
Attachment 2 State Forward Operations

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. The purpose of this attachment is to provide guidance for the establishment and operation of state forward operations.

B. Scope

1. State forward operations may consist of Forward Liaison Teams; Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) Regional Staff; Area Command or Unified Area Command (AC/UAC) Teams; Logistics Base(s); State Forward Operations Base (SFOB); and/or a Joint Reception, Staging, Onward movement and Integration (JRSO&I) facilities.
2. In preparation for a known or planned event, or in response to a large-scale or catastrophic incident, IEMA will be the coordinating agency for all state and federal response capabilities. The majority of the direct support coordination will be conducted by state forward operations at either the Area Command (AC) or the Unified Area Command (UAC).

II. Assumptions

- A. Incoming resources will require easily-reached reporting sites as they may be unfamiliar with the impacted area.
- B. The state may stage or deploy resources prior to an event.
- C. For catastrophic events, the state may proactively move resources, appropriate to the event, to the state forward operating facilities.

III. Concept of Operations

- A. IEMA, in conjunction with local emergency management agencies, will pre-identify potential state forward operation sites whenever possible. Airports are ideal for State Forward Operating Base, AC/UAC, and logistics bases (also referred to as Commodity Distribution Points [CDP]). State and local fairgrounds and academic campuses are ideally suited for use as JRSO&I sites. Immediately upon a disaster occurrence, the feasibility of using pre-identified sites will be confirmed. If a location is determined to be usable and safe, IEMA and supporting agencies will set up the needed facilities.

IV. Organization and Tasks

A. Forward Operations

1. State Forward Operating Base

- a. A State Forward Operating Base (SFOB) is established when multiple Area Command/Unified Area Command operations are required. The SFOB functions as the forward coordinating site for local, state, and federal response entities, providing direct support to AC/UAC operations and could include local, state, private sector, and federal response entities.
- b. A SFOB could include an incident command area, staging area(s), commodity distribution site(s), joint information center, and reception area(s). In addition to meeting space/facility requirements established by IEMA Bureau of Operations, a SFOB should be placed in a location which is convenient to all of the AC/UAC operations it is supporting. It can be either in or proximal to the impact zone of the event.

2. Joint Reception, Staging, Onward-movement, and Integration

- a. A Joint Reception, Staging, Onward-movement & Integration site (JRSO&I) is established to properly account for resources, obtain/check credentials, receive intelligence briefing and supporting information, check equipment, and prepare for travel/integration to an ongoing incident.
- b. In addition to meeting space/facility requirements established by IEMA Bureau of Operations, a JRSO&I should be placed in a location which is convenient to the SFOB and AC/UAC operations it is supporting. It should be outside the impact zone of the event.

3. Area Command/Unified Area Command

- a. An Area Command (AC) is an application of ICS used when there are a number of incidents generally in the same area and often of the same kind. An Unified Area Command (UAC) is an application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction. Agencies work together to establish a common set of objectives and strategies.
- b. An AC/UAC is deployed to provide command, control, disaster intelligence analysis, logistical support and development of common objectives and strategies for the Incident Action Plan (IAP).
- c. In addition to meeting space/facility requirements established by IEMA Bureau of Operations, an AC/UAC should be placed in a location which is close, safe and practical to the event being managed. It will generally be in the impact zone of the event.

4. Logistics Bases (also referred to as Commodity Distribution Points [(CDP)])

- a. A main logistics base is established when it is determined necessary to support multiple areas of operation (i.e., AC/UAC). A main logistics base must be able to perform the functions of a Commodity Distribution Point (CDP) or a smaller logistics base, plus have adequate capabilities to store (both cold and climate controlled) resources for a limited timeframe.
- b. To increase distribution capacity, the state will utilize a “push-package” logistical concept. The state will “push” life essential commodities and supplies to victims of a major disaster or catastrophic event. Life essential commodities and supplies may include, but are not limited to water, heater meals/MRE’s, tarps, blankets, infant supplies, and medical supplies.
- c. Structure and requirements are based on the population of the impacted area. A standard planning factor of 20% should be used when planning for a local CDP. Base line estimates in logistic planning reflect 20% of a population in a disaster would be able to and or want to transport themselves to pick up supplies. In addition to meeting the space/facility requirements established by IEMA Bureau of Operations, a logistics base should be placed in a location which is convenient to the SFOB and AC/UAC operations it is supporting. It will generally be outside of but proximal to the impact zone of the event.

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