

9. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

This section presents the current traffic control and management strategy that is designed to expedite the movement of evacuating traffic. The resources required to implement this strategy include:

- Personnel with the capabilities of performing the planned control functions of traffic guides (preferably, not necessarily, law enforcement officers).
- Traffic Control Devices to assist these personnel in the performance of their tasks. These devices should comply with the guidance of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of the U.S.D.O.T. All state and most county transportation agencies have access to the MUTCD (also available online). Applicable devices include, with reference to the MUTCD:
 - Traffic Barriers: Chapter 6F, section 6F.61, 62 and Figure 6F-4.
 - Traffic Cones: Chapter 3F and section 6F.56.
 - Signs: Chapter 2I
- A plan that defines all necessary details and is documented in a format that is readily understood by those assigned to perform traffic control.

The functions to be performed in the field are:

1. Facilitate evacuating traffic movements that serve to expedite travel out of the EPZ along routes that the analysis has found to be most effective.
2. Discourage traffic movements that permit evacuating vehicles to travel in a direction which takes them significantly closer to the power station, or which interferes with the efficient flow of other evacuees.

We employ the terms "facilitate" and "discourage" rather than "enforce" and "prohibit" to indicate the need for flexibility in performing the traffic control function. There are always legitimate reasons for a driver to prefer a direction other than that indicated. For example:

- A driver may be traveling home from work or from another location, to join other family members preliminary to evacuating.
- An evacuating driver may be taking a detour from the evacuation route in order to pick up a relative, or other evacuees.
- The driver may be an emergency worker en route to perform an important activity.

The implementation of a plan must also be flexible enough for the application of sound judgment by the traffic guide.

The traffic management strategy is the outcome of the following process:

1. A field survey of these critical locations.
The schematics describing traffic control, which are presented in Appendix G, are based on data collected during field surveys, upon large-scale maps, and on overhead photos.
2. Computer analysis of the evacuation traffic flow environment.
This analysis identifies the best routing and those locations that experience pronounced congestion.
3. Consultation with emergency management and enforcement personnel.
Trained personnel who are experienced in controlling traffic and are aware of the likely evacuation traffic patterns have extensively reviewed these control tactics.
4. Prioritization of TCPs.
Application of traffic control at some TCPs will have a more pronounced influence on expediting traffic movements than at other TCPs. For example, TCPs controlling traffic originating from areas in close proximity to the power plant could have a more beneficial effect on minimizing potential exposure to radioactivity than those TCPs located far from the power plant. Thus, during the mobilization of personnel to respond to the emergency situation, those TCPs which are assigned a higher priority, should be manned earlier. These priorities have been developed in conjunction with county emergency management representatives and law enforcement personnel.

The control tactic at each TCP is presented in each schematic that appears in Appendix G.

The use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies can reduce manpower and equipment needs, while still facilitating the evacuation process. Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) can be placed within the EPZ to provide information to travelers regarding traffic conditions, route selection, and reception center information. DMS can also be placed outside of the EPZ to warn motorists to avoid using routes that may conflict with the flow of evacuees away from the nuclear station. Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) can be used to broadcast information to evacuees en route through their vehicle stereo systems. Automated Traveler Information Systems (ATIS) can also be used to provide evacuees with information. Internet websites can provide traffic and evacuation route information before the evacuee begins his trip, while on board navigation systems (GPS units), cell phones, and pagers can be used to provide information en route. These are only several examples of how ITS technologies can benefit the evacuation process.

Chapter 2I of the MUTCD presents guidance on Emergency Management signing. Specifically, the Evacuation Route sign, EM-1 on page 2I-3, with the word “Hurricane” removed, could be installed selectively within the EPZ, if considered advisable by local and state authorities. Similar comments apply to sign EM-3 which identifies TCP locations.