

## TEPP Planning Tools

In 1989, the Department of Energy created the Office of Environmental Management (EM) to mitigate the risks and hazards posed by the legacy of nuclear weapons production and research. The most ambitious and far ranging of these missions is dealing with the environmental legacy of the Cold War. Many problems posed by its operations are unique, and include the transportation of unprecedented amounts of contaminated waste, water, and soil, and a vast number of contaminated structures that will remain radioactive for thousands of years.

Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP) “tools” have been developed to assist responders to prepare for response to a transportation incident of this type. These tools provide a standardized approach to transportation emergencies, and can be downloaded for use from the TEPP web site: <http://www.em.doe.gov/otem>.

### Step 1 – Assess Your Capabilities

#### MODEL NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

This model assists state, tribal, or local officials in determining emergency responder readiness. Implementation is through a self-assessment and involves answering questions about radioactive material that may be present in your community, and identifying existing capabilities, training programs and procedures. The assessment assists in identifying hazards associated with radiological materials transportation. It is designed to evaluate six emergency response elements, assessing the procedures and capabilities of each response element:

- Emergency Management Agency
- Emergency Communications Center
- Hazardous Materials Team
- Fire Response Organization
- Law Enforcement Response Organization
- Emergency Medical Services and Care Facilities

Upon completion of the assessment, you can determine strengths and identify improvement areas within plans, procedures and training programs.

### Step 2 – Corrective Actions

After the assessment phase is completed, use the TEPP model plans and procedures to make improvements.

#### MODEL PROCEDURES:

The Procedures are designed to help address procedural weaknesses identified during the Needs Assessment. The Model Procedures available to responders are as follows:

First Responder Initial Response Procedure: provides guidance for response to a transportation accident involving radioactive material.

Hazardous Materials Team Incident Response Procedure: provides guidance for developing an emergency response plan, as outlined in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120(q), for facility response.

Medical Examiner/Coroner Guide for Handling a Radiologically Contaminated Body/Human Remains: identifies precautions and provides guidance on the handling of a body or human remains that are potentially contaminated.

EMS Responder Procedure for Handling a Radiologically Contaminated Patient: provides guidance on properly handling a potentially contaminated patient.

Radioactive Material or Hazardous Materials Decontamination Procedure: provides guidance and three options for performing decontamination of individuals who have entered a “hot zone” during hazardous material incidents involving radioactive materials: (1) multiple hazardous materials present without radiological instrumentation available, (2) radioactive material only without radiological instrumentation available and (3) radioactive material only with radiological instrumentation available.

Model Recovery Procedure: provides recommended elements for developing and conducting recovery planning at the scene of a transportation incident involving radiological material.

### Step 3 – Training & Exercise

Following the completion of the assessment process and the remedying of any identified improvement areas, a training tabletop drill or an exercise involving applicable emergency response organizations should be conducted. The drill or exercise will help to evaluate current emergency responder readiness.

### GUIDANCE FOR PLANNING, CONDUCTING AND EVALUATING TRANSPORTATION EXERCISES:

This guide assists local, state, tribal and federal agencies in conducting tabletops, drills and exercises for transportation emergencies. Tabletops, drills and exercises facilitate a learning environment where response agencies can come together to understand and talk through an integrated response for a radiological transportation emergency. The accident scenarios provided with this manual may be modified to demonstrate some or all aspects of a response by one or more agencies. The scenarios include: spent nuclear fuel; low-specific activity material; transuranic waste; soil moisture/density gauge; radiopharmaceuticals; and a radiography device. Each scenario provides basic instructions on all aspects of event preparation, and describes how to use the other materials in the package. Used properly, these scenarios should enhance emergency preparedness by enabling communities to practice and demonstrate their ability to respond to a transportation emergency.

### MODULAR EMERGENCY RESPONSE RADIOLOGICAL TRANSPORTATION TRAINING:

Please see the TEPP Training Brochure or visit our web site listed below.

Transportation Emergency  
Preparedness Program

U.S. Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585  
Phone: 301-903-7284

[www.em.doe.gov/otem](http://www.em.doe.gov/otem)