

# Mexico-United States

## Joint Contingency Plan

**Preparedness for and Response to Emergencies  
and Contingencies Associated with Chemical  
Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border**



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency



SEMARNAT  
SEGOB



Cover Design by Enrique Ortiz Garcia



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Emergency Management  
National Planning and  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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100	INTRODUCTION.....	1
101	Purpose .....	1
102	Objectives .....	1
103	Scope.....	1
104	Coordinating Authority .....	2
105	Joint Policies .....	3
106	Related Plans in Mexico .....	4
107	Related Plans in the United States .....	4
200	ORGANIZATION.....	5
201	Joint Response Team (JRT).....	5
202	Situation/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT) .....	5
203	On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) .....	6
204	Coordination with the Tribal, Local, and State Governments for Preparedness and Response.....	6
205	Technical Assistance .....	7
300	RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION OPERATIONS .....	8
301	Notification .....	8
302	Preliminary Assessment .....	8
303	Joint Response Team Activation .....	8
304	Joint Response Team Deactivation .....	9
305	Joint Response Team Procedures .....	9
306	Documentation for a Joint Response .....	9
307	Public Information .....	10
308	Health and Safety .....	11
400	PREPARATION .....	12
401	Revision, Assessment, and Update of the Inland Border Plan .....	12
402	Drills .....	12
403	Educational Activities .....	12
500	EFFECTIVE DATE/AMENDMENTS/TERMINATION .....	13

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

APPENDIX A – Telephone Numbers and E-mails to Notify of an Emergency/ Notification Procedures . . . . .	14
APPENDIX B – Notification Form. . . . .	20
APPENDIX C – Activation/Deactivation Forms/Diagrams . . . . .	22
APPENDIX D – Response Operations Diagrams. . . . .	26
APPENDIX E – Reporting Information . . . . .	28
APPENDIX F – Acronyms. . . . .	30
APPENDIX G – Definitions . . . . .	33
APPENDIX H – Joint Response Team (JRT) Institutions and Agencies . . . . .	36
APPENDIX I – Roles and Responsibilities. . . . .	43
APPENDIX J – Map of Inland Border Area and Sister Cities. . . . .	47
APPENDIX K – List of Federal, State, and Local Plans . . . . .	49



## **100 Introduction**

Recognizing that the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies primarily affect the local community and that 90% of the population in the Inland Border Area reside in 15 Sister Cities—15 in the United States of Mexico (Mexico) and 15 in the United States of America (United States or U.S.)—future planning efforts are required to respond to an event of considerable magnitude that involves one or more chemical hazardous substances.

The Mexico-United States Joint Contingencies and Emergencies Plan for Preparedness and Response to Events Associated with Chemical Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area (hereafter referred to as the Inland Border Plan), provides a mechanism for cooperation between Mexico and the United States to provide response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency that may present a significant threat for both Participants or that affects one of them in such a way that justifies the notification of the other Participant or request for assistance.

This Inland Border Plan is not intended to supersede any statutory authorities held by either Participant, to create any legally binding rights or obligations under domestic or international law with regard to the Participants or any other entity, or to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity against the Participants or any other entity.

## **101 Purpose**

- 101.1 The purpose of the Inland Border Plan is based on the principles of Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement, which is to protect the health, human safety and the environment, providing joint and coordinated responses to significant chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies that affect the Inland Border Area between Mexico and the United States.

## **102 Objectives**

- 102.1 The objectives of this Inland Border Plan are:
- to provide a bi-national coordination mechanism to ensure appropriate and effective cooperative preparedness and response measures between Mexico and the United States during significant chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies; and
  - to develop a notification system for chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies in the area covered by this Inland Border Plan.

## **103 Scope**

- 103.1 The Inland Border Plan applies to significant incidents and emergencies involving chemical hazardous substances that affect or have the potential to affect the environment along the Inland Border Area of Mexico-U.S. (as shown in Appendix J). As used in this Inland Border Plan, the term “chemical hazardous substances” includes oil. This Inland Border Plan includes contingencies and emergencies involving chemical hazardous substances in the Inland Border Area that have the potential for transboundary effects, and may apply to incidents and emergencies that although directly affecting one country, are of such magnitude as to justify notifying or requesting assistance from the other country (e.g., for technical advice, responders

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## 100 INTRODUCTION

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and equipment). The chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies that affect the marine environment or coastal waters are covered in the Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment due to Oil and Other Toxic Substances Spills, signed on July 24, 1980.

