



SECURE & PREPARED

February 5, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>FFY '08 Guidance Released</i>	2
<i>Disaster Deadline Passes</i>	2
<i>Track Cleanup Hours</i>	3
<i>HMGP Funding</i>	3
<i>Exercise Design Course</i>	3
<i>Lt. Gov. Named to Council</i>	4
<i>Planning Cycle in Year 5</i>	4
<i>REP Exercises</i>	5
<i>Analog Service Expires</i>	5
<i>HSEMD Spotlight</i>	6
<i>Personnel Notes</i>	6

Special points of interest:

- FFY '08 Grant Guidance Released. See page 2.
- FEMA's Public Assistance Pilot Program allows FEMA to reimburse base wages for permanent state or local government employees involved in or administering eligible debris removal. See article on page 3.
- We are now in the fifth and final year of the planning review cycle. See page 4 for more details.

DHS Releases National Response Framework

The U. S. Department of Homeland Security recently released the National Response Framework (NRF), successor to the National Response Plan, which becomes effective on March 22, 2008. The NRF focuses on response and short-term recovery and articulates the doctrine, principles and architecture by which our nation prepares for and responds to all-hazard disasters across all levels of government and all sectors of communities.

The NRF is responsive to repeated federal, state, local and private sector requests for a streamlined document that is less bureaucratic and more user-friendly. The NRF also focuses on preparedness and encourages a higher level of readiness across all jurisdictions.

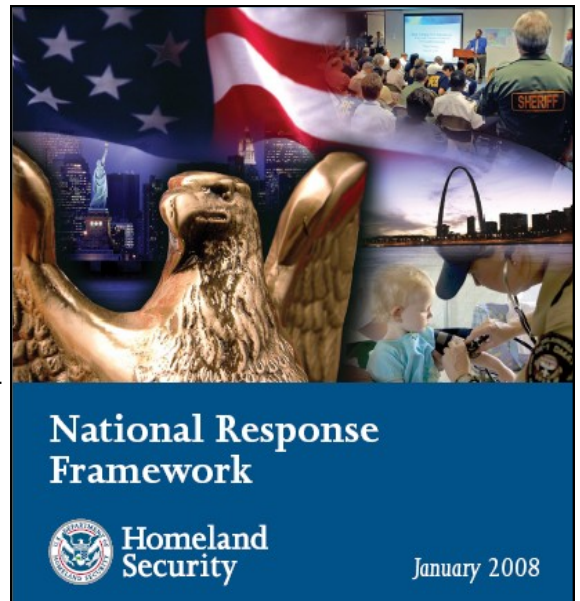
The NRF is designed to:

- be scalable, flexible and adaptable;
- always in effect; and
- articulates clear roles/responsibilities among local, state, and federal officials.

"Operationally, the changes align federal responsibilities to the original Federal Response Plan used several years ago," said Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Readiness and Response Bureau Chief Jerry Ostendorf. "Each time the Federal Response Plan was activated, federal agencies successfully responded to the state's needs because the plan clearly identifies the Command and Control Structure. This is the most important part of the plan because it prevents or minimizes federal agencies from self deploying outside of the local incident command structure."

Upon finalization and publication of the NRF base document and the annexes, a large focus will be to initiate an intensive nationwide training and exercise program to embed the NRF into the nation's preparedness and response cycle. Implementation of the NRF training and exercise strategy will include awareness training, position-specific training, exercises (tabletop and functional), and sustainment training.

For more information visit: www.fema.gov/NRF.



FFY 08 HSGP Guidance Released

On February 1, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the release of application guidance for 14 federal grant programs including the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) totaling \$1.69 billion, the Infrastructure Protection Program (IPP) totaling \$852.4 million, and the Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) totaling \$291.4 million.



DHS uses the application guidance to set strategic priorities. This year's priorities include measuring progress against the National Preparedness Guidelines, strengthening preparedness planning, and strengthening Improvised Explosive Device prevention, protection and recovery.

The deadline for submitting investment justifications for FY08 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding is February 14.

HSEMD staff is currently analyzing the guidance and program allocation breakdown information for Iowa as it is received. Look for more information in our next newsletter. For grant guidance on several programs, visit http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/CoEM_FR/grant/index.asp.

Federal Disaster Deadline Passes

Local officials and certain private nonprofit entities that provide essential government services had until February 3 to apply for federal public assistance (PA) disaster grants. The grants will be used to help communities in 30 counties pay for debris removal, emergency services and other eligible work necessitated by the December 10-11, 2007, severe winter/ice storm.

Following the storm, Iowa received a Presidential Disaster Declaration on January 4, 2008. The declaration provides for PA program funding for the following 30 counties: Adair, Adams, Appanoose, Cedar, Clarke, Clinton, Davis, Decatur, Fremont, Iowa, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Linn, Lucas, Madison, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Page, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, Van Buren, Wapello, Warren, Washington, and Wayne.

