Annex B Emergency Operations Center Guidelines and Checklists

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INTRODUCTION

This Annex outlines the sequence of steps for activating the EOC, depending on the threat. Note that many steps will apply whenever you decide to activate the EOC, regardless of the nature of the threat. What will vary from situation to situation will be the number of persons involved and the functions activated.

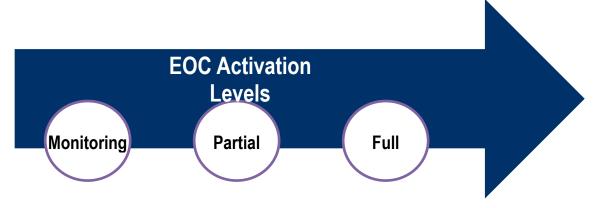
One of the first tasks in any emergency is to quickly assess the situation to determine if its size or severity warrants activating the EOC. The EOC goes into operation when the appropriate officials decide that the situation is serious enough to require a coordinated and other-than-routine response. Obviously, the EOC does not become operational for all emergencies.

EOC OPERATIONAL LEVEL

MONITORING: The Local EOC not activated. Local Emergency Management Agency is at normal staffing and is monitoring situational awareness on a 24/7 basis.

PARTIAL: The Local EOC is partially activated. All ESFs and/or Support Agencies are notified and requested as the situation warrants. Partial activation staffing will be determined to meet the needs of the situation. Triggered by highly probable hazardous conditions and a strong potential for property damage or loss of life. This situation requires, or is likely to require response from the City or has the potential to result in a significant loss of life, property damage or the disruption of critical infrastructure.

FULL: The Local EOC is fully activated. All ESFs and/or Support Agencies are notified and requested as the situation warrants. Full activation requires 24-hour staffing in order to meet the needs of the situation. Triggered by highly hazardous conditions and a strong potential for property damage or loss of life. This situation requires significant response from the City and/or region and State.



EOC ACTIVATION PROCEDURES

Alert EOC personnel a.

See Appendix C (Resource List) for Contact Information of EOC Personnel.

| Э. | Activate communications equipment |
|----|--|
| | Test communications equipment: □ Local Dispatch □ Strafford County Dispatch Center □ Telephones (plugs, call forwarding, etc) □ Computer / Internet (passwords, etc) □ Backup generator (location, contact for repair/refueling) |
| С. | Enact the message flow system (recording messages) |
| | It is important to have an effective message system that allows for a disciplined flow of incoming and outgoing messages. This system is a method that ensures the following, at a minimum: |
| | Exact and detailed recording of an incoming message Directing this message to the EOC staff person best suited to respond |
| | Coordinating the decision to allocate resources Allocating the resources or requesting additional ones Recording the action(s) taken Notifying the sender of the message of the action taken Ideally, an operations officer routes the completed incoming messages to the appropriate staff person and makes sure each incoming message gets the attention it needs. Identify a "runner" if needed. |
| d. | EOC Setup |
| | When possible, maps should be available and already posted at the Emergency Operations Center. The following diagram shows the typica set up of the EOC. |
| э. | Logs & status boards |
| | Maintain the following: □ Chronological Event Logs □ Status Boards (shelter locations, # occupants, roads impassable locations without power, etc) |

f. Prepare a shift schedule

If the EOC is to operate for any length of time, make sure the personnel in the EOC have the needed breaks and their active time does not exceed a reasonable span of time. While it is impossible to set a schedule of breaks, it is critical that staff working under intense pressure take regular breaks to maintain their sharpness. You may have to encourage some over-zealous staff that are caught up in the excitement to take a break. Do not hesitate to do so if it looks like fatigue is setting in.

If it seems that the operation will extend beyond one day, you will need a second shift to relieve the first shift. Specify the length of the shift and the names of everyone who is to serve and on which shift.

g. Announce the briefing schedule

It is important to announce and post the briefing schedule as soon as the EOC activates. Briefings should occur on a regular basis such as when shifts change, when there is a sudden change in events, or before making a major decision or releasing potentially disturbing information to the public or the media. A suggested EOC briefing outline is included in this Annex.