- 103.2 This Inland Border Plan does not provide for either notification or response to contingencies or emergencies caused by radiological substances or materials, biological substances, or terrorist acts.
- 103.3 Nothing that is contained in the Inland Border Plan is intended to supercede, or preclude the development or implementation of, existing or future agreements between Mexico and the United States. Nor is it intended to affect any rights and obligations of the Participants established pursuant to other agreements or international instruments of which they are or may become Participants.
- 103.4 The Inland Border Plan is to be implemented in coordination with the Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment (Marine Plan) in the event both plans are activated for the same contingency or emergency.

### 104 *Coordinating Authority*

- 104.1 This Inland Border Plan is to be implemented under the principles of the Agreement between the United States of America and the United Mexican States on Cooperation for the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area, signed August 14, 1983 (known as La Paz Agreement), that is authorized and established in accordance with the Annex II of the Agreement, dating July 18, 1985.
- 104.2 The Coordinating Authorities of this Inland Border Plan are to have the roles of Co-chair. The United States will have one Co-chair and Mexico two.
- 104.3 For Mexico, the Co-chairs for this Inland Border Plan are: the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) through the Office of the Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA); and the General Coordinator for Civil Protection (CGPC) within the Secretariat of Government (SEGOB). The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) within the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the coordinating authority for the United States.

In Mexico, the Joint Response Team (JRT) is composed of representatives of PROFEPA and CGPC; in the United States by EPA, and appropriate support agencies (as specified in Appendix H), to coordinate responses to chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies consistent with the provisions of Section 300 and Appendix I of this Inland Border Plan. The Co-chairs of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup will Co-chair the JRT. The Co-chairs of this Inland Border Plan are to be responsible for securing the involvement of the agencies in their respective countries. Such efforts are to be conducted in cooperation with the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs in Mexico and the Department of State in the United States.

- 104.4 The Co-chairs are to keep their respective National Coordinators, authorities designated by the La Paz Agreement, informed of all key activities and emergency activations conducted under this Inland Border Plan.

- 104.5 The responsibilities of specific agencies in Mexico are intended to be consistent with the General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection (LGEEPA), the General Law for Prevention and Integrated Waste Management (LGPGIR) and the General Law of Civil Protection and the responsibilities for the specific agencies in the United States are to follow the U.S. National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 CFR part 300 and its supplemental guidance. The NCP is authorized by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), in addition to the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972 as amended by the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990.
- 104.6 In the event of a spill or release of chemical hazardous substances into international rivers and waters along the Inland Border Area, the Mexico and United States Commissioners to the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) are to respond to the event; when doing so is consistent with IBWC authorities and to the extent resources permit. The Commissioners are to inform the Co-chairs of the Joint Response Team and the Tribal, state and local authorities in their respective countries of such events. If an incident exceeds the response capacity of the IBWC, the Commissioners have the responsibility to contact the National Communications Center (CENACOM) and the National Response Center (NRC) respectively, in order to assure that the response actions are carried out. Such notification is to follow the procedures established in the Appendix A of this Inland Border Plan.

## 105 *Joint Policies*

- 105.1 When a joint response is required to mitigate the effects of a hazardous chemical substance contingency or emergency, this Inland Border Plan is intended to facilitate the provision of assistance to the affected country. Such assistance may include: facilitation of the entrance of officials from one country to the other; the provision of assistance at the request or after receiving the prior consent of the other country; the coordination of federal efforts, activities and resources of both countries; and/or the exchange of information between the Participants.
- 105.2 The Co-chairs are to promote the development, maintenance, and implementation of the Joint Contingency Plans of the Sister Cities that are coordinated with the local, State and Tribal authorities.
- 105.3 Effective communication between Mexico and the U.S. is crucial to the successful implementation of this Inland Border Plan. The Co-chairs are to develop and maintain the necessary communication systems that allow for effective communication with regard to the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies. Any chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency along the inland border that represents a potential threat to the other country, according to the provisions of Section 103.1 and 103.2 of this Plan, is to be reported as early as possible in accordance with the procedures established in Appendices A and B of this Inland Border Plan.
- 105.4 This Inland Border Plan is to be implemented in a manner consistent with the laws and regulations of each country.
- 105.5 In a response situation covered by the Inland Border Plan, the Co-chairs, subject to the availability of appropriate funds and resources, are to make every effort to obtain resources that may be used in the joint response operations. In addition, each country is to have procedures in place to facilitate obtaining the necessary resources from both the public and private sectors that may be used to achieve a successful outcome to a joint response operation.

