



NEMA SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Hurricane Subcommittee

Earthquake Subcommittee

REP Subcommittee

NEMA 2016 Annual Forum Hurricane Subcommittee Report

1. RECOGNITION OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

- a. Bob Boyd, North Carolina
- b. Stewart Baker, Virginia
- c. Russell Strickland, Maryland
- d. Kurt Schwartz, Massachusetts
- e. Michael Russas, Massachusetts
- f. Chuck Phinney, Texas
- g. David Lopez, Hawaii
- h. Ryan Gonch, New York
- i. Dave DeMatteo, New York

2. RECOGNITION OF FEDERAL PARTNERS

- a. FEMA National Hurricane Program
- b. FEMA Hurricane Liaison Team
- c. NOAA National Hurricane Center
- d. US Army Corps of Engineers
- e. DHS Science & Technology

3. CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- a. Meetings - Monthly Conference Calls are held by the Subcommittee to discuss projects, issues and items of interest. The Subcommittee has held 5 calls since the NEMA 2016 Mid-Year Forum in DC. Any interested Interagency Coordinating Committee on Hurricanes (ICCOH) participants are also welcome to attend the Conference Calls.
- b. National Hurricane Program Quick Reference Guide - On 6/3/16, the Subcommittee disseminated the National Hurricane Program Quick Reference Guide (QRG) to all Hurricane states. The QRG provides states with a one stop document which lists all federal agencies to include POCs who have a Hurricane preparedness mission.
- c. Post-Storm Assessments - NCEM & VDEM (PSA Team) met in Newport News, VA on 29-30 Mar 16 to begin development of a Post-Storm Assessment (PSA) Template since the federal government is no longer funding PSAs. The PSA Team developed a template for Minor, Moderate and Severe Storms. The team also made a recommendation to DHS S&T (Darren Wilson) and FEMA NHP (Christopher Penney) that a PSA Tool be added to the HURREVAC-eXtended (HV-X) that is currently under development. The latest update (8/3/16) for the PSA Tool in HV-X from Mr. Penney is that it is high on the priority list and they hope to fund it in FY-17...no guarantee, though. The PSA Team is continuing to refine the PSA Template and will meet in the NC State EOC sometime in September 2016.
- d. Monthly RtePM Updates - We receive status reports from Mr. Penney each month since Old Dominion University turned over the RtePM evacuation model over to the federal government. DHS S&T plans to make several updates/improvements over the next 6-9 months. The funding has been secured and it is being moved to DHS S&T and Lincoln Labs so they can start work. Once the updates are made, RtePM will become the base transportation model for the Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES) analysis tool that will be a

component of HV-X.

- e. HV-X Project Updates – We receive status reports from Mr. Penney each month. The timeline for HV-X transition is still on track. FEMA is performing internal testing now with NHP staff and that will continue. In 2017 the NHP plans to open up testing to a much larger portion of their user group, including state/locals. This will occur after HV-X is transferred to their Operations and Maintenance contractor. The Subcommittee will be working closely with Mr. Penney to determine how large a group and how users will be chosen. FEMA plans for a full release of HV-X to all users in 2018.
- f. Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES) Updates – The Subcommittee receives HES updates each month from NHP and USACE. There is often a lively Q&A session with the participating states.
- g. National Hurricane Center (NHC) Product Updates – The Subcommittee is honored to have Dr. Knabb, the NHC Director, and his staff to frequently participate in the monthly Hurricane Subcommittee Conference Calls. He provides the group with updates on new products such as:
 - Prototype Storm Surge Watch/Warning Graphic (now experimental)
 - Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map (now operational)
 - Tropical Cyclone Forecast Error Cone Size
 - Work on Centralized Forecasting of Extra-Tropical Storm Surge
 - Work on 6 & 7-day Track & Intensity Forecasts
 - Work on Graphical Depiction of Onset of Tropical Storm Force Winds
- h. Hurricane Program Manager Guide – The Subcommittee has developed a DRAFT Hurricane Program Manager Guide to assist states when they have staff turnover and need to expedite the learning process. We will continue to refine.
- i. Federally Funded Hurricane Training – The Subcommittee works with the NHP to ensure the right students are being recruited hurricane courses to achieve maximum efficiency. These courses include L-324 “Hurricane Preparedness for Decision Makers” (NHC Version), L-320 “Hurricane Preparedness for Decision Makers” (State Specific), etc.

NEMA 2016 Annual Forum Earthquake Subcommittee Meeting Report

RECOGNITION OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Richard Flinn (PA)
- Art Faulkner (AL)
- David Kane (IN)
- Mark Schouten (IA)
- Kris Hamlet (UT)
- Mark Ghilarducci (CA)
- Robert Ezelle (WA)

RECOGNITION OF SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT MEMBERS

- Tina Curry (CA)
- Kate Long (CA)
- Maximilian Dixon (WA)
- Matt Wall (VA)

RECOGNITION OF FEDERAL PARTNERS

- Rocky Lopes, NOAA
- Jack Hayes, NIST
- Ed Laatch, FEMA

RECOGNITION OF CONSORTIUM MEMBERS

- Ed Fratto, NESEC
- Jim Wilkinson, CUSEC
- Karlene McCabe, CREW
- Patti Sutch, WSSPC

Since the NEMA Mid-Year Forum the Earthquake Subcommittee has held two calls to discuss a number of issues. In May, the membership discussed a host of topics including, an update from the National Earthquake Conference, outlining a national earthquake program, and hearing best practices from NEMA's Hurricane Subcommittee.

