



CHARTER

MISSION

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TEC/WG) is one of several external coordination mechanisms established by DOE to implement parts of the Transportation Management Team, the Emergency Management Team, the Liaison and Communications (L&C) Program and the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program (RW). The DOE TEC/WG serves as a mechanism to help provide continuing and improved coordination between appropriate DOE elements, other levels of government, and outside organizations having a responsibility for DOE transportation activities.

OBJECTIVES

Through the TEC/WG, DOE interacts with representatives of organizations at the state, tribal, and local levels who are working cooperatively with DOE, to obtain input for program needs assessment, development and management, and to enhance their capability to carry out transportation emergency preparedness and safety activities specifically related to radioactive materials shipments.

With the overall objective of developing a consolidated, multi-year set of goals and plans of action, DOE and the state, tribal, local government, and industry members address the following issues.

- review funding and training requirements under Section 180(c) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, as amended, (including emergency response and safe routine transport);
- promote the functional integration of DOE emergency preparedness activities with the overall DOE transportation system;
- identify emergency response, planning, training, and exercise needs of responders;
- identify areas for DOE to coordinate activities with state, tribal, and local jurisdictions and industry and with other federal agencies and identify areas for DOE-specific initiative; and
- develop recommendations for providing technical assistance.

ORGANIZATION

The TEC/WG chairperson coordinates the participation of appropriate DOE and contractor representatives and staff support. Participants are officially designated representatives of the organizations invited by DOE to become members of TEC/WG. DOE will request industry liaison participation as appropriate and will coordinate with other federal agencies through existing mechanisms such as the National Response Team and the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordination Committee. Members are divided into topical committees as needed.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The TEC/WG chairperson and other DOE participants are responsible for providing feedback from the Working Group to various DOE elements such as the TEPP Steering Committee and the Internal Coordination Working Group. These DOE elements--which include DOE programmatic staff in transportation, emergency management, and public involvement--may be asked to provide specific comments and recommendations.

Members attend periodic meetings (approximately two each year) to review issues, exchange information, and identify program needs. They network back to their member organizations to exchange information and materials from the meetings and to seek further input. They are also available for occasional phone discussions with DOE program managers.

For continuity, members attend meetings themselves rather than send alternates, although alternates are preferred to no representation at all from the organizations.

MEMBERSHIP

TEC/WG members are those who have responsibility for transportation and emergency management planning activities as well as those who are responsible for implementation of response activities.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

[see Work Plan for current list]