The local news media also needs a briefing schedule so that they know when to expect a report from the EOC. A media schedule will provide them with important information and help keep the media from interfering with EOC operations.

Provide staff necessities h.

If you know the EOC will be in operation for some time, make sure you have appropriate food, beverages, housekeeping provisions, and basic medical supplies.

Depending on your situation, you should make arrangements with caterers or other community food sources used to preparing meals for large groups. While you can stockpile drinks and housekeeping and medical supplies, fresh food poses a different challenge.

i. **EOC Security**

In order to carry out an effective response to an emergency or disaster, the EOC must function without interference from those who are not part of the emergency management team.

As soon as the EOC goes into emergency status, implement a check-in procedure. Ensure everyone entering the EOC signs in an Attendance Log Sheet.

The EOC should have a security person on duty. Each member of the EOC staff should have identification so that security knows whom to admit.

EOC BRIEFING GUIDELINES

1. Situation Assessment:

Present and future situation Current operations (Local and State EOC)

2. Objectives:

Short Term

Operational Period

Execution of Objectives with timelines

3. Logistics:

Determine needs

- 4. Communications
- 5. Safety
- 6. Chain of Command
- 7. Briefing from each Section Chief / Department Head
- 8. Time/Date/Location of next briefing

CHRONOLOGICAL EVENT LOG

| Position: | | |
|-----------|-----------|--|
| Name: | | |
| Date: | Location: | |
| Time | Activity | |
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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN ACTIVATION FORM Concord, NH

WHEREAS, the Emergency Management Director does find that the (Blizzard, Flood, Hurricane, Storm, etc.) emergency currently affecting the City of Concord requires the activation of the Emergency Operations Plan, and subsequently the **Emergency Operations Center**;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby declared and ordered that the Emergency Operations Plan of the City of Concord is now activated, and all personnel ordered to perform in accordance with the appropriate Emergency Support Functions.

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED that a copy of this action be forwarded to the NH Homeland Security Emergency Management.

| Dated | Time | Signature of EMD |
|-------|------|------------------|

EOC POSITION CHECKLISTS

Emergency Management Director

| Action | Time |
|--|------|
| Consult with key departments to determine the extent of Emergency Operations Center activation (i.e. Partial of Full and what staff should report to the EOC). | |
| Ensure EOC is properly set up and ready for operations (see Pg. 3 of this Annex). | |
| Initiate Chronological Event Log (file all event records in the EOC Event Log) | |
| Assign a scribe to record major events and control messaging in and out of the EOC. | |
| Set up and maintain status board and maps in the EOC | |
| Contact the State EOC via WebEOC or 271-2231 or 800-852-3792 to notify HSEM of the EOC activation and status of situation. | |
| Track expenses (i.e. personnel time, supplies, equipment, etc.) | |
| Notify appropriate City personnel of activation of Emergency Support Functions and to stand by for further instructions. | |
| Based on current status reports, establish initial strategic objectives for the event. | |
| Monitor general staff activities to ensure that all appropriate actions are being taken. | |
| In conjunction with the Public Information Officer, conduct news conferences and review media releases for final approval, following the established procedure for information releases and media briefings. | |
| Make arrangement to feed emergency workers if the duration of the event requires. | |
| Conduct periodic briefing for EOC Staff. | |
| Establish a schedule for 24-hour EOC staffing. | |

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (EOP) - CONCORD, NH

| Report activities and make resource requests in WebEOC. | |
|--|--|
| Review ESF sections that are, or may be, activated. | |
| Prepare for notice of escalation or reduction of operational level. | |
| Upon termination of the event, provide a copy of all emergency event related documentation. Notify the State EOC of demobilization. Prepare information for the After Action Report. | |

