

the PS7 REVIEW

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Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII

Private Sector

FEMA Region VII BEOC Highlighted in Missouri Reports

In a year-end report, the Missouri Public Private Partnership (MOP3) Committee highlighted FEMA Region VII's Regional Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC) as a key initiative. Thanks to FEMA Region VII leadership, the Regional BEOC was created, exercised and activated this past year, adding value to FEMA's disaster response capabilities in support of disaster response efforts.



Public Private Partnership

MOP3 is a voluntary coalition of Missouri's private and public sector leaders, who share a commitment to strengthening the capacity of the state to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. MOP3 was authorized under the Missouri Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) to foster direct involvement of the private sector to augment and support Missouri's prioritized homeland security / emergency management issues and initiatives. MOP3 Current Initiatives for 2012 and 2013 include:

FEMA Private Sector Representatives (PSR): Over the past few months, MOP3 has partnered with FEMA Region VII to credential PSRs within the Regional Business Emergency Operations Center (RBEOC) in the Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC). MOP3 currently has a number of PSRs that report to FEMA's Kansas City office to represent private sector interests during a disaster response when the Regional BEOC is activated. MOP3 is also working with FEMA to expand this concept to include regional involvement.

Missouri Business Emergency Operations Cell (BEOC): The Missouri Business Emergency Operations Cell (BEOC) is a voluntary affiliation of Critical Infrastructure / Key Resource (CI/KR) businesses and associations committed to a private-public partnership with the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and focused on assisting the state plan for and respond to natural and man-made disasters. MOP3 will continue to develop and mature the BEOC framework with SEMA.

Private Sector Outreach for Fusion Centers: MOP3 is working on expanding private sector outreach in regards to alert notifications, and cyber security issues with the MIAC and the KC TEW. Initiatives include training as Intelligence Liaison Officers (ILO) to the fusion centers, and augmentation of critical positions during emergency operations.

Development of BEOC Emergency Resource "Smartphone" Application: MOP3 is working with a member technology company on development of a smartphone application for private sector member use for alerts and collaboration during disasters.

The Region VII BEOC was also highlighted in an Annex of SEMA's logistics plan. According to the Annex, the Regional BEOC serves as a "key coordination linkage between the State BEOC, other State BEOCs within the FEMA Region, and the FEMA National BEOC," during disaster response events.

Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities Responds to Hurricane Sandy

By John Burnett, Communications Director, Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities

Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities members continued their reputation of helping those in need as representatives of five Iowa municipals journeyed to the east coast to assist with recovery following Hurricane Sandy.

Electric workers from the Aurelia Municipal Electric Utility, Cedar Falls Utilities, Lake Park Municipal Utilities, Muscatine Power & Water and Waverly Light & Power proudly joined other utility employees from around the nation who came together to rebuild shattered electric systems. Those systems were slammed by not only Hurricane Sandy, but then a few days later by a Nor'easter, a type of storm commonly found in that region this time of year, which dropped heavy, wet snow and downed power lines that had just been repaired. Iowa's workers spent their time on Long Island working to restore power to customers of Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). More than 750,000 LIPA customers were without power at one point.

Aurelia Municipal Electric Utility/Lake Park Municipal Utilities: Mitch Langschwager (Aurelia) and Lane Sether (Lake Park) teamed up and headed east with a Lake Park digger derrick truck. The two electrical specialists had gotten to know each other at IAMU workshops and became friends. "Mitch texted me and asked if I wanted to go to New York," said Sether, and I said 'heck, yes.' I didn't even know if they (officials in New York) would take us seriously, just the two of us non-union guys asking to come in. But they said they needed all the help they could get."

Langschwager and Sether were teamed with four Rural Electric Cooperative workers from Minnesota and four workers from Canada.

Cedar Falls Utilities/Waverly Light & Power: The two northeast Iowa utilities rolled east with Craig Schwickerath, Adam Oltmann, Mike Wildeboer and Jamie Meier and two bucket trucks from Cedar Falls and Levi Gulick and Mark Jaquith with a dump truck from Waverly.

Muscatine Power & Water: The eastern Iowa utility sent Neil Gaunt, Brandon Harris and Travis Stuckel with a digger derrick truck a bucket truck and a pickup truck.

The Iowa crew members all headed out November 2 and 3, and all had returned to their hometowns by November 13. Overhead line repair and pole replacement were two of the major tasks undertaken by the crews.

"It was an experience," said Langschwager, who stopped short of calling it "fun." Accommodations in FEMA-supplied trailers were not optimal, but some crews were able to find lodging elsewhere, including the crew Langschwager and Sether were part of, which was able to move to a nearby fire station and the Muscatine crew, which was able to find a motel room. "But it was a once in a lifetime experience that we never thought we would have the chance to do when we became linemen," remarked Sether, and no doubt speaks for all when he said, "I'm really glad we were able to do it."



