

Primary Agency:

Department of Commerce
State Energy Office

Support Agencies:

Department of Ecology
Department of Enterprise Services
Department of Transportation
Utilities and Transportation Commission
Washington State Patrol

Washington Military Department
Emergency Management Division
Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Department of Energy

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Provide for the effective use of available electric power, natural gas and petroleum products required to meet essential needs and to facilitate restoration of energy systems affected by an emergency or disaster.

Scope

Response and recovery actions following any emergency or disaster will be determined by the specific event.

Policies

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21F.045(1), Duties of department — Transfer of powers and duties relating to energy education, applied research, technology transfer, and energy efficiency in public buildings.

Chapter 43.21G RCW, Energy supply emergencies, alerts.

Chapter 194-22 Washington Administrative Code (WAC), Commerce, department of (energy).

SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

Situation

See Basic Plan.

Assumptions

The occurrence of a major disaster could destroy or damage portions of the state's energy and utility systems and disrupt petroleum and natural gas supplies.

Widespread and possibly prolonged electric power failures could occur in a major disaster. Energy supply disruptions can affect all other sectors.

Loss of electric power can affect services necessary for response and survival.

- Shelter, heating, cooling and lighting.
- Food processing and storage; water supply and wastewater management.
- Telecommunications, media and information services.
- Petroleum product refining and distribution (pumping), and certain natural gas operations.
- Financial and security services.
- Commercial, industrial, medical and defense operations in general.

Delay or loss of petroleum products can affect services necessary for response and the continuity of business operations.

- Transportation systems supporting law enforcement, fire, search and rescue and medical response as well as Coast Guard operations, utility restoration, food and aid distribution, and debris removal.
- Agricultural and other chemical processes.
- Postal and package distribution.
- Commercial, industrial, medical and defense operations in general.

Delays in electric power and natural gas service and the production, refining and delivery of petroleum-based products could occur as a result of transportation infrastructure problems.

Delays in electric power and natural gas service and the production, refining, and delivery of petroleum-based products could occur as a result of food, water, public health (e.g. epidemic), telecommunications, and financial services problems.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

Prepare for and respond to energy or petroleum shortages or disruptions and their effects to preserve public health and safety and the general welfare of the state's citizens. This also is essential to protect of property, the environment and the economy of the state.

Activities during an energy emergency could include:

- Assess fuel and electric power damage.
- Assess and monitor energy supply and demand.
- Coordinate with electric utilities and the petroleum and natural gas industries to identify requirements to repair energy systems and to provide state assistance as necessary.
- Coordinate with federal, state and local jurisdiction officials to establish priorities to repair damaged energy systems and allocate scarce fuel and energy resources.
- Coordinate with public and private sector entities for temporary, alternate or interim sources of emergency fuel and power.
- Assess restoration requirements.

Procedures

Energy, utility and petroleum distribution systems will continue to provide services through

their normal means, i.e., markets and contracts, during a disaster to the maximum extent possible.

Energy, utility and petroleum information will be furnished during emergencies to government officials at all levels to inform the public on the proper use of services.

Energy, utility and petroleum companies will compile damage assessment reports and transmit them to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the Department of Commerce, as requested. ESF 12 will evaluate the data and information to provide situation reports and analysis to key government officials on a scheduled, routine basis.

ESF 12 Coordinators will identify problems and make recommendations as necessary for state actions to reduce energy demand, increase energy supplies, allocate and distribute energy resources, and alleviate hardships caused by adverse energy conditions (such as high prices) as necessary, and carry out interagency agreements and gubernatorial directives.

Direction and Control

The Governor provides overall direction and control for emergency actions, in accordance with RCW 38.52.050, through a Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (MACG) in the SEOC. The SEOC, through its General and Line Staffs, coordinates the response and recovery activities of state government.

The Department of Commerce, as the ESF 12 Primary Agency, in-turn coordinates the activities of ESF 12 Support Agency(s), stakeholders and energy providers to facilitate the delivery of energy services, technical assistance, expertise and other support for emergencies and disasters affecting the state. ESF 12 agencies (Primary, Support) will directly communicate and coordinate with their respective ESF counterparts at the local, tribal, state and federal levels to carry out ESF 12 activities and responsibilities.

ORGANIZATION

ESF 12 is organized in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and supports the Incident Command Structure (ICS) described in NIMS. ESF 12 actions are, in general, coordinated by the ESF 12 Lead in the SEOC.