Operations Section Chief

| Action | |
|---|--|
| Receive notification that the EOC has been activated and confirm receipt of notice to the EMD. | |
| Proceed to the Concord EOC, or assign the next available high ranking officer. | |
| Track events in the Chronological Event Log. | |
| Obtain briefing from Incident Commander | |
| Organize Ops Section to ensure operational efficiency, personnel safety and adequate span of control. | |
| Establish operational period | |
| Establish and demobilize staging areas | |
| Attend Operations Briefing and assign Operations Personnel in accordance with the Incident Action Plan (IAP). | |
| Develop and manage tactical operations to meet incident objectives | |
| Assess life safety: Adjust perimeters, as necessary, to ensure scene security. Evaluate and enforce use of appropriate protective clothing and equipment. Implement and enforce appropriate safety precautions. | |
| Evaluate situation and provide update to Planning Section: Location, status, and assignment of resources. Effectiveness of tactics. Desired contingency plans | |
| Determine need and request additional resources. | |
| Notify Resources Unit of Section Branches, Divisions/Groups, Strike Teams/Task Forces, and single resources which are staffed, including location of resources and names of leaders | |
| Keep Resources Unit up to date on changes in resource status | |

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (EOP) - CONCORD, NH

| Write formal Operations portion of IAP with the Planning Section Chief, if so directed by the Incident Commander: Identify assignments by Division or Group. Identify specific tactical assignments. Identify resources needed to accomplish assignments. | |
|---|--|
| Ensure coordination of the Operations Section with other Command and General Staff: f Ensure Operations Section time-keeping, activity logs, and equipment use documents are maintained and passed to Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration Sections, as appropriate. f Ensure resource ordering and logistical support needs are passed to Logistics in a timely fashion-enforce ordering process. f Notify Logistics of communications problems. f Keep Planning up-to-date on resource and situation status. f Notify Liaison Officer of issues concerning cooperating and assisting agency resources. f Keep Safety Officer involved in tactical decision-making. f Keep Incident Commander apprised of status of operational efforts. f Coordinate media field visits with the Public Information Officer. | |
| Attend the Tactics Meeting with Planning Section Chief, Safety Officer, and Incident Commander prior to the Planning Meeting to review strategy, discuss tactics, and outline organization assignments. | |
| Attend Planning Meetings. | |
| Hold Section meetings, as necessary, to ensure communication and coordination among Operations Branches, Divisions, and Groups. | |

Logistics Section Chief

| Action | Time |
|--|------|
| Receive notification that the EOC has been activated and confirm receipt of notice to the EMD. | |
| Proceed to the Concord EOC, or assign the next available high ranking officer. | |
| Obtain briefing from Incident Commander | |
| Ensure Incident Command Post and other incident facilities are physically activated, as appropriate | |
| Confirm resource ordering process. | |
| Assess adequacy of current Incident Communications Plan (ICS Form 205). | |
| Organize and staff Logistics Section, as appropriate, and consider the need for facility security, and Communication and Supply Units. | |
| Assemble, brief, and assign work locations and preliminary work tasks to Section personnel: f Provide summary of emergency situation. f Provide summary of the kind and extent of Logistics support the Section may be asked to provide. | |
| Notify Resources Unit of other Units activated, including names and location of assigned personnel. | |
| Attend Planning Meetings | |
| Participate in preparation of Incident Action Plan (IAP): f Provide input on resource availability, support needs, identified shortages, and response time-lines for key resources. f Identify future operational needs (both current and contingency), in order to anticipate logistical requirements. f Ensure Incident Communications Plan (ICS Form 205) is prepared. f Ensure Medical Plan (ICS Form 206) is prepared. f Assist in the preparation of Transportation Plan. | |
| Review IAP and estimate section needs for next operational period; order relief personnel if necessary. | |

