Joint Information System (JIS) vs. Joint Information Center (JIC)

National Radiological Emergency Preparedness (NREP) Conference

April 4, 2019
History Lesson

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 Post-1980s – Machines modulate the transmitted audio frequencies using a digital representation of the page.
History Lesson
Don’t let communication be the first casualty.
Have We Progressed?

- **NUREG-0654 FEMA-REP-1** Revision 1, dated November 1980 Section II.G.3.
  
  a. Each principal organization shall designate the **points of contact** and **physical locations** for use by news media during an emergency.
  
  b. Each **licensee shall provide space** which may be used for a limited number of the news media at the **nearsite Emergency Operations Facility**.
Regulations

10 CFR 50.47(b)

(7) Information is made available to the public on a periodic basis on how they will be notified and what their initial actions should be in an emergency (e.g., listening to a local broadcast station and remaining indoors), the principal points of contact with the news media for dissemination of information during an emergency (including the physical location or locations) are established in advance, and procedures for coordinated dissemination of information to the public are established.
Regulations

Appendix E of 10 CFR 50
Section IV.D. Notification Procedures

1. Administrative and physical means for notifying local, State, and Federal officials and agencies and agreements reached with these officials and agencies for the prompt notification of the public and for public evacuation or other protective measures, should they become necessary, shall be described. This description shall include identification of the appropriate officials, by title and agency, of the State and local government agencies within the EPZs.
FEMA

“RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM MANUAL”

- Guidance (an approved approach) to meet the Planning Standards.
  - Planning Standard E, “Notification Methods and Procedures”
  - Planning Standard G, “Public Education and Information”.

- Joint Information Center (JIC) concept approved approach and only mentions in definition the “Joint Information System (JIS)”. 
BUT…


- Offsite Response Organizations (OROs) use Incident Command Systems (ICS) when responding to all-hazards emergencies

  - Joint Information System (JIS) is part of ICS.
  - ORO’s REP and licensee’s public information plans may not align with the ORO’s “all-hazards” public information process.
JIC vs. JIS

The **Joint Information Center (JIC)** is a physical location used to coordinate:

- Critical emergency information.
- Crisis communications.
- Public affairs functions.
JIC vs. JIS

The **Joint Information System (JIS)** provides a structure and system for:

- Developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages.
- Developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the Incident Commander.
- Advising the Incident Commander concerning public affairs issues.
- Controlling rumors and inaccurate information.
JIC vs. JIS

The Joint Information System (JIS) provides a structure and system for (cont.):

- Operating effectively and efficiently during ALL HAZARDS
JIC vs. JIS

The JIC isn’t the same as the JIS and doesn’t replace the JIS.

The JIS is a **way** of operating; the JIC is one location **where** the operation takes place.
Why the JIS?

- Leverage current and future communication technology to maximize efficiently for communicating to the public:
  - Timeliness.
  - Broader distribution to all demographics.

- Reduce staffing needed by the OROs and Licensees.

- Align with ICS JIS.

- Adapt to any initiating event.
Don’t let communication be the first casualty.
How We Communicate Through the Different Facilities Activated

- Bridge lines
- SharePoint
- WebEOC
- Skype
- Text Messages
- Phone
- Email
Can I Afford to Change?

How can I NOT afford to change?
- Are you providing protective actions with the latest technology?
  - Are you providing timely and accurate information in today's standards?
  - Are you effectively and efficiently during all hazards?
- Are you addressing the “fake news”?
- Are you monitoring social media for rumors?
- Can your agency or company recover from a “communication causality”? etc.
Why not advance to the JIS?

- **NRC requires plants to use the JIC process**
  - False – Regulation requires a physical location (JIC) but does not preclude use of a JIS

- **FEMA requires the JIC process**
  - False – FEMA guidance allows for alternate methods. JIS process has been accepted as an alternate method

Make it work for your unique situation
Where Can I Get Help?

- FEMA
  - NIMS Public Information (IS-702.A)
  - Basic Guidance for Public Information Officers (PIOs) (FEMA 51)
    - Chapter 4, “Joint Information System (JIS) and Joint Information Center (JIC)”
Where Can I Get Help?

- NEI
  - NEI 14-11, “Implementing and Operating a Joint Information System” revision 0
  - NEI JIS Task Force
Where Can I Get Help?

- Argonne National Laboratory National Public Affairs Academy / Public Affairs Science and Technology (PAST) Fusion Cell
  - Joint Information System & Joint Information Center Operations and Strategy (RC201)
  - Building and Maintaining a Resilient Joint Information System (RC203)
  - The Social JIS/JIC (SMDC304)
- Plus more…
Questions

John Egdorf
Senior Project Manager
Nuclear Energy Institute
P 202-739-8021 E jre@nei.org