

EPA Region 4 Emergency Response

**Superfund Division
Emergency Response, Removal and
Prevention Branch**

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On Scene Coordinator (OSC)
EPA Region 4**





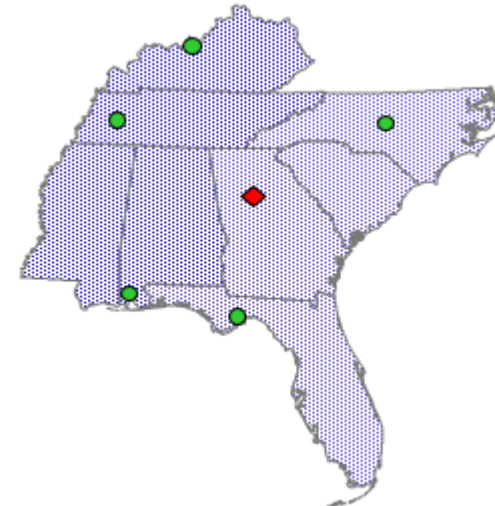
DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- EPA Response Program
- EPA On-Scene Coordinator's (OSC) Role & Authority
During Nationally Significant Events, Natural Disasters, Oil
Spills, Hazmat, etc...
- OSC Resources
- Response Examples



ON-SCENE COORDINATOR

- **The OSC (NCP §300.5) is the lead Federal official pre-designated by EPA or the USCG to coordinate and direct responses to discharges of oil, or the government official designated by the lead agency to coordinate and direct removal actions for releases of hazardous substances.**
 - There are only about 250 EPA OSCs nation-wide
- **Currently Region 4 has 25 OSCs based out of Regional Office in Atlanta**
- **Five OSCs stations at outpost locations:**
 - Tallahassee, Florida
 - Louisville, Kentucky
 - Raleigh, North Carolina
 - Jackson, Tennessee
 - Mobile, Alabama





THE SUPERFUND PROGRAM

- Remedial Sites – i.e. NPL Sites, long-term sites
- Removal Sites – Short term sites to address more immediate threats, typically less than 2 years
- Emergency Responses – Part of Removal Program - Emergency Response Rotation



Emergency Response Rotation

OSCs maintain a three week on-call emergency response rotation

WEEK 1



The telephone duty OSC mans the on-call emergency response telephone 24 hours/7 days a week.

WEEK 2



The R2 OSC backs up the R1 OSC, and will respond to calls after the R1 is sent out.

WEEK 3



The R1 OSC responds to calls the telephone duty OSC determines falls within the emergency response criteria.