As of January 31, 248 state agencies, local governments and private nonprofits had submitted Requests for Public Assistance. Preliminary damage estimates for eligible PA costs were set at \$16.5 million. A better damage estimate will be made in the next few weeks as projects and damages are more fully identified.

Track Employee Debris Cleanup Hours

A new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Pilot Program allows FEMA to reimburse base wages for permanent employees of a state or local government involved in or administering eligible debris removal. Previously, only overtime costs of these personnel were eligible.

This means state, county and municipal employees can perform debris cleanup associated with the December 10-11, 2007, storm during normal working hours. Local governments – applicants – can claim those hours on a project worksheet.

To do this, the applicant signs a statement of participation in the pilot program. Language then is written into the project worksheet affirming it. Information about the applicant's base wages is included for this category of work and is part of the official project worksheet file. The applicant should record the activities that government employees are involved in (e.g. debris clearance, monitoring, etc.) and the volume of debris cleared by government employees.

Under the cost-share program for the presidential disaster declared January 4, FEMA will pay 75 percent of eligible costs. The state of Iowa will reimburse 10 percent, leaving local applicants responsible for 15 percent.

The Public Assistance Pilot Program is authorized by the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007. The pilot program will run through December 31, 2008.

Funding Available Under HMGP

The State of Iowa will receive funding through the FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) as part of the Presidential Disaster Declaration for the December 10, 2007, ice storm. This is the fourth Presidential Disaster Declaration for Iowa in the past ten months that will provide funding under the HMGP.

Between the four HMGP grants, there is an estimated \$20 million of federal funds available to implement mitigation measures. The majority of these funds are still available. The State is limited in the amount of funding it is authorized under the HMGP for planning grants and for projects funded under the five percent initiative (i.e. backup power generators and warning systems). The majority of funds available under planning and five percent initiative projects have been obligated, with many applications still pending review or waiting for additional funding. The State will NOT consider new planning applications under this disaster grant. The State will consider backup power generation for critical facilities under the five percent initiative.

For more information, on starting the application process, visit http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/CoEM_FR/grant/HMGP.asp.

Exercise Design Course Coming in March

HSEMD is offering an exercise design course March 19-20. The last time this course was offered was in September of 2005. This course is limited to 30 participants, so register early if interested!

This course provides participants an opportunity to review their homeland security strategy and multi-year exercise plan. The exercise planning course facilitates the evaluation of, and updates to, existing exercise strategies. To register for this and other courses, visit our training site at <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/>.

Lt. Governor Named FEMA Regional Council Co-Chair

Lt. Governor Patty Judge was recently named co-chair of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Region 7 Advisory Council.

"As Iowa's Lt. Governor and Homeland Security Advisor, my top priority is protecting the safety of Iowans," said Lt. Governor Judge. "It is an honor to be named co-chair of this important council, and I will use this position to address some of the unique challenges we face in our region. Chief among those is ensuring all-hazards preparedness and regional collaboration in times of disaster, as well as issues related to agro-terrorism and federal funding for homeland security and emergency management programs. But more importantly, I look forward to working with my colleagues from around the region to ensure that our state and our nation is as secure as possible."

Lt. Governor Judge will join Nebraska Lt. Governor Bill Sheehy as co-chair, and will serve a one-year term. Her duties will include presiding over the quarterly meetings of the 19 member Advisory Council, and promoting greater cooperation between member states and the federal government.

FEMA Region 7 is composed of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, and is designed to improve both state and federal preparedness and emergency response.

Planning Cycle Enters Final Year

In 2003, the initial benchmark for the five-year planning cycle was outlined in the Iowa Administrative Code. All plans were to be submitted to HSEMD by October 5, 2003. A complete review and update of the Part A Response Plan was to be done every five years. At the county level, the emergency management commissions could decide the five-year schedule for reviewing specific annexes.

We are now in the fifth and final year of this review cycle and according to Iowa Administrative Code, by September 30, 2008, all counties shall have reviewed and updated (as appropriate) their entire Part A—Response Plan. Through our district/regional planners, HSEMD staff will be working with county coordinators to ensure they have reviewed all annexes.

This also means that in 2009, we will begin a new planning cycle. HSEMD is transitioning the Iowa Emergency Response Plan (our Part A—Response Plan) from the annex format to the emergency support function (ESF) format. This is following the guidance set forth at the national level. Finalization of the ESF structure for the state-level plan is still in progress; HSEMD's efforts have been hampered by ongoing changes to the ESF structure at the federal level. HSEMD's intention is to develop an annex-to-ESF crosswalk for the counties to use in 2009, when we anticipate beginning the migration from annexes to ESF's at the County level.

