



California Environmental Protection Agency

**Emergency Response &
Management Committee
(ERMaC)**



2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT



Member Agencies:

Cal/EPA

**Air Resources Board (ARB)
Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)
Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)
State Water Resources Board (SWRCB)**

INTRODUCTION

The Cal/EPA Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC) coordinates preparedness for and responses to environmental emergencies in California under assigned statutory authorities. ERMaC is comprised of appointed representatives and alternates from each board, department and office (BDO) and is chaired by an appointee of the Agency Secretary. ERMaC members have fully delegated authority, within respective BDOs to activate and direct resources and personnel to affect timely and appropriate response to disasters and large-scale emergencies.

Cal/EPA is National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant for emergency preparedness and operates as a state agency with specific jurisdiction under the State Emergency Management System (SEMS), as coordinated by California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA).

ERMaC's mission is to manage public health and environmental consequences of emergency events through effective, coordinated agency-wide preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities. ERMaC is responsible for emergency planning and training, and coordinates all Cal/EPA entities in emergency response and recovery. It serves as the forum for developing and maintaining the Cal/EPA collective Administrative Orders and emergency response plans.

The 2010 Accomplishments Report is organized into sections reflecting ERMaC's three principal functional responsibilities: Incident Response & Recovery Actions, Training & Exercises, and Publications. Appendix A. provides a more detailed summary of each BDO's activity and program highlights for 2010 in tabular form. Appendix B. provides information on ERMaC's formation, history and statutory authorities. Appendix C lists and briefly describes ERMaC's non Cal/EPA collaborating emergency response partners from other State and federal agencies.

I. INCIDENT RESPONSE & RECOVERY ACTIONS

Mexicali-Calexico Earthquake - April 4, 2010

A magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck 30 miles southeast of Mexicali, Mexico on April 4, 2010, resulting in significant damage to the business districts, schools, and private residences in Calexico, Mexicali, El Centro and surrounding communities in California. The City of Calexico wastewater treatment plant suffered significant damage to clarifiers, lagoons, and a 36-inch sewer main that released up to 300,000 gallons of raw sewage per day into the New River. The City of El Centro wastewater treatment plant also suffered serious damage but remained operational.

- **DTSC** responded to a request from Imperial County to assist with assessing businesses and schools for asbestos, heavy metals and mercury contamination. DTSC's emergency response team evaluated eleven local schools and advised district officials on contractors, equipment and applicable health & safety standards for clean-up and recovery operations. DTSC staff assisted with an assessment of the De Anza Hotel assisted-living facility by collecting and analyzing solid material samples for asbestos and mercury prior to reoccupation of the hotel.
- **SWRCB** responded to water and sewage system damage in collaboration with its subsidiary, the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board. Following an on-site assessment, the State Board and Regional Board enabled the City of Calexico to obtain emergency repair funds from the State Cleanup and Abatement Account to control leaks and minimize contamination. The Boards worked closely with local system operators to complete repairs properly and expeditiously.





San Bruno Gas Pipeline Explosion – September 9, 2010

The PG&E San Bruno natural gas pipeline rupture and explosion resulted in a large, intense fire that completely destroyed 34 residences in a five-acre area. Many surrounding homes suffered varying degrees of damage. There were eight fatalities. On September 10, the acting Governor declared a state of emergency as a result of the explosion and fire, directing all State agencies to cooperate fully and act expeditiously in coordination with the Natural Resources Agency and Cal/EPA to mitigate the effects of the fire and restore the environment of the City of San Bruno. San Mateo County (lead agency) and the Unified Command for the incident requested the assistance of Cal/EPA's ERMaC and member BDOs, who formed a multi-agency coordinating task force (MAC) to respond to the incident.