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## 100 INTRODUCTION

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- 105.6 In observation of each country's legislation, each Co-chair is to encourage appropriate officials in his/her country to ensure the timely implementation of customs, immigration, and other necessary authorization mechanisms in order to facilitate an expedited entry and exit of responders and equipment needed to ensure an efficient joint response.
- 105.7 Each country, in observation of its current procedures and legislation, is to determine what type of chemical and/or biological countermeasures are to be employed in mitigating a chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency in its territory.

### ***106 Related Plans in Mexico***

#### 106.1 National Plans

- Organization Guide and Operation of the National System of Civil Protection Program
- National Program for Medical Attention During Disasters (Secretariat of Health)
- Marine Plan for Assistance to Citizens in Emergency or Disaster Events and Zones (Secretariat of Navy)
- Plan DN-III-E: Civilian Population Assistance (Secretariat of National Defense)
- Manual of Emergency Attention for Environmental and Hydro ecological Emergencies Related to Water Bodies or National Goods (CONAGUA)
- National Contingencies Plan to Combat and Control Oil Spills and Other Toxic Substances in the Sea (update and modifications, published in the D.O.F. on February of 1999) (Secretariat of Navy)

#### 106.2 Civil Protection State Programs

- Baja California
- Sonora
- Chihuahua
- Coahuila
- Nuevo Leon
- Tamaulipas

### ***107 Related Plans in the United States***

- 107.1 The U.S. intends to implement this Inland Border Plan in a manner that is consistent with the U.S. National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 CFR part 300); more commonly called the National Contingency Plan (NCP). The NCP is the U.S. government's plan of action for responding to both oil spills and releases of hazardous substances (including biological and disease causing agents, illness generators and radioactive materials). For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, the U.S. may implement the NCP to respond to potential chemical hazardous substances emergencies and contingencies.



## **200 Organization**

The following is a summary of the federal response structure intended to provide the core framework for the coordination of a joint response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency within this Inland Border Plan. A detailed list of functions and responsibilities of the federal agencies can be found in Appendix H. The federal response structure that is intended to provide the nucleus for coordinating a joint response to a polluting incident under this Inland Border Plan is summarized below. A detailed list of duties and responsibilities of federal entities can be found in Appendix H.

### **201 Joint Response Team (JRT)**

- 201.1 The JRT is the policy and decision-making body with overall responsibility for the maintenance and effective implementation of this Inland Border Plan for both the United States and Mexico.
- 201.2 The U.S. and Mexican Co-chairs of the JRT are represented by the EPA Office of Emergency Management and the Office of the Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) and the General Coordinator for Civil Protection (CGPC), respectively. They are also the coordinating authorities for the implementation of the Inland Border Plan.
- 201.3 The Agencies and relevant support institutions from each country are the members of the JRT.
- 201.4 The Co-chairs of the JRT are to ensure the coordination with JRT support agencies.

### **202 Situation/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT)**

- 202.1 The ISJRT is responsible for implementing the Inland Border Plan effectively at the state and local level in Mexico and at the regional level in the United States, consistent with JRT policies.
- 202.2 The general function of the ISJRT includes planning and preparing for chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, as well as monitoring and supporting response operations, as necessary. The ISJRT may be called upon to resolve a preparedness issue that requires some localized geographic action, when a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency has occurred and a coordinated response and follow up are required, or when there is a threat to a specific geographic area that requires coordination with appropriate personnel. The Co-chairs of the JRT of Mexico and the U.S. are to designate, as appropriate, a representative to lead this team.

In Mexico, the corresponding delegate is from PROFEPA, the representative from local, federal and state Civil Protection.

In the United States, the Co-chair from the Regional Response Team (RRT) from the corresponding EPA Regional office may include members from the National Response Team (NRT), as described in section 300.110 of the National Contingency Plan, but also includes Tribal, state, local and regional representatives.

- 202.3 The ISJRT may be comprised of federal, regional, state and local agencies from each country and in the case of the United States, also by representatives of Tribal Governments.

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## 200 ORGANIZATION

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### 203 *On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs)*

- 203.1 The OSC is the federal authority designated in each country to perform the functions and responsibilities of coordination of joint response actions at the site of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in the Inland Border Area of that country and to provide information on the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies to the ISJRT.
- 203.2 The OSC may:
- Provide advice, assistance and support to the Tribal Governments, local or state incident commander and serve as coordinator and director of the federal government activities at the scene of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency; or,
  - Direct the response to the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency when it falls under federal jurisdiction or in compliance with federal or state agreements, or when the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency is beyond the response capabilities of the state and local incident commander.
- 203.3 For Mexico, two OSCs are to be designated in the affected zone; one will be designated by a PROFEPA Representative and the other by the General Coordinator of Civil Protection from the Secretariat of Government.
- 203.4 For the United States, the OSC is to be designated by the regional EPA office in the affected zone.