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (EOP) - CONCORD, NH

| Research availability of additional resources. | |
|--|--|
| Hold Section meetings, as necessary, to ensure communication and coordination among Logistics Branches and Units | |
| Ensure coordination between Logistics and other Command and General Staff. | |
| Ensure general welfare and safety of Section personnel. | |
| Ensure all Logistics functions are documenting actions on Unit Log (ICS Form 214). | |
| Submit all Section documentation to Documentation Unit. | |

Planning Section Chief

| Action | Time |
|--|------|
| Receive notification that the EOC has been activated and confirm receipt of notice to the EMD. | |
| Proceed to the Concord EOC, or assign the next available high ranking officer. | |
| Obtain briefing from Incident Commander: f Determine current resource status (ICS Form 201). f Determine current situation status/intelligence (ICS Form 201). f Determine current incident objectives and strategy. f Determine whether Incident Commander requires a written Incident Action Plan (IAP). f Determine time and location of first Planning Meeting. f Determine desired contingency plans. | |
| Activate Planning Section positions, as necessary, and notify Resources Unit of positions activated. | |
| Establish and maintain resource tracking system. | |
| Complete ICS Form 201, if not previously completed, and provide copies to Command, Command Staff, and General Staff. | |
| Advise Incident Command Post (ICP) staff of any significant changes in incident status. | |
| Compile and display incident status summary information. Document on ICS Form 209, Incident Status Summary (or other approved agency forms): f Forward incident status summaries to Agency Administrator and/or other designated staff once per operational period, or as required. f Provide copy to Public Information Office | |
| Obtain/develop incident maps. | |
| Establish information requirements and reporting schedules for ICP and field staff. | |
| Prepare contingency plans: f Review current and projected incident and resource status. f Develop alternative strategies. f Identify resources required to implement contingency plan. f Document alternatives for presentation to Incident Commander and | |

| Operations, and for inclusion in the written IAP. | |
|--|--|
| Meet with Operations Section Chief and/or Command, prior to Planning Meetings, to discuss proposed strategy and tactics and diagram incident organization and resource location. | |
| Conduct Planning Meetings | |
| Supervise preparation and distribution of the written IAP, if indicated. Minimum distribution is to all Command, Command Staff, General Staff, and Operations personnel to the Division/Group Supervisor level: <i>f</i> Establish information requirements and reporting schedules for use in preparing the IAP. <i>f</i> Ensure that detailed contingency plan information is available for consideration by Operations and Command. <i>f</i> Verify that all support and resource needs are coordinated with Logistics Section prior to release of the IAP. <i>f</i> Include fiscal documentation forms in written IAP as requested by the Finance/Administration Section. <i>f</i> Coordinate IAP changes with General Staff personnel and distribute written changes, as appropriate. | |
| Coordinate development of Incident Traffic Plan with Operations and the Ground Support Unit Leader. | |
| Coordinate preparation of the Safety Message with Safety Officer. | |
| Coordinate preparation of the Incident Communications Plan and Medical Plan with Logistics. | |
| Instruct Planning Section Units in distribution of incident information. | |
| Provide periodic predictions on incident potential. | |
| Establish a weather data collection system, when necessary. | |
| Identify need for specialized resources; discuss need with Operations and Command; facilitate resource requests with Logistics. | |
| Hold Section meetings as necessary to ensure communication and coordination among Planning Section Units. | |

Admin/Finance Section Chief

| Action | Time |
|---|------|
| Receive notification that the EOC has been activated and confirm receipt of notice to the EMD. | |
| Proceed to the Concord EOC, as requested by the EMD. | |
| Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. | |
| Obtain briefing from agency Finance/Administration representative: f Identify financial requirements for planned and expected operations. f Determine agreements are in place for land use, facilities, equipment, and utilities. f Confirm/establish procurement guidelines. f Determine procedure for establishing charge codes. f Important local contacts. f Agency/local guidelines, processes. f Copies of all incident-related agreements, activated or not. f Determine potential for rental or contract services. f Is an Incident Business Advisor (IBA) available, or the contact information for an agency Financial/Administration representative? f Coordinate with Command and General Staff and agency Human Resources staff to determine the need for temporary employees. f Ensure that proper tax documentation is completed. f Determine whether hosting agency will maintain time records, or whether the incident will document all time for the incident, and what forms will be used. | |
| Ensure all Sections and the Supply Unit are aware of charge code. | |
| Attend Planning Meeting: f Provide financial and cost-analysis input. f Provide financial summary on labor, materials, and services. f Prepare forecasts on costs to complete operations. f Provide cost benefit analysis, as requested. f Obtain information on status of incident; planned operations; changes in objectives, use of personnel, equipment, aircraft; and local agency/political concerns. | |