- **DTSC** was the first ERMaC member on the scene to assess damage and inventory any hazardous wastes remaining on-site for removal. DTSC mobilized a contractor within three days to begin recovery operations. Ten drums of household hazardous wastes were collected and removed for disposal, including paint, pesticides, herbicides, batteries, light ballasts, and other types of waste. DTSC also provided technical staff to assist Cal Recycle with removing non hazardous debris.
- **CalRecycle** and their solid waste clean-up contractors removed burned residential debris from the 34 home sites destroyed by the explosion and fire. CalRecycle also set up and staffed the Disaster Recovery Operations Center (DROC) and managed several contracted heavy equipment crews in the clearing and hauling of burned debris. Clean-up operations began September 24, 2011 and concluded October 15, 2011. Over 8,000 tons of debris, soil and ash were cleared and hauled for disposal or recycling.
- **OEHHA** provided technical advice to the City of San Bruno and San Mateo County on public health exposure concerns during the cleanup.
- **ARB** responded to CalEMA's first formal mission task to its newly-formalized Office of Emergency Response (OER). OER prepared and executed a community air sampling, monitoring, and analysis plan for particulate matter and asbestos potentially entrained during ash and debris removal operations. Monitoring and sampling concluded upon completion of debris removal operations. Results from ambient air monitoring both at the perimeter of operations and in strategic community locations indicated no elevated health risk from particulate matter or asbestos during the debris removal operations.
- **SWRCB** collaborated with its subordinate operations unit, Bay Area Regional Water Quality Control Board, to monitor site run-off into the adjacent storm drain system and plan run-off controls in the event of precipitation.



Escondido Clandestine Bomb Factory - November 11, 2010

Local law enforcement discovered explosives and other extremely hazardous materials in a northern San Diego County home at 1954 Via Scott, Escondido. San Diego County law enforcement and public safety officials conducted a controlled burn of this clandestine bomb factory located in a residential area of Escondido. The County Department of Environmental Health and the San Diego Air Pollution Control District requested State-level environmental support for the controlled burn operation, particularly for purposes of air contaminant monitoring. ERMaC formed a multi-agency coordinating committee (MAC) to support solid waste, soil and water mitigation planning as well.

- **OEHHA** provided technical assistance on identification of health effects of hexamethylene triperoxide diamine (HMTD) combustion and products of combustion or incomplete combustion. OEHHA received an inventory of other identified chemicals on-site and reviewed the “human effects plots” provided by the California National Guard’s Civil Support Team. OEHHA reviewed available Reference Exposure Levels, Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGs) and occupational exposure limits for sulfuric acid and nitric acid, and provided recommendations for protection of public health to the incident Unified Command.
- **ARB** collaborated with San Diego County’s Air Pollution Control District and Department of Environmental Health to provide air sampling and monitoring for PM, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and toxic air contaminants in the communities downwind of the burn site. The three-agency team established a total of 29 air monitoring sites, six of which were exclusively ARB sites. ARB co-located sampling and monitoring equipment with the County at 9 additional locations. ARB deployed four portable continuous PM_{2.5} air monitors at locations near the subject property. These monitors operated throughout the entire incident and collected real-time levels of inhalable particulates present in ambient air. Three additional continuous PM_{2.5} analyzers operated for two hours before and for several hours after the burn. ARB monitored for VOC and toxic air contaminants using two portable infra-red gas analyzers and also provided San Diego County with five ambient air grab samplers that were later analyzed by GC/MS. None of the sampling and analysis by the air monitoring team detected significant levels of toxic compounds above background levels.
- **DTSC**'s Emergency Response Program was requested by San Diego County Environmental Health to assist with removing debris generated as a result of a controlled burn of a home in Escondido suspected of containing miscellaneous quantities of explosive material. DTSC prepared a Debris Removal Workplan and coordinated closely with the San Diego County Regional Water Quality Control Board and San Diego County to ensure all their regulatory requirements were addressed. Removal activities were initiated on Sunday, December 12th and were completed on Wednesday, December 15th. Additionally, DTSC removed discolored soil around the perimeter of the foundation to ensure there was no residual contamination. Confirmation soil samples were collected by DTSC and analyzed to ensure that all contaminants were removed and the property safe for re-occupancy. Based on the results of the soil data, DTSC's recommendation to San Diego County was that the property was safe for residential usage.

II. TRAINING & EXERCISES

Golden Guardian 2010

All ERMaC members participated in the annual State-wide CalEMA exercise in May 2010. Cal/EPA collectively established a mock emergency operation center (EOC) at DTSC, staffed the State Operations Center (SOC) at CalEMA headquarters, and deployed to the Port of Oakland for a two-day simulated chemical terror attack.