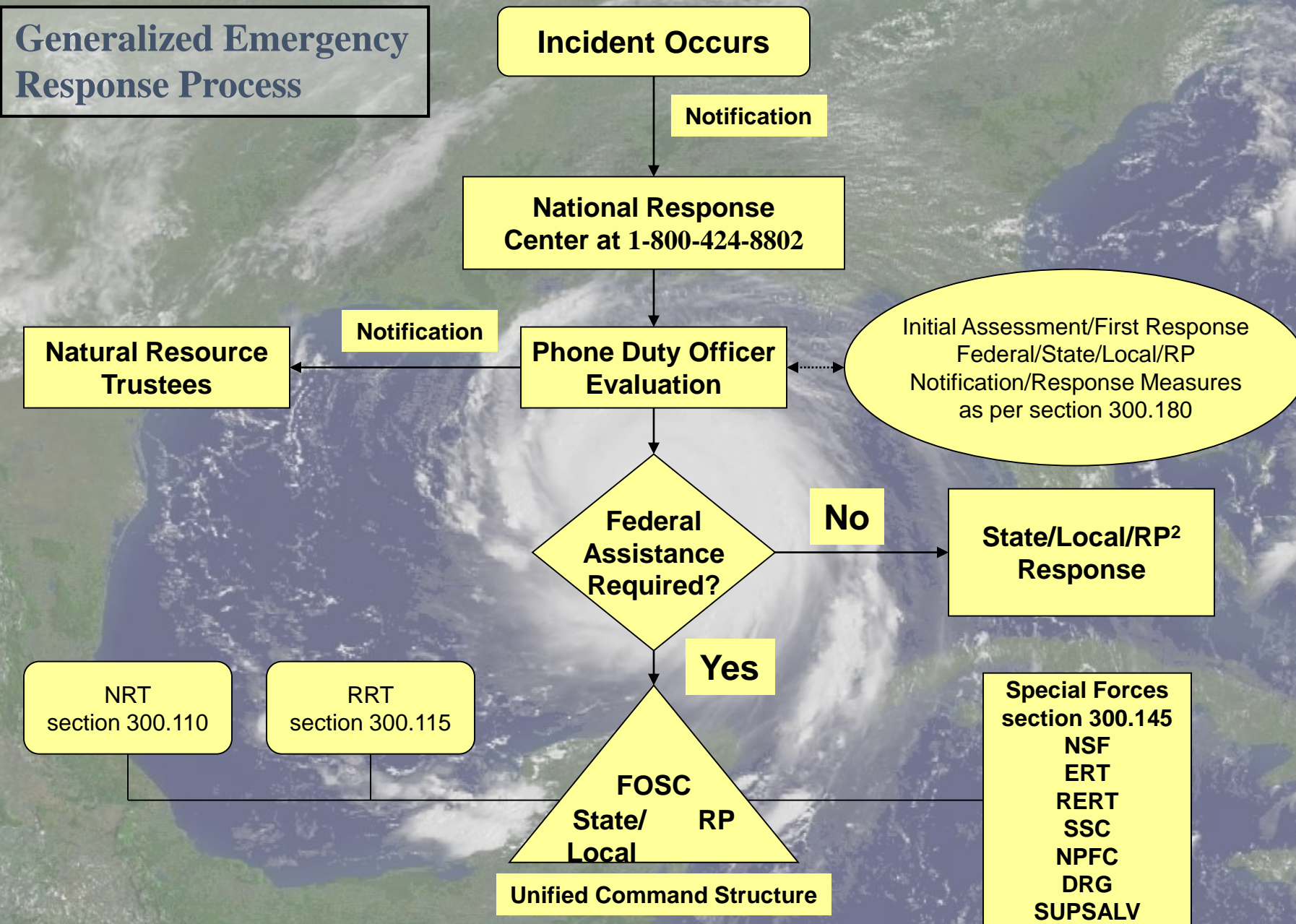
RESPONSE NOIFICATION

- Receives all reports of releases involving hazardous substances and oil that trigger federal notification requirements
 - Over 30,000 reports per year
 - Including terrorist threats
- Notifies Federal On-scene Coordinator and other federal agencies
- Links caller to chemical, biological, radiological, and terrorism experts



1-800-424-8802
NATIONAL RESPONSE
CENTER

Generalized Emergency Response Process

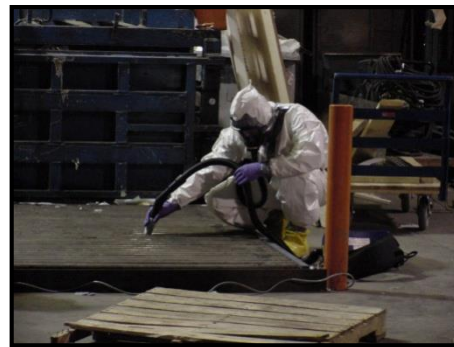


1. Includes local representation as well.
2. Resources available to support OSC/RPM upon request.



EPA'S ER PROGRAM STATISTICS

- Of the 30,000 NRC incident notifications/year:
 - 20,000 are hazmat causing 200-250 hazmat (CERCLA) responses /year
 - 10,000 are oil causing 250-300 oil spill responses (CWA/OPA)
 - 500 other emergency responses where EPA monitors and provides technical assistance under CERCLA or CWA





RESPONSE CRITERIA

Oil

- Spills larger than 1,000 gallons that affect land or water
- Spills larger than 10,000 gallons require RRT activation
- Spills below 1,000 gallons are coordinated with State and local agencies

Hazardous Substances

- Abandoned Drums
- Spill (e.g. Mercury)
- Fire/Explosion
- Railroad Incident or derailment
- Tanker truck
- State, local or private citizen requests





EPA/U.S. COAST GUARD COORDINATION

For oil and hazardous substance responses, EPA and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) geographical boundaries are defined by the Region 4 “**Memorandum of Understanding**” (MOU).