### 204 *Coordination with the Tribal, Local, and State Governments for Preparedness and Response*

- 204.1 Local authorities are responsible for initiating and coordinating responses to contingencies and emergencies chemical hazardous substances. Therefore, each country is to encourage its Sister Cities to have up-to-date contingency plans (Sister City Plans) and information about potential hazards, as well as adequate equipment and trained personnel for responding to chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies. Ninety percent of the border population resides in fifteen paired, inter-dependent Sister Cities. There are 26 U.S. Federally Recognized Tribes in the border region, which range in size from 9 to 17,000 members; and seven Indigenous Mexican Groups reside in the border area. Recognizing that chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies affect the local community first, JRT members agreed that subsequent planning efforts are needed for the Tribal Governments and the 30 Border Cities—fifteen in Mexico and the adjacent fifteen in the United States—that could be affected by a major hazardous chemical substance release. The Sister City Contingency Plan Program was created to meet that need. Currently, fifteen paired Sister Cities have a Joint Contingency Plan.
- 204.2 To ensure that there is no duplication of efforts by the authorities during a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, the Inland Border Plan and its Appendices are to be coordinated with all the existing Mexican plans and agreements and the emergency plans prepared by the local planning districts from the U.S. with regard to the international border, in compliance with the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), Title III, as well as the Area Contingency Plans developed under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

- 204.3 Nothing in this Inland Border Plan imposes formal obligations to the Tribal, state, local and regional authorities beyond those established by the laws of both countries.
- 204.4 The Co-chairs for the Inland Border Plan are to ensure the development and implementation of the Sister City Plans at the Tribal, state and local level.

### **205 *Technical Assistance***

- 205.1 Technical assistance is available to help the OSC in response operations under this Inland Border Plan in the form of experts and specialized equipment through the ISJRT. Such resources include experts with experience in cleaning techniques, chemistry, engineering, biology, hydrology, health effects, toxicology, communications, natural resources and other related situations that involve control and evaluation of the response.

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## **300 RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION OPERATIONS**

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### ***300 Response and Notification Operations***

This section puts forward the general procedures for a joint, integrated and coordinated response at the federal level, to complement the response actions to Tribal, state, local and regional emergencies after a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in the inland border. The specific details on these procedures for a joint response are indicated in Appendices D and I.

### ***301 Notification***

- 301.1 Any chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency that affects or has the potential to affect the environment along the Inland Border Area is to be reported immediately to the National Communications Center (CENACOM) or the National Response Center (NRC), which in turn is to notify its counterpart, following the notification procedures using the telephone numbers described in Appendix A of this document and providing the information described in Appendix B.
- 301.2 The OSC is to ensure that all the appropriate notifications in his/her respective country are performed, as described in Appendix A and Appendix D.

### ***302 Preliminary Assessment***

- 302.1 After receiving the notification of a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in the Inland Border Area, the OSC, in consultation with the ISJRT, is to perform a preliminary assessment to determine whether the Inland Border Plan is to be activated and, in turn, transmit this information to the country's JRT Co-chair consistent with the activation procedures and form in Appendix C.

### ***303 Joint Response Team Activation***

- 303.1 If after a preliminary assessment from the OSC the ISJRT determines that the response action required exceeds its capabilities and resources, it is to request to the Co-chair of the JRT, the activation of the Inland Border Plan, using the form described in Appendix B and C.

The Co-chair of the JRT is to notify the National Coordinator that the activation of the Plan is recommended and if they agree, they may request its Mexican counterpart the activation of the Plan, using the form located in Appendix C, with the information described in Appendix B.

The information is to be sent in a written form (e-mail or fax) and by telephone.
- 303.2 After receiving the activation form, the National Coordinators or JRT Co-chairs are to notify their respective foreign relations affairs department that an environmental emergency has occurred (or has the potential to occur). For Mexico, this department is the Secretariat of Foreign Relations whom shall be notified through the Technical and Scientific Cooperation General Direction, copying the North American General Direction, and for the United States it is the State Department.

### **304 *Joint Response Team Deactivation***

- 304.1 If the Co-chairs of the JRT determine that the Inland Border Plan activation is no longer needed, based on OSC and ISJRT information, they are to deactivate the Inland Border Plan by sending a fax or e-mail, completing the deactivation form found in Appendix C, and notifying the National Coordinators, the OSCs, the ISJRT and the Foreign Affairs Departments, by telephone.