When appropriate, each ESF 12 Primary and Support Agency may establish their own EOC type entity to support ESF activities in consultation and collaboration with the ESF 12 Lead in the SEOC.

ACTIONS

Mitigation Activities

Maintain and improve ESF 12 communications capabilities, primarily through the Washington Energy Supply Disruption Tracking System (WAESDTS).

Ensure ESF 12 Coordinators are familiar with the state Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and CEMP and receive sufficient training to anticipate evolving hazards during disaster response.

Maintain a core of at least four (4) experienced ESF 12 Coordinators trained in all aspects of energy emergency response.

Train all full time State Energy Office staff as backup ESF 12 Coordinators familiar with the Incident Command System (ICS), basic SEOC operations, general ESF 12 coordination requirements and WAESDTS operations.

Implement the Sector Specific Plan to protect critical energy infrastructure.

Preparedness Activities

Prepare and update energy contingency plans, websites, ESF 12 Guidelines and all supporting documents.

Maintain credentials and contact with all potential ESF 12 actors, including government agencies, energy companies and energy associations.

Periodically train all ESF 12 actors in appropriate aspects of ESF 12 preparedness and response.

Maintain general data, information and knowledge regarding energy systems and system infrastructure locations, criticality, capabilities, operations, vulnerabilities and ownership, including those for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) regulated companies.

Maintain, update, train on and periodically test the WAESDTS.

Conduct or participate in energy emergency exercises at local, state and regional levels.

Develop and maintain an inventory of statewide ESF 12 volunteers and government and private sector supplemental energy resources.

Maintain basic information about state agency energy use and plans for emergency reductions in energy use.

Response Activities

Liaison with applicable entities in the energy sector, including:

- Bonneville Power Administration, electric generators, electric utilities and ancillary service providers, natural gas transporters, handlers and local distribution companies, oil transporters and refiners, and petroleum product transporters, distributors and marketers (wholesale and retail).
- US DOE, NASEO, other state's energy and energy security agencies, local government energy and energy security agencies and personnel, and foreign energy and energy security agencies and ministries (typically British Columbia, Canada).
- Energy consumers (primarily large consumption entities).

Apprise the Governor on conditions warranting the proclamation/declaration of a statewide or regional energy supply alert or emergency. Make recommendations for a Governor's response plan and implement Governor's directives.

Contact energy companies for situation reports to address:

- Infrastructure damage.
- Assessment of system and customer impacts.
- Infrastructure repair requirements and restoration estimates.
- Energy demand and supply estimates.
- Need or potential need for state coordination or assistance.
- Estimates of price or other market impacts.

Identify, evaluate and carry out energy missions to expedite restoration and mitigate supply disruption impacts.

- Coordinate with the SEOC Logistics Section, Operations Section and ESF 1 (Transportation) to facilitate fuel distribution to emergency response vehicles, utility Right-of-Way (ROW) clearing and routing, timely and unimpeded border crossing for crews and energy supplies, flagging assistance, and air or marine assisted energy restoration tasks (such as helicopter aided damage assessment of remote infrastructure).
- Coordinate with energy companies to address critical facilities' restoration priorities, power needs, alternative energy sources, and emergency fuel supplies.
- Coordinate with local emergency management agencies and service providers, such as the Red Cross, to identify areas of prolonged power outage that may require sheltering or mass care services.

Analyze situation and identify actions to address major energy problems, implementing options that include providing public information, reducing energy demand, acquiring emergency energy supplies, allocating scarce energy resources, and mitigating the impacts of scarce energy resources. The Washington State Energy Assurance and Preparedness Plan outlines an analytical process and options for consideration to address these issues.

Some potential options include:

- Waiving regulations to expedite restoration and/or increase efficient use of energy
- Waiving fuel driver regulations.
- Energy curtailment options.
- Substituting one fuel for another.
- Gasoline station queue management controls.
- Subsidies for mass transit usage.

Coordinate public information concerning energy, utilities and petroleum emergencies with ESF 15 (External Affairs) and the Joint Information Center (JIC).

Identify energy, utility and petroleum resources which are in short supply and necessary for the health and safety of the population.

Coordinate with the appropriate agencies to provide for supplemental energy, utility and petroleum resources.

Coordinate statewide volunteer, private and federal emergency supplemental energy and utility resources, as needed.