Cal/EPA 2010 Emergency Response Training Plan

Under general direction, DPR established tiered training requirements and course curricula for ERMaC representatives, support staff, managers, and Cal/EPA employees. Both FEMA and the federal Department of Homeland Security require development and execution of such plans, in addition to State statutory requirements. The Plan included a new tracking system for all emergency-related classes and a 2010 Training Calendar.

2010 Training Courses Presented:

- 101: “Be Prepared” SEMS/NIMS/ICS overview for management.
- 102: “Emergency Preparedness for Managers” SEMS/NIMS/ICS overview for managers.
- 103: “Cal/EPA in Emergency Response” Learn what BDOs do, so you can wear an Agency hat.
- 104: “Cal/EPA EOC Training” What an emergency operations center does and how it runs.
- RIMS (response information management system) training for situation reporting, command communications and data sharing

CARPA Training Summit

The California Air Response Planning Alliance (CARPA) Training Summit was the first interagency emergency response planning and preparedness training event offered under the new Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10). While focused on response readiness training for major airborne toxic releases, the training also provided multiple hands-on sessions with application across all hazard scenarios.

Over 220 participants, speakers, and vendors from federal, state, local, and tribal agencies attended the December 2010 event. Major underwriting was provided by CalEMA in support of the EF-10 Annex to the State Emergency Plan.

III. PUBLICATIONS

California Hazardous Material and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10) Annex to the State Emergency Plan (SEP)

In May 2010, the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) was tasked by the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) to be the lead state agency for development of the Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function Annex to the State of California Emergency Plan (SEP). The Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function Annex (EF-10) provides for a coordinated response from state agencies and government entities with jurisdictional and regulatory authority to conduct all phases of emergency management for the response and recovery from a release of hazardous materials or oil.

ERMaC's leadership established a working group to develop the EF-10 Plan. Over 30 state organizations were identified as vital primary and supporting agencies with responsibilities under this emergency function. The working group was comprised of principal ERMaC members, and representatives from the primary state agencies with jurisdictional authority for response and recovery to oil and hazardous material incidents. The Work Group met on a monthly basis to develop the plan.

ERMaC Work Plan

ERMaC develops an annual Work Plan for prioritizing efforts to meet standing goals as outlined in its Charter. The Work Plan is not intended to be a comprehensive list of ERMaC activities, but rather those priorities for the calendar year that are most necessary to make significant progress towards each of the Standing Goals. The Work Plan serves as a roadmap for coordinated efforts to further develop emergency preparedness within Cal/EPA BDOs and with our supporting and collaborating agencies (see Appendix C.)

Standing Goals

- ❖ Serve as an internal forum for Agency-wide emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities.
 - Develop an EOC activation protocol and checklist.
 - Develop the process for compiling an annual ERMaC Accomplishments Report.
 - Publish the first ERMaC Accomplishments Report.
- ❖ Serve as points of contact and agency representatives for various state, federal, local, and tribal emergency response projects and interagency forums.
 - Acting as the CalEMA-designated State Lead Agency complete and maintain an Emergency Function for Hazardous Materials.
- ❖ Coordinate and conduct CalEPA emergency response training, including compliance with NIMS and other established standards.
 - Conduct the initial training for each of these specialized classes during the calendar year: All Staff, Management, and CalEPA in Emergency Response.
 - Implement an Emergency Response Training tracking system and have several ERMaC staff achieve CalEMA certification
 - Clarify RIMS assigned IDs and Passwords, and recertify several ERMaC staff in RIMS use.

- ❖ Coordinate operational readiness to affect timely and appropriate response to disasters and large-scale emergencies, including maintenance of an Agency Emergency Operations Center and appropriate testing for emergency response capabilities.
 - Finalize plans for the reengineering of the Cal/EPA EOC.
 - Successfully participate in the Golden Guardian 10 exercise.

APPENDIX A.