IOWA
ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES

Kansas City Power & Light Launches Largest Response in Its 130 Year History



By Les Boatright, CBCP, MEP, CEM, *KCP&L Emergency Preparedness*

I saw 24 of your trucks on Sunday night. They were headed north on 171 through Columbus. GREAT job!!! Please be careful. -- Renee

The email above was just one of many emails KCP&L received late October while responding to the East Coast and Hurricane Sandy. This was the largest response effort by KCP&L since the company was founded in 1882.

KCP&L was asked to send personnel to four different areas needing help.

Two overhead line crew contingents were sent to assist Connecticut Light & Power and United Illuminating.

Underground personnel were sent to ConEd in New York.

Substation personnel were sent to PSG&E in New Jersey.

In all, we sent 185 employees and worked over 40,190 manhours.

By the time our crews had returned to Kansas City, Missouri, they had driven over 280,720 miles using 110 vehicles.

The work was slow and tedious because the damage wasn't necessarily just to replace what was gone, but to reset and reattach what remained.

Line work is dangerous enough, but adding to the danger was that facilities being restored were on the front property lines, which meant our crews had to park on the streets. They also encountered homeowners and visitors standing around their work zones watching them work. Through all of the hardships, our personnel executed their plan and came back with no safety incidents.

Small Businesses Hit by Sandy Seek Grants

Many businesses may not be able to recover

Small Business owners whose businesses were impacted by Hurricane Sandy are interested in grant money to help recover, according to news reports.

Stores, restaurants, factories and offices across the Northeast were damaged or destroyed by the Oct. 29 storm. So far, almost all the recovery money that's being offered to small businesses by government agencies is in the form of loans, but taking on debt is 1 of the last things owners want to do as they try to recover from the storm in an already challenging economy. (AP, Dec. 5, 2012, "Small businesses want grants to aid Sandy recovery")

Small business owners that don't get back to business fast could be forced to close their doors forever.



Crews from KCP&L work overtime to repair power lines on East Coast damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Photo courtesy of KCP&L.

In New York City, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced \$5.5 million in grants for small businesses from two not-for-profit organizations, the Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC and the Partnership for NYC. Citywide, the damage estimate for homes and businesses was put at \$19 billion. Also, in New Jersey, the cost of recovery and rebuilding from the storm was an estimated \$37 billion. Also, in New Jersey, Gov. Chris Christie promised to make rebuilding businesses post-Hurricane Sandy his "priority number one" and announced \$26 million in state funding to connect unemployed New Jerseyans with jobs, according to local reports. (Star-Ledger NJ, Dec. 11, 2012, "Gov. Christie: Rebuilding businesses after Hurricane Sandy is 'priority No. 1'")

HOW TO RESPOND

WHEN AN ACTIVE SHOOTER IS IN YOUR VICINITY

QUICKLY DETERMINE THE MOST REASONABLE WAY TO PROTECT YOUR OWN LIFE. CUSTOMERS AND CLIENTS ARE LIKELY TO FOLLOW THE LEAD OF EMPLOYEES AND MANAGERS DURING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATION.

1. EVACUATE

- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Keep your hands visible

2. HIDE OUT

- Hide in an area out of the active shooter's view.
- Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors

3. TAKE ACTION

- As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.
- Attempt to incapacitate the active shooter
- Act with physical aggression and throw items at the active shooter

CALL 911 WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO

HOW TO RESPOND WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVES ON THE SCENE

1. HOW YOU SHOULD REACT WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVES:

- Remain calm, and follow officers' instructions
- Immediately raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as attempting to hold on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming and/or yelling
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating, just proceed in the direction from which officers are entering the premises

2. INFORMATION YOU SHOULD PROVIDE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OR 911 OPERATOR:

- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters, if more than one
- Physical description of shooter/s
- Number and type of weapons held by the shooter/s
- Number of potential victims at the location

RECOGNIZING SIGNS OF POTENTIAL WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

AN ACTIVE SHOOTER MAY BE A CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYEE. ALERT YOUR HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT IF YOU BELIEVE AN EMPLOYEE EXHIBITS POTENTIALLY VIOLENT BEHAVIOR. INDICATORS OF POTENTIALLY VIOLENT BEHAVIOR MAY INCLUDE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Increased use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs
- Unexplained increase in absenteeism, and/or vague physical complaints
- Depression/Withdrawal
- Increased severe mood swings, and noticeably unstable or emotional responses
- Increasingly talks of problems at home
- Increase in unsolicited comments about violence, firearms, and other dangerous weapons and violent crimes



Contact your building management or human resources department for more information and training on active shooter response in your workplace.

