Emergency Response and Preparedness for Disasters

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Director

ADEQ
Department of Environmental Quality
In FY 2016 ADEQ responded to 610 emergency response incidents.

Of those responses:

The majority were related to petroleum or diesel product spills and releases.

Other ADEQ emergency response calls were for fires, chemicals and asbestos released into the air, and raw sewage leakage.
Emergency Support Functions

Primary Agency

ESF Coordinator

State Support Agencies ↔ Federal Agencies ↔ Local Government
Incident Response Management

1st line of management: Prepared individuals, families and caregivers should enhance their awareness to risk.

2nd line of management: Local police, fire, public health and medical providers, public works and environmental response professionals are often the first to detect or respond to threats, hazards or emergencies.

3rd line of management: A sovereign entity and the Governor has primary responsibility for the safety and welfare of its residents.

4th line of management: The Federal government has a vast array of capabilities and resources that can be made available upon request of the Governor.

5th line of management: The private sector includes for-profit businesses, trade organizations and non-for-profit enterprises, faith based organizations and other voluntary organizations. These individuals can significantly impact the outcome of any event by being prepared for emergencies.
Substation Damaged in Tornado

Storm Debris

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ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality
• A.C.A. § 8-4-316 pertains to burning of storm debris.
  – ADEQ works closely with cities, counties, state, and federal agencies during and after natural disasters to assist with recovery operations.
  – ADEQ provides assistance and guidance for the safe and proper disposal of debris from a disaster, including household hazardous waste, vegetative and construction debris.

• A.C.A. § 8-7-508 pertains to Director’s authority in an emergency.
  – Issue an Order of the Director requiring any person responsible, in whole or in part, to take necessary steps to protect human health and the environment. Subject to review and reporting.
  – Approve maximum expenditures up to $250,000.00.
    (Increases subject to approval of ADPC&E)
Oil and Hazardous Materials

Emergency Support Function #10 (ESF#10)

• ESF #10 is the oil and hazardous materials component to the Arkansas Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

• ESF #10 provides for an effective and efficient response to discharges of oil or hazardous materials by coordinating human, financial, and material resources in support of the impacted jurisdiction.

• ADEQ is the lead state agency for all ESF #10 functions.
• ADEQ coordinates exercise planning and participation with the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM).

• ADEM hosts monthly tabletop exercises and functional exercises annually with city, county, state, and federal agencies.

• These exercises test our personnel, our abilities, and the resources available to determine possible shortfalls for correction and improvement.
Questions?