In short, this is an extra year to work on reviewing and updating county plans as they currently exist. Some counties have already begun the process of transitioning to ESFs, although there is no requirement to do so at this time. For those counties with plans already in the ESF format, HSEMD will work with them to ensure they are compliant.

HSEMD/Partners Exercise Radiological Emergency Response Capabilities

On October 16-17, 2007, the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VII, conducted an exercise to assess the capabilities of the states and local off-site emergency preparedness organizations in implementing their emergency response plans and procedures to protect the public during a radiological emergency involving the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station.

The State Emergency Operations Center as well as the Harrison and Pottawattamie County Emergency Operations Centers were activated with the two-day exercise. Over 100 exercise objectives were demonstrated ranging from direction and control, implementation of protective actions, and emergency information and instructions to the public and the media. This exercise included testing our ability to be able to return citizens to an area previously evacuated, as well as the relocation of citizens outside the 10-mile emergency planning zone and decisions on re-entry into a restricted zone in Shelby County.

The exercise report findings were very favorable for the exercise results and performance of all offsite response organizations. Protecting the public health and safety is the full-time job of some of the exercise participants and an additional assigned responsibility for others. Still others have willingly sought this responsibility by volunteering to provide vital emergency services to their communities. A special thank you to all exercise participants and volunteers.

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division will participate in a number of nuclear power plant exercises and drills in 2008. The Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station will conduct a full-scale return, re-entry, and relocation evaluated exercise on August 27 with a dress rehearsal on July 16. The Duane Arnold Energy Center will conduct a full-scale ingestion pathway evaluated exercise on October 21-22 with a dress rehearsal on September 17-18. On November 6, the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station will conduct a non-evaluated exercise that will test the response to a hostile action emergency at the nuclear power plant.

Questions regarding the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program can be directed to the Readiness and Response Bureau at 515-323-4210.

Analog Cellular Service Requirement Expires in February

Beginning February 18, 2008, cellular telephone companies will not be required to provide analog service. Most wireless telephone users will not be affected by this transition because the wireless carriers have had a five year transition period to notify all subscribers with an active service agreement to upgrade from analog to digital phones.

Those who will be affected are the people who are carrying a "donated" phone for emergencies only (phones that do not have an active service plan and are capable of dialing 9-1-1 only), as these phones will no longer work.

**Iowa Homeland Security &
Emergency Management
Division**

A Division of the Department
of Public Defense

Administrator

David L. Miller

7105 N.W. 70th Avenue
Camp Dodge, Bldg W-4
Johnston, IA 50131

Phone: 515-725-3231

Fax: 515-725-3260

Web Site:

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact: Kara Berg, 515-725-3271, kara.berg@iowa.gov; or Lucinda Robertson, 515-725-3239, lucinda.robertson@iowa.gov.

News Team

Kara Berg

Beth Gathercole

David Johnston

Kyle Karsjen

Lucinda Robertson

Kathy Stodola

Bret Voorhees

Lynda Wessel

HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for

HSEMD Spotlight: David Johnston

David Johnston wears many hats as a planner for HSEMD.

As the Region 1 planner he serves as HSEMD's liaison with the Region's 16 counties on all county plans. For the State Capitol Complex, he provides training and planning guidance for approximately 5,000 state employees in more than a dozen buildings. As coordinator and trainer for the State of Iowa's Community Emergency Response Team programs, Johnston provides training, equipment, and conducts exercises for state and private-sector participants. He also serves as the Division's school safety planner, working with the Threat Information and Protection Program and Safeguard Iowa on coordinating training and planning guidance to schools in the state. David has worked for the Division for four years.



Before coming to HSEMD, David worked with Seabury and Smith/Marsh Affinity Group Services writing marking materials for direct mail. Prior to that, he served in the United States Navy on active duty for four years, completing two cruises. He also served five years as a reservist with the Seabees.

David has a bachelor's degree in English from Iowa State University and has earned "a whole host" of qualifications through his service in the Navy. He is currently working on a master's degree.

Personnel Notes

Jim Marwedel has joined HSEMD's Preparedness Bureau as a Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) planner. Jim will provide planning assistance to counties in Region 4, along with being the Division's lead in COOP/COG planning.

Jim recently served as Panora city administrator and director of public works in Hampton. Jim is a certified planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners and holds a master's degree in city and regional planning, from Ohio State University and nine years city administration and planning experience at the municipal and county level.

Barbara Vos has accepted the position of 911 program manager. Barbara has been with the Division since December 1998 and has served as a 911 program planner since August 2001. She has a vast amount of experience and background in the program and will be able to lead it in the new digital era.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org