

State Response Assets for a HAB Incident at a Nuclear Generating Plant in Minnesota

MN Department of Public Safety (DPS) State Fire Marshall

Chemical Assessment Teams (CAT)

Minnesota has CATs composed of trained personnel. The primary responsibilities of a CAT at an incident scene are hazard assessment, technical assistance, simple mitigation and basic decontamination.

Emergency Response Team (ERT)

The ERT is located in the city of Saint Paul and is composed of trained personnel, with specialists, technicians, and a medical support officer on duty at all times.

The ERT may take action necessary to protect life, property and the environment from the effects of a release of a hazardous material. Their actions include, but are not limited to, preventing a hazardous release, mitigating the effects of the release and stabilizing the emergency situation.

Bomb Disposal Units

There are four contracted bomb disposal units in the state teams program: Minneapolis PD, St. Paul PD, Bloomington PD and Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office. These bomb squads are universally trained and equipped, licensed Minnesota peace officers who are certified hazardous devices technicians and hazardous materials technicians or specialists.

The squads performs post-blast investigations, evidence handling and packaging, reconstruction of detonated devices, clandestine lab operations, and site safety. Each team is equipped with hazardous device disposal robots, portable digital X-ray machines,

single-vent (open) trailers, and total containment vessels (for chemical/biological devices).

Structural Collapse Team – Minnesota Task Force 1 (MNTF1)

MNTF1 is composed of Minneapolis Fire Department, Edina Fire Department, St. Paul Fire Department, Rochester Fire Department, Dakota County Special Operations Team personnel, and firefighters and paramedics from surrounding metro agencies.

MNTF1 is equipped and prepared to deploy and be completely self-contained and able to logistically support a field deployment in areas with little or no infrastructure.

MNTF1 is equipped for structural collapse heavy rescue to include breaching and breaking reinforced concrete and steel, trench rescues, confined space rescues, and rope rescues.

All members of MNTF1 are trained and function at the structural collapse technician level, including structural collapse-light, -medium and -heavy construction; breaching; breaking; cutting concrete and steel; shoring; trenching; and tunneling.

The training prepares the rescuers to serve as hazmat technician/specialists and perform high/low angle rescues, confined space rescues, trench rescues, and structural collapse rescues.

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA)

Investigations

The BCA is the state of Minnesota's lead investigatory agency and is responsible for coordinating the state's interests in criminal investigations.

BCA special agents, crime scene investigation teams and forensics lab capabilities are used for crime scene investigation and processing and analysis of evidence.

Minnesota Fusion Center

The Minnesota Fusion Center at the BCA is tasked with collecting, evaluating, analyzing and disseminating information regarding organized criminal, terrorist and all-hazards activity in Minnesota.

Minnesota State Patrol

Special Response Team (SRT)

Structure: Team commander, operators and trained tactical medics.

Capabilities include: Sniper/scout team, operators and medics trained in rappelling from static structures or off of the helicopter via the skids (used for tactical insertions and rescue situations in remote areas). The team is also trained in tracking (used for tracking suspects fleeing on foot).

Each operator is assigned a squad, in which they keep all issued personal equipment, allowing for a rapid response from any location. One SRT truck, deployed with the team, acts as a command center and can be used to insert a large number of team members into an incident. The SRT truck contains all specialized equipment required for response. It is equipped with 800 MHz and VHF radio systems and has downlink capabilities from the helicopter for a live video feed overhead.

Mobile Field Force (MFF)

The MFF is trained and equipped to deal with crowd control/civil disobedience incidents and general police duties as needed. When deployed, the size of MFF squads/platoons/divisions is determined by the needs of the incident and the number of MFF troopers available for the incident.

MFF line troopers are equipped with helmets, gas masks, riot batons, and body protection. MFF troopers are trained to perform all functions in a normal or gas environment which includes moving, restricting and separating crowds; providing site security; providing motorcade security; and providing conventional police patrol/enforcement, on foot or mechanized, in civil disturbance areas.

Aviation Section

The Aviation Section has bases in St. Paul and Brainerd. Trooper pilots train annually for nuclear disaster responses, including the use of dosimeters.

The equipment used during nuclear drills includes fixed-wing aircraft used to transport personnel and three helicopters that combine thermal imagery equipment with video downlinks to local MSP dispatch centers or mobile sites, night vision capabilities, and rappelling systems to insert SRT members and medics.

All aircraft are equipped with state-of-the-art radio systems, allowing communication between law enforcement agencies, news media helicopters, military operations, and the SEOC.

Rapid Response Team (RRT)

The RRT is composed of troopers, supervisors, and clerical staff to handle communications and administrative efforts related to a callout. The RRT was formed to allow for a quick law enforcement response to an event. The wide disbursement of members allows RRT troopers to respond to an event on short notice.

The goal is to respond quickly and be self-sufficient for the first 24-48 hours until additional logistical support arrives; staffing models have been built to account for relief and 24/7 operations lasting several days.

The RRT is available for callouts for law enforcement events, perimeter containment,

checkpoints, evacuations, searches, tornados, floods, spills, fires, etc.

Department of Military Affairs (Minnesota National Guard)

Quick Reaction Forces (QRF)

The Minnesota National Guard has three strategically located QRF units that are capable of supporting local, state and federal authorities with an initial response up to a company-sized element after notification.

Rapid Reaction Forces (RRF)

The Minnesota National Guard has one RRF that is capable of supporting local, state and federal authorities with a response up to a battalion-sized element after notification and as mission dictates.

55th Civil Support Team (CST)

This federally funded, full-time unit that supports civil authorities at a domestic chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) incident site in order to identify CBRN agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures and assisting with appropriate requests for support.

The CST will deploy to the incident location following notification. Full-time active duty personnel are ready to respond 24/7.

CBRN Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP)

Responds to a CBRN incident and assists local, state and federal agencies in conducting consequence management by providing capabilities to conduct patient decontamination, emergency medical services and casualty search and extraction.

The CERFP will deploy to the incident location following notification.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

DNR Enforcement Division can provide personnel; assist with search and rescue; and provide specialized equipment such as watercraft, ATVs and snowmobiles.

Department of Health

Disaster Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU)

Equipment includes 8- by 25-foot trailers, one being a command center offering full morgue operations.

DPMU Victim Identification Methods include X-ray, dental, DNA and fingerprints.

Potential temporary morgue sites include local mortuaries, airport hangars, armories and closed strip malls.

Minnesota Disaster Mortuary Emergency Response Team (DMERT)

DMERT is composed of private citizens, each with a particular field of expertise, who are activated in the event of a mass fatality incident. DMERT specialties include dental assistants, forensic anthropologists, forensic odontologists, forensic pathologists, radiologists, mental health practitioners, administrative support, coroners, fingerprint and/or DNA specialists, funeral directors, information technology, medicolegal investigators, radiologic technologists and security/safety personnel.

Health and Medical Resources

Multiple Casualty Incident Buses

Emergency uses include: patient transport, responder rehabilitation, strike team or task force support.

Buses include: stretchers or seats for patients, advanced/basic life support, transport vents, cardiac monitors and wireless central monitor.