The first call also provided the group the opportunity to introduce the newly selected chair of the Earthquake Program Managers - Matt Wall, Hazard Mitigation Program Manager, Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Mr. Wall explained what he believed was his role as EQ Program Manager Chair – to help the state directors and subcommittee get the program on equal footing with other hazards.

The group also asked a member of NEMA's Hurricane Subcommittee to come and speak so that members of the Earthquake Subcommittee could discuss best practices. The conversation reviewed the approach that state hurricane program managers use in working with federal Hurricane partners; how

effective this has been; and highlighted the great coordination with the National Hurricane Program and other principal agencies – NOAA, NHC, USACE, etc.

The Earthquake Subcommittee also held a call in June where they discussed some lessons learned from the Cascadia Rising exercise. Subcommittee Chair, Robert Ezelle, provided an overview of the exercise explaining that a 9.0 magnitude earthquake struck the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) and the resulting tsunami was the most complex disaster scenario that emergency management and public safety officials in the Pacific Northwest could face. Ezelle highlighted that the things emergency managers do to prepare, mitigate, respond and recover, from conventional hazards and normal scale disasters are completely inadequate for a catastrophic event.

Ezelle highlighted seven major areas that he observed during the exercise: 1) The criticality of time and the necessity to get assistance flowing into the affected area almost immediately; 2) the need for detailed planning to include continuity of operations and government as well as transitioning from a pull logistics system to a push logistics system; 3) the criticality of quickly establishing key transportation routes; 4) developing a survivable communications strategy in advance of a catastrophic event; 5) establishing unified command; 6) planning recovery in advance; and 7) preparedness messaging.

On the same call, the group discussed the USGS article titled, “Induced Earthquakes Raise Chances of Damaging Shaking in 2016”. The article highlighted the new USGS maps that identified potential ground-shaking hazards from both human-induced and natural earthquakes. In the past, USGS maps only identified natural earthquake hazards.

The article stated, “The report shows that approximately 7 million people live and work in areas of the central and eastern U.S. (CEUS) with potential for damaging shaking from induced seismicity. Within a few portions of the CEUS, the chance of damage from all types of earthquakes is similar to that of natural earthquakes in high-hazard areas of California.” The group discussed the data behind the article and explained that they would like to know more about how USGS came to these conclusions.

To wrap up the June call, the Subcommittee spent some time discussing the National Earthquake Program. There were many comments on what it should look like, who would run it, and what would be the core principles. The group decided to work towards developing a document that would highlight the changes that needed to be made to NEHRP and provide that to the Response and Recovery Committee. Going forward, the Subcommittee plans to continue working on the following work plan:

- Addressing the issue of a national earthquake program on the federal level
- Reauthorization of the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program
- Outlining what a national earthquake program would look like
- Working with states that have current projects that contribute to the national discussion on earthquakes
- Sharing, educating, and monitoring new advancements in early earthquake warning

NEMA 2016 Annual Forum Radiological Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee Report

Members:

- Richard Flinn (PA)
- Mark Ghilarducci (CA)
- James Joseph (IL)
- Joe Kelly (MN)
- Mike Sprayberry (NC)
- Kim Stenson (SC)

Current Initiative: Develop recommendations for FEMA and/or the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a result of findings from Southern Exposure 15 which was a large-scale ingestion pathway exercise involving federal, state, and local authorities as well as the nuclear industry. An initial draft of the recommendations has been completed and the subcommittee will finalize and forward to the Preparedness Committee in the near term for their consideration. Findings currently under consideration include:

- Unified Coordination Group (UCG) membership and composition for a nuclear plant incident is not clearly defined.
- Policies regarding Low Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) remediation are not well defined.
- There are funding gaps related to reimbursement to individuals and government agencies during a nuclear power plant incident.
- The lack of a process to transition responsibility for coordination of federal response efforts from the NRC to FEMA resulted in an unclear and ad hoc transfer of responsibility.
- State and local governments must be involved in the development of the Plan of Distribution developed at the local level to account for the needs of the population and communities and a comprehensive Recovery Support Strategy for a nuclear power plant incident has not been developed.
- There is not a central repository of federal agency guidelines, plans, or capabilities.

Future Initiatives:

- JIS/JIC Operations during nuclear power plant response and recovery (best practices and lessons learned)
- Emergency management interface with nuclear utilities during response (ex: NIMS typing)
- Status of NUREG-0654 (Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants) update
- Review of response and recovery agricultural and scientific guidance in view of current capabilities and impacts