Inland Responses



Coastal Responses





OSC RESOURCES: “TOOL BAG”

- Immediate access to technical assistance and clean up contractors if the RP cannot adequately handle the problem;
- Immediate access to Superfund and the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF);
- EPA OSCs are individually authorized up to \$250,000 for emergency responses with reach-back for additional funds;
- Technical expertise;
- Special equipment;
- ICS Trained





OSC RESOURCES: CONTRACTOR SUPPORT

ERRS - Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) is the primary vehicle for labor, equipment, and materials.



Contaminated soil
excavation

Unknown cylinder
sampling



Emergency Response





OSC RESOURCES: CONTRACTOR SUPPORT

START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) provides site documentation, ERRS oversight, health and safety, air monitoring, multi-media sampling, technical support, and other services.

Emergency Response



Air Monitoring

Field Haz-Cat





REGIONAL RESPONSE CENTER RESOURCES

- Air Monitoring Equipment
 - Area RAEs
 - Multi-RAE Pros
 - PPB RAEs
 - TVA 1000's (PID/FID)
 - DATARAMS
 - Single Point Monitors
 - LUMEX Hg Monitors
 - Draeger CMS Units
 - Ludlum Radiation Dose and Survey Meters
- Field Screening Tools
 - HAZMAT ID
 - SAM 9000s
 - HAZCAT Kits
 - APD2000s and AP2CEs





REGIONAL RESPONSE CENTER RESOURCES

- Air Sampling Media
- PPE Cache (all levels)
- SCBA/SAR Cache
- Mobile Command Post
- Portable Satellites and 800mhz Tower/Repeater System
- Mobile Breathing Air System Trailer
- 32' Foot Gooseneck Mobile Warehouse
- 125 KW Mobile Generator
- DECON Tents and Equipment
- BIOWatch Response Trailer
- ATVs and UTVs
- Multiple response vehicles