ERMaC Emergency Response Program Highlights

Date		Location	Name	Short Description
January	CalRecycle	Humboldt	Humboldt Earthquake	Assisted Humboldt County with Humboldt Earthquake and provided technical assistance/outreach for CDAA debris management funding information
February	DTSC, CalRecycle	La Canada-Flintridge	La Canada-Flintridge Flood Response	DTSC assessed and removed household hazardous waste from homes impacted by floods and mudslides. CalRecycle provided technical assistance to LEA for debris management issues on mudslides.
February 5	CalRecycle	LA County	Mudslides	Assisted LA County and Cal EMA with mudslides and CA Disaster Assistance Act funding information
February - December	CalRecycle	Southern California	So. CA Catastrophic Earthquake Plan	Participated in the Southern CA Earthquake Catastrophic Plan (Debris Management Annex)
March	DTSC	Big Tujunga Canyon	Station Fire	Removed asbestos from homes destroyed by the Station Fire.
March	ARB	Sacramento	OER	Formal activation of Office of Emergency Response (OER). ER function formally staffed and activated.
March - Sept	All BDOs	Sacramento	EF-10 plan	Developed Concept of Operations (CONOP) and Resource Reference Matrix and participated in EF-10 plan development
April	OEHHA	Sacramento & Oakland	ER Team	Formation of Emergency Response Team w/ representatives from all OEHHA branches.
April	DTSC, SWRCB, CalRecycle	Imperial County	Baja California Earthquake	DTSC assisted with asbestos and mercury contamination as a result of the earthquake including schools and the DeAnza Hotel as well as assessment of other impacted structures. CalRecycle assisted Imperial County and Cal EMA with debris management. SWRCB and the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board responded to the damage to the sewage infrastructure in the Imperial Valley and Mexicali and assisted with funds for repairs to the City of Calexico WWTP.
April	DTSC	Pasadena	Mercury Cleanup	Removed mercury from street gutter in a residential neighborhood.
May 17-19	All BDOs	Sacramento	Golden Guardian	SWRB: San Francisco Bay and Central Valley Regional Water Boards participated in the Golden Guardian Exercise with real time deployment, situational awareness, and communications testing. CalRecycle: Bay Area Transit Incident, representation at Cal/EPA EOC and After Action Report for debris management OEHHA: participated in Golden Guardian Exercise as SOC representative, RIMs management, and toxicological support

May	OEHHA	Louisiana	DeepWater Horizon	OEHHA representative went to Huoma, LA as Seafood Technical Specialist to advise on fish and shellfish safety
May	DTSC	Ripon	Flying "J" Truck Stop	Assessed and removed over 200 55-gallon drums abandoned at a truck stop.
May 27	CalRecycle SWRCB	Bay Area	UASI Debris Plan	Participated in the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Bay Area Debris Management Plan
May	OEHHA	Sacramento	Dubai Oil Spill Report	Published "Report on the Safety of Consuming Fish and Shellfish from Areas Impacted by the T/V Dubai Star Oil Spill in San Francisco Bay, California"
May	ARB	McClellan Emergency Training Center	Mobile Command Vehicle Rally	Emergency response vehicle and mobile technology exposition
June 1	CalRecycle	California	Contractor List	Worked with Cal EMA, DTSC, and DGS to develop a statewide debris management contractor list for use by local governments
June	ARB	Sacramento	E-BAM training	Conducted 1-day training for air districts technicians and other agencies with E-BAM portable PM monitors
July	ARB	Kern County	Bull and West Wildfires	Supported Kern County Public Health and Eastern Kern APCD with wildfire response support; Coordinated smoke impact assessments with USFS and NPS
July	DTSC	Mariposa	Mercury Cleanup	Removed mercury and mercury contaminated soil from a public park in Mariposa.
August	ARB	Los Angeles County	Crown / Briggs Fire	Provided outreach support to South Coast AQMD for smoke issues
Sept.	All BDOs (MAC formed)	San Bruno	San Bruno Gas Pipeline Explosion	ARB performed community air monitoring for debris removal operation. DTSC assisted San Mateo County with removing HHW from destroyed homes and assisted CalRecycle with debris removal of 35 impacted residences. OEHHA provided toxicological support to the MAC.
Sept	ARB	Boulder County (Colorado)	Four mile Canyon Fire	Provided school and public event closure guidance, and ash and re-entry public health statements for Boulder County Environmental Health
Sept	OEHHA	Petaluma	Tugboat Salvage Oil Spill	OEHHA recommended that a finfish fishing closure be initiated. An OEHHA representative assisted with posting of no fishing signs at public access points and evaluated oiling in the closure area.
October	OEHHA	Washington D.C.	Chemical Warfare Agent Project and Conference	Toxicological support, draft development of clearance values, and conference planning and participation for preparedness related to chemical warfare agents.
October	DTSC	Santa Fe Springs	Storage facility	Assessed and removed illegally stored hazardous waste from a storage facility.
October	DPR	Sacramento	ERMaC Secretary	Details the various duties of that position and providing numerous templates for the many work

