

Liberty RadEx

National Tier 2 Full-Scale Radiological Dispersion Device Exercise
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania April 26-30, 2010

Liberty RadEx...what is it?

Liberty RadEx is a national exercise sponsored and designed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to practice and test federal, state and local assessment and cleanup capabilities in the aftermath of a radiological dispersion device (also known as a RDD or “dirty bomb”) incident in an urban environment. Most exercises only focus on the first hours and days of a response. Liberty RadEx is unique in that participants will practice their “post-emergency” phase responsibilities and coordination, and work with stakeholders and the public to plan for community recovery. Liberty RadEx provides the opportunity to share information and procedures while strengthening relationships among federal, state and local partners in Pennsylvania and adjoining states.



EPA Mobile Command Post



Cleanup and assessment

Exercising the National Response Framework (NRF):

Unfortunately, disasters can happen anywhere. The NRF was written to ensure a consistent national response and coordinate the roles and responsibilities of the local, state, and federal government during large and small disasters. The Department of Homeland Security National Exercise Program (NEP) is designed to test the nation’s ability to respond to natural and man-made disasters.

Liberty RadEx will focus on:

- Local, state, and federal management (Unified Command) of the incident;
- Federal support to state and local authorities, including radiological assessment, hazardous materials response, public health protection, mass care, infrastructure restoration, public communication, and community recovery;
- EPA’s NRF leadership role in radiological assessment and hazardous materials response; and
- Public involvement in response planning and community recovery.



Key Participating Agencies:

- US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- US Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA)
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)
- City of Philadelphia
- US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- US Department of Energy (DOE)
- US Coast Guard (USCG)
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Also participating: American Red Cross, Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), General Services Administration (GSA), Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), National Park Service (NPS), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), US Postal Service (USPS), US Small Business Administration (SBA), State of New Jersey, and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).



Exercise Goals and Objectives:

- Test the effectiveness of Emergency Support Function No. 10 (ESF-10) and the Nuclear and Radiological Incident Annex of the NRF in the post-emergency phase.
- Practice joint local, state, and federal management of the assessment and cleanup of radiation contamination in an urban environment.
- Strengthen overall coordination and relationships between local, state, and federal partners to improve:
 - Community support and recovery;
 - Community involvement;
 - Crisis communication;
 - Cleanup prioritization;
 - Development of protective measures for workers and the public; and
 - Other areas of public/private response.

Exercise Logistics:

Liberty RadEx activities will take place in locations throughout Philadelphia, including:

- Downtown locations;
- Drinking water supply and water pollution control facilities;
- Transportation centers (subways, roadways, port/vessel facilities);
- Public parks and historic areas.

Liberty RadEx Command Center
April 26-30, 2010
Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel
17th & Race Streets
Philadelphia, PA



Photo by Bob Krist/GPMTC

Exercise players may be seen in protective clothing and will be using technical monitoring and assessment equipment during Liberty RadEx. Immediately before and during the exercise, information will be provided to people working and living in the exercise areas to ensure their awareness of exercise activities.

For additional information email: libertyradex@tetrattech.com