VIPER - REMOTE AIR MONITORING CAPABILITIES

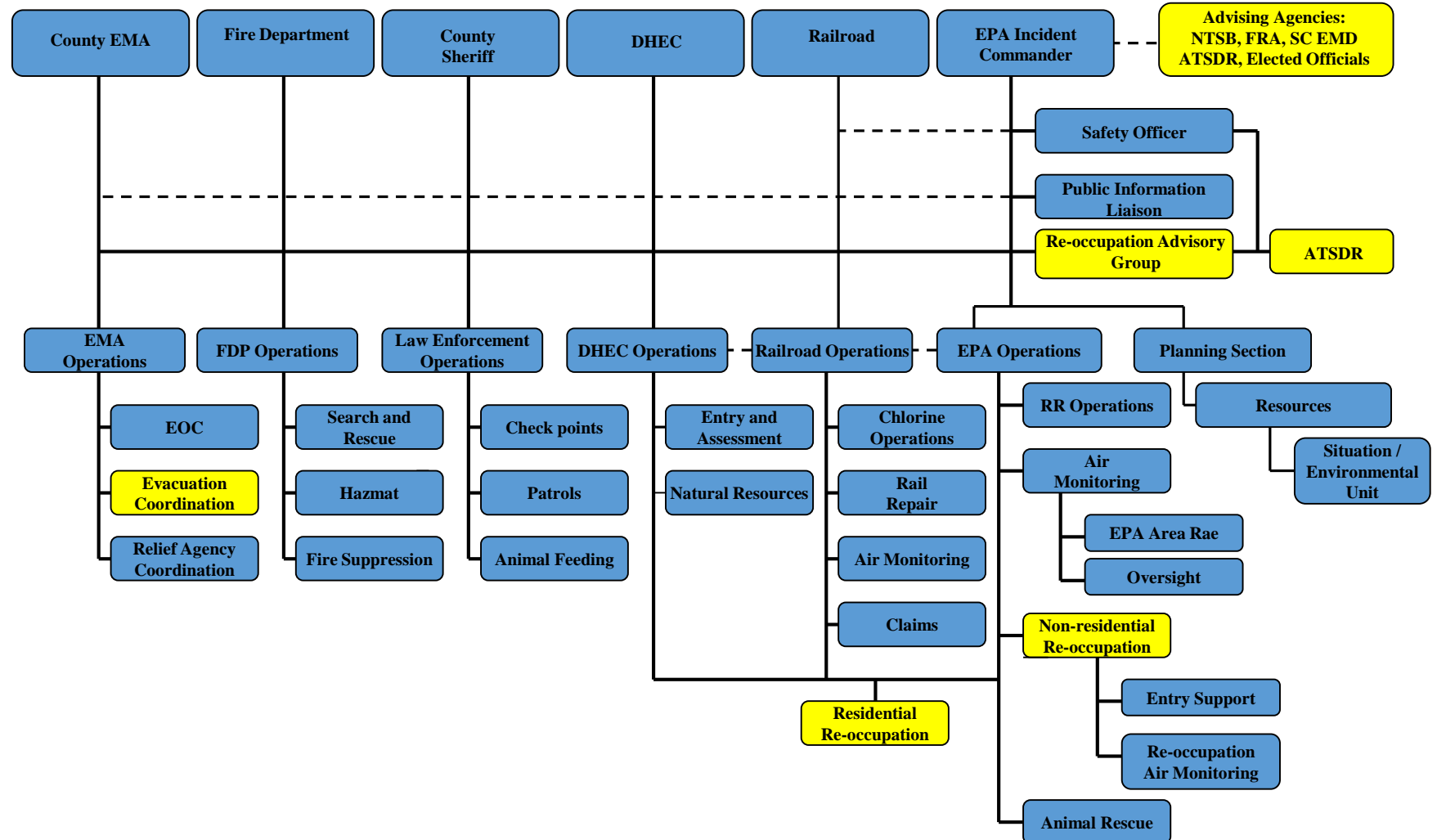
VIPER

- Wireless network based communications system designed to enable real time transmission of data from field sensors.
- Supports mobile and fixed monitoring modes with independent or clustered sensor arrays and local and/or enterprise communication strategies.
- Interoperability with multiple instruments types and manufacturers.
- Viper Deployment Manager.