Recovery Activities

Continue all response efforts as necessary during any recovery period, including:

- Maintain damage assessments and restoration profiles.
- Provide restoration assistance to energy companies.
- Manage energy allocation and distribution programs.
- Coordinate with appropriate federal, state and local agencies.
- Make recommendations to the Governor’s Office, Washington Restoration Agency, Recovery Task Force and ESF 14 (Long Term Community Recovery).

Assist in developing the energy component of the State Recovery Plan to ensure it includes an energy recovery vision, goals and implementation steps.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Agency

Department of Commerce, State Energy Office

- Ensure ESF 12 Coordinators are familiar with the state Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and receive sufficient training to anticipate continuing hazards during disaster response.
- Maintain a core of at least four (4) experienced ESF 12 Coordinators trained in all aspects of energy emergency response.
- Train all full time State Energy Office staff as backup ESF 12 Coordinators familiar with the Incident Command System (ICS), basic SEOC operations, general ESF 12 coordination requirements and WAESDTS operations.
- Train key ESF 12 contacts on emergency response issues and roles, including identified representatives of Governor’s Office, Office of the Attorney General, Utilities and Transportation Commission, and Washington Military Department - Emergency Management Division.
- Maintain currency of contingency plans for energy shortages or emergencies.
- Maintain and update the Department of Commerce Energy Emergencies and Security website, ESF 12 guidelines, and supporting documents.
- Maintain credentials and liaison with appropriate federal agencies and associations such as US DOE and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO).
- Maintain general data and information on energy systems, including infrastructure location, criticality, capabilities, operations, vulnerabilities and ownership.
- Maintain, update, and periodically test the WAESDTS system.
- Conduct or participate in energy emergency exercises at local, state and regional levels.

- Conduct or participate in energy emergency training, including courses in FEMA ICS, SEOC procedures, WAESDTS administration, and ESF 12 coordination.
- Assist local jurisdictions in developing feasible supplemental energy and utility resource plans.
- Establish liaison with all applicable entities in the energy sector.
- Participate in the development of the State Recovery Plan to ensure the energy recovery vision, goals and implementation plan are incorporated into the plan.

Support Agencies

Department of Ecology

- Manage regulations impacting energy company activities to expedite the production and distribution of energy. For example, work with the Governor's Office and appropriate federal agencies, as needed, to waive environmental regulations.

Department of Enterprise Services

- Coordinate state agency energy consumption tracking and implementation of energy efficiency and reduction plans.
- Facilitate the restoration and maintenance of telecommunications systems upon which energy restoration efforts rely.

Department of Transportation

- Provide available resources to expedite the movement of energy, emergency responders and resources.

Utilities and Transportation Commission

- Maintain and update data and information on energy pipeline systems and their ownership, location, capabilities, criticality, vulnerability and operations (including company energy emergency and continuity of operations plans).
- Maintain data and information on jurisdictional energy company systems and their ownership, management, emergency response and continuity of operations plans, supply disruptions and emergency reports.
- Maintain credentials and liaison with appropriate federal agencies and associations such as US DOE and the NASEO.
- Participate in energy emergency exercises at local, state and regional levels.
- Participate in energy emergency training, including courses on FEMA ICS, SEOC procedures, WAESDTS administration, and ESF 12 coordination.
- Staff SEOC in support of ESF 12, carrying out actions with a particular emphasis on pipeline systems and jurisdictional electric and natural gas utilities.

Washington State Patrol

- Provide resources to expedite the movement of energy, emergency responders and resources, if warranted and available.

Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division

- Coordinate with local jurisdictions the identification of supplemental local energy or utility resources such as emergency lighting or generators.
- Coordinate with the Department of Commerce and WUTC the development of an inventory of available state energy and utility resources.
- Maintain an inventory of statewide volunteers, and private and federal emergency energy or utility resources.
- Identify energy, utility, and petroleum resources which are in short supply and/or are necessary for the health and safety of the population.
- Coordinate with appropriate agencies to provide supplemental energy, utility, and petroleum resources.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Coordinate the activities of federal agencies having supplemental energy, utility and petroleum resource capabilities during a presidentially declared emergency or disaster.

U.S. Department of Energy (US DOE)

- Gather, assess and share information on energy system damage and estimates of impact on affected areas. Work closely with, and aid in, meeting requests for assistance from state and local energy officials, suppliers and deliverers.

REFERENCES

Department of Commerce, Energy Emergencies and Security website:
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/975/default.aspx>