

# Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex – NRC Perspective

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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# Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex – NRC Perspective

- Supersedes FRERP
- Implemented:
  - As integral part of NRP for Incidents of National Significance
  - As stand-alone Federal interagency protocol for lesser incidents

## Staff Approach:

- NRC roles/responsibilities analogous to FRERP
- Preserve NRC Statutory Roles & Responsibilities
- Annex comports closely with FRERP
  - (enhancements, terminology (e.g., “Coordinating Agency”))
- Modify Incident Response Program documentation and training

# NRC Maintains the Same Roles and Responsibilities

- **Statutory Authority**
- **To protect public health and safety should an incident occur involving an NRC-regulated site or activity**
- **Other Responsibilities**
  - **Assess plant conditions**
  - **Evaluate Protective Action Recommendations**
  - **Support offsite officials**
  - **Coordinate with other agencies**
  - **Keep media informed**

# Assignment of Coordinating Agencies

Type of Incident	Coordinating Agency
a. Radiological terrorism incidents (e.g. RDD/IND or Radiological Exposure Device): (1) Material or facilities owned or operated by DOD or DOE <b>(2) Material or facilities licensed by NRC or Agreement State</b> (3) All others	(1) DOD or DOE <b>(2) NRC</b> (3) DOE
b. Nuclear facilities: (1) Owned or operated by DOD or DOE <b>(2) Licensed by NRC or Agreement State</b> (3) Not licensed, owned, or operated by a Federal agency or an Agreement State, or currently or formerly licensed, but of which the owner/operator is not financially viable or is otherwise unable to respond	(1) DOD or DOE <b>(2) NRC</b> (3) EPA
c. Transportation of radioactive materials: (1) Materials shipped by or for DOD or DOE <b>(2) Shipment of NRC or Agreement State-licensed materials</b> (3) Shipment of materials in certain areas of the coastal zone that are not licensed or owned by a Federal agency or Agreement State (see USCG list of responsibilities for further explanation of "certain areas") (4) All others	(1) DOD or DOE <b>(2) NRC</b> (3) DHS/USCG (4) EPA
d. Space vehicles containing radioactive materials: (1) Managed by NASA or DOD (2) Not managed by DOD or NASA impacting certain areas of the coastal zone (3) All others	(1) NASA or DOD (2) DHS/USCG (3) EPA
e. Foreign, unknown or unlicensed material: (1) Incidents involving foreign or unknown sources of radioactive material in certain areas of the coastal zone (2) All others	(1) DHS/USCG (2) EPA
f. Nuclear weapon accident/incident (based on custody at time of event)	DOD or DOE
g. Other types of incidents not otherwise addressed above	DHS designates

# DHS and Coordinating Agency Response Functions

Response Function	Incidents of National Significance	Other Radiological Incidents
a. Coordinate actions of Federal agencies related to the overall response.	DHS	Coordinating agency
b. Coordinate Federal activities related to response and recovery of the radiological aspects of an incident.	DHS and coordinating agency	Coordinating Agency
c. Coordinate incident security.	DHS and coordinating agency	Coordinating Agency
d. Ensure coordination of technical data (collection, analysis, storage, and dissemination).	DHS and coordinating agency	Coordinating Agency
e. Ensure Federal protective action recommendations are developed and provide advice and assistance to State, local, and tribal governments.	DHS and coordinating agency	Coordinating Agency
f. Coordinate release of Federal information to the public.	DHS	Coordinating Agency
g. Coordinate release of Federal information to Congress.	DHS	Coordinating Agency
h. Keep the White House informed on all aspects of an incident.	DHS	Coordinating Agency
i. Ensure coordination of demobilization of Federal assets.	DHS	Coordinating Agency

# Protective Action Recommendations

- Federal Protective Action Recommendations – advise State/local/tribal governments on measures to avoid or reduce exposure of the public to radiation from a release of radioactive material:
  - Sheltering
  - Evacuating
  - KI usage
  - Food Restrictions
  - Temporary relocation
  - Permanent resettlement

<b>Incidents of National Significance</b>	DHS, in consultation with the coordinating agency, oversees the development of Federal Protective Action Recommendations and provides advice and assistance to State, tribal, and local governments.
<b>Other Radiological Incidents</b>	The coordinating agency, in consultation with the Advisory Team, develops and provides Protective Action Recommendations.
<b>Incidents of National Significance and Other Radiological Incidents</b>	State, local, and tribal governments are responsible for implementing protective actions as they deem appropriate.

# NRC's Responsibilities Specified in NRP Nuclear Radiological Annex

- Serve as Coordinating Agency
- Provides technical assistance to include
  - Source Term estimation
  - Plume dispersion modeling
  - Dose estimate calculations
- Provide assistance and recommendations on protective action measures, as coordinating agency
- Provides assistance in Federal radiological monitoring and assessment activities

# NRC's Responsibilities Specified in NRP Nuclear Radiological Annex (Continued)

- For an incident at a facility licensed by NRC or an Agreement State or involving Atomic Energy Act licensed material:
  - Performs an independent assessment of the incident and potential offsite consequences and, as appropriate, provides recommendations concerning any protective measures.
  - Performs oversight of the licensee, to include monitoring, evaluation of protective action recommendations, advice, assistance, and as appropriate, direction
  - Dispatches, if appropriate, an NRC Site Team of technical experts to the licensee's facility.
- Under certain situations involving the protection of public health/safety or national security, the NRC may take possession of special nuclear material and/or operate certain NRC-regulated facilities.