COORDINATION: ICS/UNIFIED COMMAND





Examples of Emergency Responses



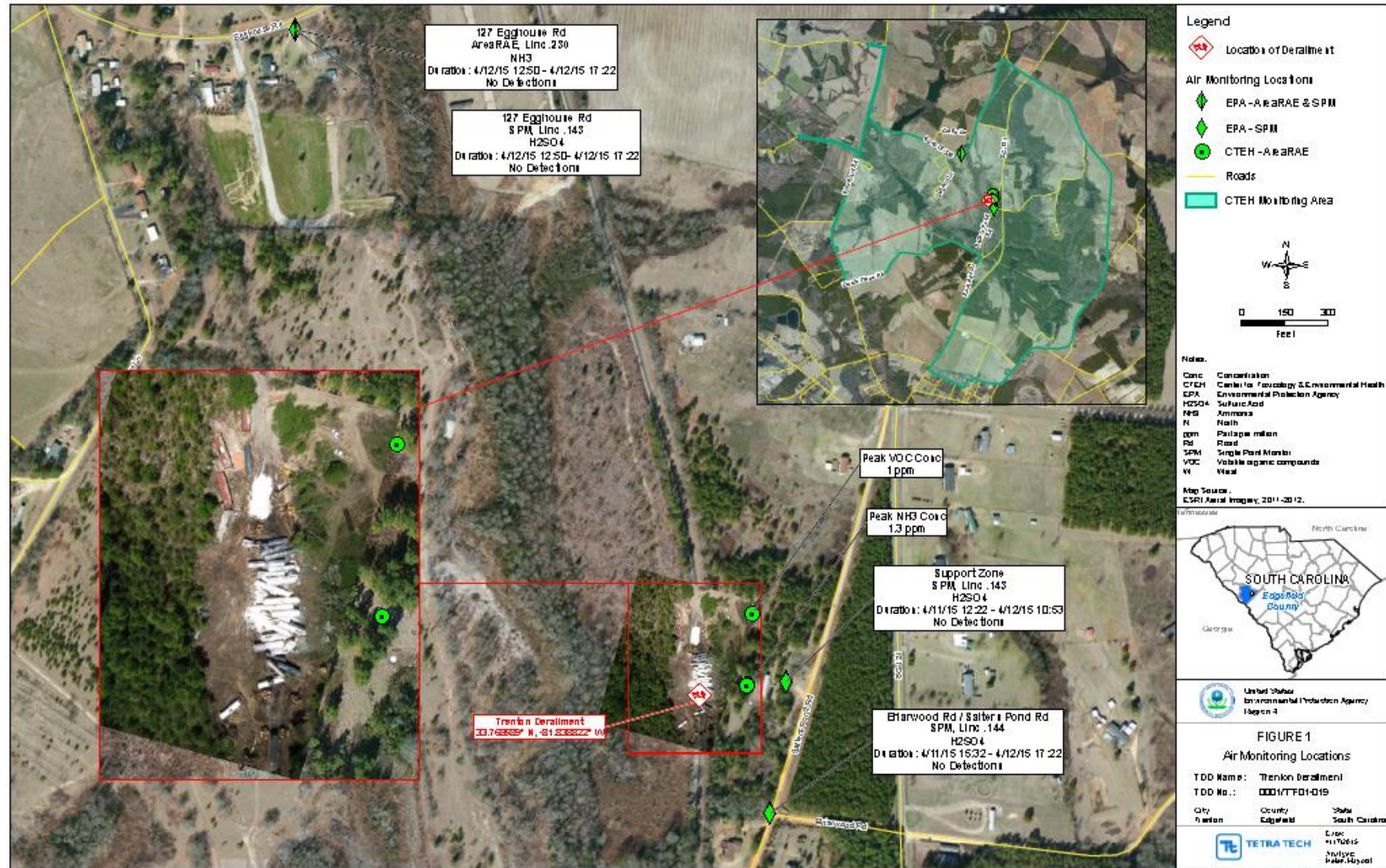


DERAILMENTS (Trenton SC)





GIS AND MAPPING





DERAILMENT (Sandersville GA)





FIRES (Kinston NC)





FIRES (LaFatette GA)







TANKER ROLLOVER (Doerun, GA)





ABANDONED DRUMS (Charlotte NC)





OIL SPILLS (Bay Springs MS)





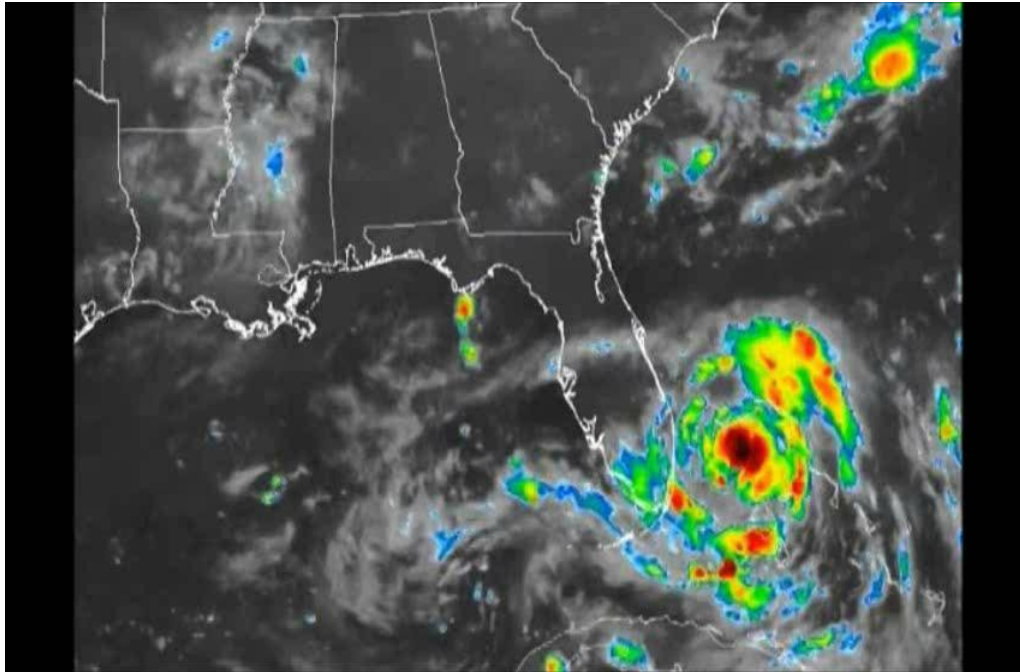
NATURAL DISASTERS : FLOODS AND HURRICANES

2010 TN Floods: NRF & Stafford Act





Hurricane Katrina



ESF 10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials, EPA is coordinating agency

- Collected approximately 400,000 samples
- Approximately 70 emergency responses
- Disposal of over 4 million containers of household hazardous waste and 118 million cubic yards of debris
- Assessed 1,300 USTs
- Assessed over 1,600 chemical facilities and refineries
- Assessed approximately 900 school chemistry classrooms and removed chemicals and other equipment from 130 chemistry laboratory classrooms

ESF 3 – Public Works & Engineering, EPA is support agency

- Assessed 4,000 water systems



OUTREACH & EXERCISES





OSC Resources: www.epaosc.org



- EPA website designed as a tool to help streamline the work of OSCs and provide a forum to share information and lessons learned;
- Constantly updated;
- National coverage;
- Accessible by all parties;
- Information regarding specific sites – Emergency Responses and Removals;
- Photographs, associated documents, weblinks, and contacts.



