidents, will be evaluated to provide a basis for future updates of this plan.



Brian Taylor, LEPC Chairman

Plan Date: December 17, 2021

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PLAN ADMINISTRATION

The Regional Partners will coordinate review, revision, and re-promulgation of this Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response annually or when changes occur, such as lessons learned from exercises or events.

Record of Plan Reviews and Changes

Track and record all updates and revisions to this Regional Hazardous Martial Emergency Response Plan in the following table. This process will ensure the most recent version is disseminated and implemented by emergency response staff.

At the October LEPC meeting, Washoe County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program (WCEM) updates include: By-Laws, Promulgation Statement, Membership Roster, Tier II facilities, Level of Response, Equipment List, Contact Telephone Numbers, Training, and Exercise. WCEM provides the update to the LEPC in October. They have a month to provide comments, and then WCEM publishes the document for LEPC General Membership approval in the third week of December.

Date	Change No.	Partner	Summary of Review or Change
12-17-2015	01	EnE	Update and re-write
12-22-2016	02	WCEM	Review and updated
12-21-2017	03	WCEM	Review and update
12-20-2018	04	WCEM	Review and update
12-19-2019	05	WCEM	Review and update
12-17-2020	06	Galena Property Development	Update and re-write
12-17-2021	07	WCEM	Review and update

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Washoe County is continually at risk from a hazardous materials incident. The number of fixed sites using hazardous materials locally is moderate to heavy, and the county is vulnerable to accidents involving these materials. Release of hazardous materials can come from fixed sites but is more likely to occur from transportation incidents on highways and/or railroads in the county.

Emergencies involving hazardous materials require detailed pre-planning at the local-level. The Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is the body responsible for this planning. The LEPC membership is made up of representatives from the following: Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Reno and Sparks Police Departments, Washoe County School District, University of Nevada at Reno, Truckee Meadows Community College, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Reno and Sparks Fire Departments, Washoe County Health District, Washoe County governmental officials, REMSA, Reno Transportation Commission, regional hospitals, media, state/local/tribal governments, Truckee Meadows Water Authority and NV Energy.

This Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan was developed to help Washoe County officials and first responders prepare for and respond to hazardous materials incidents. The plan and procedures recognize Washoe County emergency response agencies normally have the resources to respond to a serious hazardous materials incident including a Level III incident. A Level III incident is defined as full emergency situation and involves severe potential exposure for the responders and the general public.

Primary responsibility for the safety and welfare of the residents of Washoe County rests with the respective local governments as well as city and county officials. This plan is based on a response at the local level of government. The Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) may be called on to assist by providing State resources. The NDEM will coordinate State agencies, and if deemed necessary, request a Presidential Declaration through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This type of declaration allows supplemental Federal financial and technical assistance.

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