| Gather continuing information: f Equipment time – Ground Support Unit Leader and Operations | |
|--|--|
| Section. f Personnel time – Crew Leaders, Unit Leaders, and individual personnel. | |
| f Accident reports – Safety Officer, Ground Support Unit Leader, and Operations Section. | |
| f Potential and existing claims – Operations Section, Safety Officer, equipment contractors, agency representative, and | |
| Compensation/Claims Unit Leader. | |
| f Arrival and demobilization of personnel and equipment – Planning Section. | |
| f Daily incident status – Planning Section. | |
| f Injury reports – Safety Officer, Medical Unit Leader, and Compensation/Claims Unit Leader. | |
| f Status of supplies – Supply Unit Leader and Procurement Unit Leader.f Guidelines of responsible agency – Incident Business Advisor, local | |
| administrative personnel. | |
| f Use agreements – Procurement Unit Leader and local administrative personnel. | |
| f What has been ordered? – Supply Unit Leader. | |
| f Unassigned resources – Resource Unit Leader and Cost Unit Leader. | |
| Initiate, maintain, and ensure completeness of documentation needed to | |
| support claims for emergency funds, including auditing and documenting | |
| labor, equipment, materials, and services: f Labor - with breakdown of work locations, hours and rates for response | |
| personnel, contract personnel, volunteers, and consultants. | |
| f Equipment - with breakdown of work locations, hours and rates for | |
| owned and rented aircraft, heavy equipment, fleet vehicles, and other | |
| equipment. | |
| f Materials and supplies purchased and/or rented, including equipment, | |
| communications, office and warehouse space, and expendable supplies. | |
| Assist Logistics in resource procurement: | |
| f Identify vendors for which open purchase orders or contracts must be | |
| established. | |
| f Negotiate ad hoc contracts. | |
| Coordinate Finance/Administration demobilization. | |
| Ensure all Logistics Units are documenting actions on Unit Log (ICS Form 214). | |
| | |
| Submit all Section documentation to Documentation Unit. | |

Public Information Officer (PIO)

| Action | ııme |
|--|------|
| Obtain briefing from EMD or Incident Commander: Determine current status of the event Determine point of contact for the media Determine current media presence | |
| Assess the need for special alert and warning efforts. Include functional needs populations (i.e. hearing impaired, non-English speaking population, etc). | |
| Prepare initial information summary as soon as possible after activation. If no other information is available, consider the use of the following general statement: Sample Initial Information Summary We are aware that an [accident/incident] involving [type of incident] occurred at approximately [time], in the vicinity of [general location]. [Agency personnel] are responding, and we will have additional information available as we are able to confirm it. We will hold a briefing at [location], and will notify the press at least ½ hour prior to the briefing. At this time, this briefing is the only place where officials authorized to speak about the incident and confirmed information will be available. Thank you for your assistance. | |
| Arrange for necessary work space, materials, telephones, and staff. | |
| Establish contact with local and national media representatives, as appropriate. | |
| Establish location of Information Center for media and public away from Command Post. | |
| Establish schedule for news briefings. | |
| Obtain approval for information release from Incident Commander or EMD. | |
| Release news to media, and post information in Command Post, local EOC and other appropriate locations. | |
| Respond to special requests for information. | |
| Confirm the process for the release of information concerning incident-related injuries or deaths. | |
| | |