ILGAR

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
REIMBURSEMENT**



AND OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND (OSTLF)



LGR (CFR 310.1 to 310.22)

- Only for general purpose units of local government*
- Must be for CERCLA hazardous substance response
- \$25,000 limit per single response
- Cannot reimburse local funds normally provided for a response
- Reimbursement Examples: overtime pay, unanticipated resources, materials and supplies

<http://www2.epa.gov/emergency-response/local-governments-reimbursement-program>

*counties, parishes, municipalities, towns, townships, and, Federally recognized Indian Tribes



LGR (Important Points)

- One LGR per incident
- Petroleum products are excluded
- Must have legal jurisdiction in AOR
- Cannot be responsible party
- Must pursue cost recovery and submit detailed cost documentation
- Application submitted within one year of completion of response action and signed by highest ranking official

<http://www2.epa.gov/emergency-response/local-governments-reimbursement-program>



Examples

Calloway County, Kentucky – Mercury Spill

At East Calloway Middle School in early November 2006 after a student accidentally released mercury on a school bus and proceeded to contaminate school grounds. Students, teachers and staff were inspected for contamination and a contractor was called to assist with the cleanup and decontamination of the school. The County, incurred close to \$50,000 in expenses.

Wahpeton, North Dakota – Chemical Fire

On February 18, 2008, there was a large industrial fire at a chemical plating plant. Responding to the fire cost the City of Wahpeton nearly \$45,000 which Wahpeton was unable to recover from the facility or other responsible parties. The City received a full award of \$25,000 which helped cover the costs of materials and equipment damaged or destroyed during the response.

Gadsden, Alabama – Hazardous Materials Response

In March 2008, the Gadsden–Etowah County Emergency Management Agency in Alabama received a call from the City of Gadsden's Public Works Department alerting them about an illegal chemical dump. Local HazMat were called and responded to the scene where they secured the area and assisted with the cleanup and decontamination of the site. Unable to locate the responsible party, Gadsden incurred over \$36,000 in expenses related to the response. As a result, the City had to draw upon unbudgeted funds to pay for the incident. The LGR Program provided a full award of \$25,000 to the City of Gadsden which the City applied to contractor costs associated with the response.

Wichita, Kansas – Hazardous Materials Response

On May 24, 2009 a fire broke out when a resident was cooking methamphetamine. Wichita, Kansas first responders arrived on the scene, contained the fire and secured the site. The responsible party was charged with manufacturing the drug, but was unable to pay the response costs. The LGR Program provided the City of Wichita with a full award of \$2,036.83 to help pay for materials and overtime costs.



Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (Principle Fund) Claims

- Any person or organization that has incurred removal costs or suffered damages due to an oil spill may submit a claim.
- MUST be an oil
- Property Damage
- Loss of Profits & Earning Capacity
- Loss of Subsistence Use of Natural Resources
- Loss of Government Revenue (taxes, rents, fee..)
- Increased Public Services

http://www.uscg.mil/npfc/About_NPFC/osltf.asp

<http://www.uscg.mil/npfc/Claims/default.asp>





Critical Claim Requirements

- Demonstrate substance involved was “oil” per OPA
- Demonstrate whether oil discharged or posed a substantial threat to discharge to navigable waters
- Demonstrate that you coordinated removal actions with OSC



Reimbursement Requirements

OIL

- Notification Required
- No reimbursement cap
- State and local
- Petroleum only
- Removal costs within 6 years, natural resources costs and damage claims within 3 years

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

- Notification Recommended
- \$25,000 reimbursement cap per incident
- Local only
- Hazardous substance or mixture of oil and hazardous substances
- Claims within 1 year



Questions?

Important Phone Numbers

NRC: 1-800-424-8802

GEMHSA: 800-241-4113

EPA Region 4 EOC: 404-562-8700

Brian Englert: 404-562-8854