Additional Resources from DHS: DHS, Active Shooter - Booklet: How to Respond
www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter_booklet.pdf

DHS, Active Shooter - Pocket Card: Information www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter_pocket_card.pdf

DHS, Active Shooter - Poster: How to Respond When an Active Shooter Is in Your Vicinity
www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter_poster.pdf

FEMA Online Courses:

Active Shooter: What You Can Do <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS907.asp>

Workplace Security Awareness <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS906.asp>

Region VII Staff Deploy to New Jersey and New York

For the past few weeks, much of FEMA Region VII's staff have been deployed to New Jersey and/or New York to assist individuals, communities and businesses impacted by Hurricane Sandy. In recognition and thanks of those who serve, here are the names of Region VII staff who deployed to assist with Hurricane Sandy response and recovery efforts:

RAYMOND	ACURSO	BRUCE	LAGER	YOU JEN	TSAI
STEPHENIE	ADAMS	MARK	LANCE	TODD	TUCKER
THOMAS	AKINS	THERESA	LAVALLEY	SHEILA	TURNIS
SANDRA	ALLISON	SUSAN	LAWRENCE	MARLENA	VALDIVIA
CARLTON	ANDERSON	PATRICIA	LEAGUE	CHRISTIAN	VAN ALSTYNE
TRACY	AUPPERLEE	RICHARD	LEONARD	ANA	VIDAL
CONSTANCE	BEELER	PATRICK	LINDNER	ADRIAN	WALKER
GARY	BERNER	DAWN	LIVINGSTON	MICHAEL	WALL
DANIEL	BEST	BEATRICE	LONG	DREW	WALLACE
BRYON	BOKA	KEYSHAWN	LUGRAND	NELDA	WASCOM
EDWARD	BOONE	CORY	MACVIE	DANIEL	WEBSTER JR
JOSEPH	BOYD	MARK	MADRIGAL	JONATHAN	WEINBERG
JOHN	BROGAN	MARIA	MALDONADO	THERESA	WELDON
JAMES	BROWN	JOSE	MATEO MOREL	JOYCE	WELLS
RODNEY	BUTTS	LEONARD	MAUK	ERIC	WIELAND
AUDIE	CANIDA	TERI	MAYER	DIANNE	WILSON
JOHN	CANNON	MITCHELL	MCCANN	BRIAN	WOLTZ
MICHAEL	CAPPANNARI	MINDY	MCDANIEL	PAULA	WOOD
MARLEE	CARROLL	ANDREW	MEGRIL	MITCHELL	WRIGHT
LOUISE	CARRUBBA	DAVID	MOORE	ANTHONY	WRIGHT
STEVE	CASTANER	THOMAS	MORGAN	JAMES	YOST
CHARLES	CHAFFINS	JANET	MORRIS	TIMOTHY	YOUNG
CHRISTOPHER	CHESHER	LEESA	MORRISON		
FRANK	CINTRON	DAVID	MOSBY		
SHEILA	DALE	JOHN	MYERS II		
LINDA	DAVIS	RODNEY	ODOM		
KATHERINE	DODD	PAULLY	ONYIRIMBA		
JAMES	DONLEY	DEAN	OWNBY		
WALTER	ESTEP	WILLIAM	PACKARD		
CORY	FAST	MERIDETH	PARRISH		
SARA	FELLER	SABRINA	PAUL		
KEVIN	FITTS	KIMBERLY	PEEPLS		
BETH	FREEMAN	RICHARD	PURKETT		
ALAN	GARRISON	CARA A	RILEY		
BRYON	GRABLE	STACY	ROBARGE SILKINER		
EUGENE	GREENBERG	MARISOL	RODRIGUEZ		
STEVEN	GREENE	MELISSA	RODRIGUEZ		
SONYA	HADDAD	ALEX	SACHS		
REGINA	HARRIS	KENNETH	SESSA		
BRITTANY	HOLLIS	WILMER	SHELTON		
DAVID	HUNTER	CAROLYN	SICKMAN		
MELISSA	JANSSEN	STEVEN	SMITH		
NICOLE	JARVIS	JEFFREY	SMITH		
GAY	JONES	MARK	SOUTH		
CAROLYN	KANTER	CHRISTOPHER	STEWART		
CYNTHIA	KIMBER	CATHIE	STILLEY		
MICHELLE	KIRK	ANTHONY	STROHM II		
CHELSEA	KLEIN	BARBARA	STURNER		



Happy Holidays from FEMA Region VII