

Session 9: UPDATE: Changes and Innovations in REP Exercises

J. Kish (FEMA), M. Leach (NRC), J. Anderson (NRC) (joseph.anderson@nrc.gov; Phone: 301-415-4114), H. Sherwood (FEMA), W. McNally (FEMA), J. Singleton (FEMA)

Abstract:

Since the 2008 NREP Conference, FEMA and the NRC have jointly engaged State and local response organizations, nuclear power plant licensees, and various support groups in the conduct of 20 focus groups held in 9 of the 10 FEMA Regions. The purpose of these focus groups was to engage stakeholders in dialogue on draft preliminary language being proposed to enhance scenarios to provide more challenging options and help avoid anticipatory responses by exercise participants due to pre-conditioning. Input from stakeholders was used to inform both FEMA and the NRC on draft EP rulemaking and guidance. The Update is intended to inform REP professionals on the proposed revision to the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (REPP) Manual, which incorporates proposed enhancements to scenario options and evaluation criteria and integrates with the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) process. Proposed changes include varying the escalation in event classification, radiological release options, and initiating events to include hostile action-based scenarios. Proposed requirements for transition and implementation of new exercise scenario and demonstration requirements will be discussed. Further, discussion will focus on efforts to integrate REPP and HSEEP to provide a unified national strategy for exercise design, conduct and evaluation in compliance with elements of HSPD-5, HSPD-8, and the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Recovery Act (PKEMRA). The discussion will include not only the proposed benefits of REPP/HSEEP integration, but also the unique requirements of the REPP. Discussions will also include a REPP/HSEEP crosswalk on key areas of program management, planning, conduct, after-action reporting, and improvement plans.

Biographical Sketch of James R. Kish:

James R. Kish "Jim" is a native of Palmdale, California. He attended the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. Jim was assigned as the Director, Technological Hazards Division (THD) at the Federal Emergency Management Agency in April 2008. Concurrently with his THD position, and until it was filled in July 2008, Jim continued to serve as the Acting Assistant Administrator for the National Integration Center, where he managed efforts to develop and implement various homeland security preparedness programs. Now as the Director, Technological Hazards Division, he is responsible for overseeing preparedness activities related to radiological and chemical hazards in coordination with Federal, State, local, tribal and key private sector partners inside the United States. Prior to his current position, Jim also served at the Office for Homeland Security, Executive Office of the President as the Director of Training and Exercises. Highlights from his military career include serving as the Chief of Civil Support for the National Guard Bureau; Director of Operations for the Army National Guard; and in a variety of staff and leadership positions in both State and Federal status as an Active Guard Reserve (AGR) full time member during a 25 year career in the Army National Guard, retiring from military service as a Colonel, Special Forces branch in 2004.

Biographical Sketch of Melvyn N. Leach

Mel Leach is the Director of the Division of Preparedness and Response in the Office Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR). Mr. Leach joined the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 1990 as an Operator Licensing Examiner in Region III. He held a variety of progressively more responsible positions in Region III including: Senior Resident Inspector, Senior Reactor Analyst and branch chief positions in the Divisions of Reactor Safety and Reactor Projects. Mr. Leach has subsequently progressed through the NRC Senior Executive Service ranks holding the positions in the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards as Chief, Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch; Chief of the Special Projects Branch; and Director, Program Management, Policy Development and Analysis Staff, NMSS. Prior to being appointed to his current position, Mr. Leach also serves as Deputy Director for Incident Response. Prior to joining the NRC, Mr. Leach was an Engineer Officer in the

Royal Navy's nuclear submarine program and held a Senior Reactor Operator License for a U.S. commercial power plant.

Biographical Sketch of Joseph D. Anderson:

Joseph D. Anderson is the Chief, Security Interface and Outreach Branch for the NRC in the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, Division of Preparedness and Response. Mr. Anderson has over 25 years of extensive experience in nuclear power, primarily encompassing the area of emergency preparedness (EP). Currently, as the Chief, Security Interface and Outreach Branch, he is responsible for EP aspects associated with force-on-force exercises and the implementation of EP enhancements in response to NRC Bulletin 2005-02, and coordination of NSIR/DPR outreach activities. As such, Mr. Anderson is directly involved with efforts to consolidate hostile action-based scenarios under the routine EP drill and exercise process and in identifying methods to enhance communication with various stakeholder groups. In addition to over 5 years experience with the NRC, he has served in the commercial nuclear power industry as the Mid-Atlantic Regional EP Programs Coordinator for Exelon Nuclear, the EP Manager at the Quad Cities Station, and Site EP Coordinator at the Perry Plant.

Biographical Sketch of William McNally

William McNally is a Policy and Integration Specialist at FEMA for the Technological Hazards Division, National Protection Directorate. Mr. McNally joined the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in May 2006 as Director, Exercise Division, and was responsible for oversight management of the Department's National Exercise Program. In his current position, he provides policy and integration to the Technical Hazards Division. Prior to joining DHS, Mr. McNally spent three years as program manager responsible for providing contract support to DHS in the planning, designing, and conduct of the TOPOFF 2 and TOPOFF 3 series of national exercises. Mr. McNally is a retired U.S. Navy SEAL Captain with more than twenty-six years of service in Naval Special Warfare. Upon retirement from active service, Mr. McNally joined the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) as program manager for a Department of Energy National Security Program, providing oversight management of a training and readiness program supporting the Department's emergency response efforts in the field of weapon of mass destruction counter-terrorism/counter-proliferation crisis and consequence management.

Biographical Sketch of Harry Sherwood

Harry Sherwood is the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Section Chief and Chair of the Regional Assistance Committee for the National Preparedness Division in FEMA Region IX. Mr. Sherwood joined FEMA as a Disaster Assistance Employee (Reservist) in September 1979. Originally engaged in the Temporary Housing Program, he worked in Individual and Family Grants, Program Support, Hazard Mitigation, Public Information and Public Assistance. He became a permanent employee and served as Infrastructure Branch Chief from June of 1997 until assuming his current position in September 2007. Prior to joining FEMA, Mr. Sherwood was a journalist and broadcast engineer. He attended the United States Naval Academy.

Biographical Sketch of Jacques Singleton

Mr. Singleton is an Emergency Management Specialist in FEMA's Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Branch. In this capacity, he serves as the FEMA/REP Headquarters lead for the Exercise Scenario/Hostile Action Based (HAB) Task Force, which was chartered to update the REP Program Manual requirements by developing enhancements to REP exercise scenarios to minimize anticipatory responses associated with preconditioning of participants. Mr. Singleton also serves as a member of the REP/Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Integration team, which is tasked to bring the REP Program into compliance with Presidential directives to further nationwide standardization of exercise design, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. Mr. Singleton has also served in FEMA as the Executive Officer to the Individual Assistance-Technical Assistance Contracts (IA-TAC) Program Management Office, an Inspector in the Disaster Housing

Project, a Trainer/Facilitator, and as Housing Officer and Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Manager in many Presidential declared disasters including, 9-11, Hurricane Floyd, Allyson, and Isabelle.