			Desk Manual	products, including agendas, meeting notes, situation reports, and work plans.
October	DPR	Sacramento	CalEPA RIMS Accounts	Reorganization and reauthorization of RIMS accounts
October	DPR	Sacramento	ERMaC Training Plan	Establishment of tiered requirements for ERMaC representatives, support staff, managers, and Cal/EPA employees
October	DPR	Sacramento	Curriculum development	Developed ERMaC Courses #101, 102, 103, and 104
October	DPR	Sacramento	Courses Offered	Offered ERMaC Courses #101, 102, and 104
October	DPR	Sacramento	Training Calendar	Published a 2010 Training Calendar
October	DPR	Sacramento	Training tracking	Developed and maintained a training tracking system for emergency-related classes
October	DPR, SWRCB	Sacramento	Agriculture EF-11	DPR submitted oral and written comments on the Agriculture Emergency Function EF-11 Annex to the State Emergency Plan. SWRCB participated in the CDFA team working on issues related to animal carcass disposal.
Oct 25	CalRecycle	Roseville	Galleria Fire	Provided guidance to Placer County on debris management of burned debris
November	ARB	Sacramento	COOP functional tasking	OER takes over functional responsibility for ARB COOP/COG
November	ARB	Lake County	Bottle Rock Geothermal Plant	Assist with fugitive emissions monitoring
November	OEHHA	Long Beach	Harbor Bunker Fuel Spill	OEHHA recommended to CDFG that a finfish and shellfish fishing closure be implemented in the area impacted by the spill
December	DTSC	Oakland	Mercury Cleanup	Assessed and removed mercury from a yard and several apartment units in Oakland.
December	All BDOs (MAC formed)	Escondido	Controlled Burn of Explosives	DTSC Removed debris from the bomb house destroyed as part of a controlled burn. Also sampled the soils to ensure there was no residual contamination. ARB performed community air monitoring for possible public exposure. OEHHA provided toxicological support to Unified Command on chemicals identified in the home.
December	ARB, OEHHA	Sacramento	CARPA Summit	Assisted in planning and execution of CARPA Conference.

APPENDIX B.

ERMaC HISTORY & AUTHORITIES

History

In its relatively brief history Cal/EPA has risen to the challenge of major environmental emergency events. The beginnings of its interdisciplinary approach to emergency response can be traced back to the year of the Agency's formation in 1991. That year, the Cantara Loop, five miles north of Dunsmuir was the site of a tragic train derailment and toxic chemical spill into the upper Sacramento River. The public outcry for improved response from emergency responders to such incidents gave rise to the Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment (RAPID) program. ERMaC owes its origin to RAPID. Though the RAPID program was eventually disbanded, ERMaC has evolved in its place as the interdisciplinary forum of choice for coordinating Cal/EPA's emergency response and recovery efforts.

In 1998, Gerald G. Johnston, Cal/EPA's then-Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Counsel, called for Agency BDOs to designate representatives to the Cal/EPA Emergency Response Multi-Agency Coordinating (ERMAC) Group. His memorandum provided the initial mission statement and objectives for ERMAC. Subsequent to Governor Davis's issuance of Executive Order D-3-99, the ERMAC focused on preparation for the Y2K calendar change.

With the Westley Tire Fire disaster in 1999, Undersecretary Brian Haddix refocused the working group on traditional disaster response scenarios. This iteration of ERMAC was known as the Emergency Response Management Advisory Committee. Later, under the leadership of current Assistant Secretary Don Johnson, ERMAC focused on developing administrative orders and emergency plans for the BDOs with the assistance of CalEMA. After several years of effective service and realizing a role that was far more than advisory, ERMAC was renamed as the Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC). It adopted its first operating charter in 2004.

