	<b>Standard Operating Guideline – West Fargo Fire Department</b>		<b>06.001</b>
	Subject: Hazmat Response Considerations		
	Section: Hazardous Materials		
	Date Authorized: 12/1/2019	Authorized by:	
Date Reviewed:	Chief Daniel Fuller		

**Intent**

The intent of this guideline is to establish standard procedures for response to Hazardous Materials Incidents

**References**

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 471 Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents (2017)

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 475 Recommended Practice for Organizing, Managing, and Sustaining a Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Response Program (2017)

**Definitions**

*Hot Zone* - the area immediately adjacent to the spill or release, intended to be an exclusion zone where personnel operating are in chemical protective clothing (CPC) as determined by NOISH.

*Evacuation Area* - the area immediately downwind to the incident as determined by the green highlighted tables in the ERG; all unprotected personnel in this area are to be evacuated or ordered to shelter in place.


*Warm Zone* -the area between the hot and cold zone, to be used exclusively as a decontamination line and safe haven for exposed victims of the incident.

*Cold Zone* -the area outside of the warm zone; an area not affected by the incident but close enough for equipment staging and the Incident Command Post.

**Guideline**


1. The West Fargo Fire Department will respond to all hazardous materials calls within the jurisdiction.
  - a. Firefighters of the department will perform to the limitations of their training and equipment
  - b. Initial actions can be found in the North American Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)
  - c. Unit response is dictated by SOG 01.001 Response to Alarms
  
2. In cases where a hazmat spill or release is encountered, the Incident Commander should notify Red River Regional Dispatch Center (RRRDC) of the incident and request initial assistance from the Fargo Fire Department as mutual aid.
  - a. If the size and scope of the incident is beyond mutual aid, the Incident Commander should direct RRRDC to contact ND State Radio and request a regional response through the Department of Emergency Services.

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- b. This will ensure that a robust Incident Management System is set up, to include Finance and Administration, to record expenses related to the incident.
  
3. The initial arriving company officer or senior firefighter should make every attempt to identify the material spilled or released. Resources for identification include
  - a. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards.
  - b. Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders (WISER)
  - c. National DOT Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)
  
4. A three-zone exclusion area and evacuation zone should be established as soon as the hot zone is determined, based on the chemical involved and environmental conditions
  - a. The hot zone should be a large as needed to keep responders and the public from immediate danger
  - b. The warm zone should be large enough for decontamination efforts
  - c. The cold zone should be large enough to facilitate command, staging and efficient ingress/egress of fire and EMS units
  
5. As with any incident, the three incident priorities dictate initial actions;
  - a. life safety
  - b. incident stabilization
  - c. property conservation
  
6. The coordination of hazmat operating guidelines, plans, and response guides should be coordinated with is paramount to successful mitigation of the hazard.
  - a. Of significant importance are those agencies that do not normally function as part of the day-to-day emergency response structure but who may participate in a hazardous material emergency response including mutual aid agreement participants
  - b. The following is a list of agencies that should coordinate on this plan.
    - i. Local Emergency Planning Committee
    - ii. Emergency preparedness agencies
    - iii. Police departments
    - iv. Fire departments
    - v. Emergency medical services
    - vi. Public works department
    - vii. Health department
    - viii. Non-Governmental Organizations
    - ix. Appropriate attorneys
    - x. City management
    - xi. County management

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7. For every hazmat call, a response type should be assigned, based on the incident or threats that exist.
  - a. Tier I Hazmat Response includes calls that
    - i. Has no placard, is NFPA 0 or 1 for all categories, and all DOT Class 9 or ORM-D products
    - ii. Small containers such as pails, drums, cylinders and packages less than 1 ton
    - iii. Low fire/explosion potential
    - iv. No release or small release that can be confined or controlled with readily available resources
    - v. No life safety hazard
    - vi. Minimal environmental impacts
    - vii. No damage to containers
    - viii. Can be controlled, cleaned up, and disposed of by the first responder
    - ix. Requires only a local level response.
    - x. Limited interagency coordination needed
  - b. Tier II Hazmat Response includes calls that Is beyond the first responder’s control and clean-up capabilities.
    - i. DOT placarded, NFPA 2 for any category, PCBs without fire, EPA regulated waste
    - ii. Medium containers such as tanks, cylinders, portable containers, and multiple small packages
    - iii. Medium fire/explosion potential
    - iv. Release may not be controlled without special resources
    - v. Localized area evacuations
    - vi. Moderate environmental impacts
    - vii. Damaged containers, but able to control and contain or transfer product
    - viii. Requires mutual aid response
    - ix. Interagency coordination will be needed
  - c. Tier III Hazmat Response includes calls that
    - i. Class 2, Division 2.3 poisonous gases, Class 1, Division 1.1 and 1.2 explosives, organic peroxides, flammable solids, dangerous when wet, chlorine, fluorine, anhydrous ammonia, radioactive materials, NFPA 3 and 4 for any category, PCBs involved in fire, DOT inhalation hazards, EPS extremely hazardous substances, and cryogenics
    - ii. Large containers such as rail cars, tanks, hopper cars, over road trucks, intermodals and multiple medium containers
    - iii. High fire/explosion potential
    - iv. Release may not be controlled with special resources
    - v. Mass evacuation areas needed
    - vi. Severe environmental impacts
    - vii. Damaged containers to such extent that catastrophic release is possible

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- viii. Requires large scale mutual aid response
- ix. Emergency Operations Center activation is needed

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