Statutory & Administrative Authorities

The California Emergency Services Act of 2006 (CESA) enacted a major update and consolidation of the State's pre-existing emergency preparedness and response laws and executive orders. It required that all State agencies carry out activities assigned by the Governor and CalEMA (formerly the Office of Emergency Services). State agencies must cooperate with one another, CalEMA and other political subdivisions to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of regional and statewide emergencies, as declared by the Governor. The statutory duties of ERMaC members under CESA are aligned with their routine functional responsibilities for environmental protection.

The primary tools for defining CESA responsibilities BDO-specific Administrative Orders. Administrative Orders refer to documents approved by Cal/EPA and CalEMA describing the roles, responsibilities, and authorities of the respective agencies during State emergencies. Administrative Orders, prepared under the authority of the Governor's Executive Order W-9-91 and subsequent law, expand upon and consolidate emergency assignments of State agencies. Cal/EPA and its BDOs first developed collective Administrative Orders in 2002.

Each agency and BDO also develops an Emergency Response Plan that must be consistent with the provisions of the applicable Administrative Orders and the statutory authorities of the individual agency. CalEMA also reviews and approves these plans, in accordance with California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Response Framework, to accomplish assigned emergency management tasks. Agency plans may delegate authority and assign responsibilities to divisions, bureaus, field offices, or other elements of the agency. State agencies must ensure that all personnel assigned specific responsibilities in support of this plan are adequately trained and prepared to assume those responsibilities.

Cal/EPA and the BDOs chartered ERMaC in 2004 as the forum for developing and maintaining the Cal/EPA collective Administrative Orders and Emergency Response Plans. ERMaC's mission is to effectively manage the public health and environmental consequences of emergency events through coordinated, agency-wide preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities. ERMaC is responsible for emergency planning and training, and coordinates all Cal/EPA entities responding to and recovering from emergencies.

ERMaC's 2011 Work Plan includes reviewing and recommending updates to the Administrative Orders and Emergency Response plans, consistent with CalEMA's ongoing update of the State Emergency Plan.

APPENDIX C.

ERMaC Supporting and Collaborating Agencies

California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA)

CalEMA promotes collaboration between Cal/EPA and other State agencies by offering insight to State-wide emergency response and emergency management perspectives in relation to planning, operations, training, reporting and financial assistance.

California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA)

CDFA emergency preparedness and response functions address health-related incidents potentially effecting the state's food supply and commercial agricultural interests, including incidents effecting dairy, livestock, poultry, feed and crop production. Agricultural emergencies involve disposal of livestock carcasses and food during natural disasters, livestock specific disasters, and other incidents involving disease or contamination. CDFA monitors these incidents, provides updated information to the involved agencies, and coordinates activities as necessary.

Department of Fish & Game (DFG) – Office of Oil Spill Prevention & Recovery (OSPR)

Protecting fisheries and wildlife habitats, DFG wardens act as incident commanders and investigators on numerous oil spills and hazardous material incidents throughout California. Major response actions in 2010 included the 'Dubai Star' oil spill in San Francisco Bay and investigation of the PXP crude oil discharge into the Rio Hondo Channel in Los Angeles County.

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Members of the CDPH Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control (DEODC) Emergency Planning and Preparedness Team (EPP Team) serve as a liaison between Cal/EPA and CDPH by providing insight into public health perspectives in relationship to hazardous materials incidents.

Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle)

Previously a department of Cal/EPA, CalRecycle is now a supporting and collaborating agency to ERMaC with technical and operational expertise on solid waste and non hazardous debris removal issues.

U.S. EPA Region IX

EPA Region 9's Emergency Response Program - with federal on scene coordinators (OSCs) based in San Francisco, Signal Hill and Carson City, NV - responds to environmental disasters, hazardous materials releases, time-critical removals, and inland oil spills that threaten human health or the environment. OSCs bring considerable federal authority and resources, as authorized under their governing statues (CERCLA, OPA, and CWA), to assist state and local agencies in emergency response, removal, and recovery incidents.