### **305 *Joint Response Team Procedures***

- 305.1 In the event of Inland Border Plan activation the OSC, in coordination with the ISJRT, is to also consider the following:
- Joint response actions that are to take place;
  - Status of the response operations in each country;
  - Personnel, equipment and financial resources available;
  - Information that is to be transmitted to the public;
  - Safety and health issues; and
  - Ecological/natural, historical issues.
- 305.2 If issues cannot be resolved, the ISJRT is to recommend that the OSC be consulted. If required, the JRT is to also be consulted.

### **306 *Documentation for a Joint Response***

- 306.1 The OSC, the ISJRT and the JRT under this Inland Border Plan are to prepare the appropriate documentation, consistent with Section 306.2 of this Inland Border Plan:
- 306.2 The OSC is to provide:
- The Preliminary Assessment, to describe the nature and effects of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency (see Appendix E), indicating the identification of the source, and the quantity and the location of the chemical hazardous substance; an evaluation of the threat to human health or the environment; an evaluation of the magnitude of the release or threat of release; and whether the potentially responsible Party is undertaking a proper response.
  - Situation Reports (SITREPs), to provide up-to-date information on the emergency incident and response action conducted under this Inland Border Plan. SITREPs are to describe the current status of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, the actions taken, future plans, recommendations, and requests for assistance. The SITREPs are to be forwarded to the Co-chairs and the members of the ISJRT as frequently as necessary, or as determined by the Co-chairs.



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## 300 RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION OPERATIONS

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306.3 The ISJRT is to provide the following:

- Final Incident Report. After a joint response has been terminated, the ISJRT is to prepare a final incident report in conjunction with the OSCs to be forwarded to the Co-chair. The Final Incident Report is to accurately describe the situation as it developed, the actions taken, the resources committed, the problems encountered, and recommendations as described in Appendix E. This report may be accessed through the EPA OSC website at <http://epaosc.org>.
- Final Preparation and Planning Report. If the ISJRT is called to assist in conducting a preparedness exercise in the Inland Border Area, as specified in Section 202 of this Inland Border Plan, a Final Issue Report is to be prepared and transmitted to the Co-chair. This Final Preparation and Planning Report is to describe the specific issues in detail, the specific geographic area, and members of the ISJRT who worked on the drills, their roles, actions taken, ideas and options considered for the response and the pros and cons of each, as well as final recommendations.

306.4 The Co-chair has the responsibility to provide:

- Activation Declaration that formally activates the Inland Border Plan, providing a brief description of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, and detailing the initial responsibilities.
- Deactivation Declaration that formally deactivates the Inland Border Plan, describing briefly the reasons for the deactivation.

### 307 *Public Information*

- 307.1 When a chemical hazardous substance contingency and emergency occurs, the affected population and general public is to receive timely and accurate information with regard to the nature of the incident, the actions being undertaken to solve the problem, and what the population needs to be protected. This information is intended to protect human lives, encourage understanding among the community, ensure the cooperation from all affected populations and the general public, and reduce the possibility of the spread of concern through misinformation.
- 307.2 When the Inland Border Plan is activated, the Co-chair, in coordination with the ISJRT and the OSC, is to develop a public information strategy incorporating the guidelines from Section 307.1 of the Inland Border Plan.
- 307.3 Each Co-chair of the JRT is to assign, with the resources from his/her country, an on-scene public information specialist to act as a liaison between the Co-chair and interested Participants in their respective countries, including Tribal Governments, local and state authorities, electronic and written news media, government press offices, the public, special interest groups, and concerned industries.
- 307.4 In coordination with the OSC, the public information specialist of each country is to jointly issue press releases and other public information relative to Section 307.2 of this Inland Border Plan. The published news are to contain operations information. The Co-chairs in coordination with other representatives are to discuss policy issues prior to communicating them when the Co-chairs consider it necessary. The OSC is to notify the state and local authorities, as well as the ISJRT, of all activities related to public relations and press releases.

### 308 *Health and Safety*

- 308.1 Medical Services. Each of the coordinating local authorities has the responsibility to notify the appropriate health agencies of the need for medical services related to the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies.
- 308.2 Workers Health and Safety. All government divisions and private organizations are responsible for the health and safety of the employees. Each agency and organization is to make sure that a program for occupational safety and health is made available for the protection of its workers at the response site. Workers involved at the response, and workers entering the response site, are to be informed of the response site hazards and provisions of the health and safety program. Involved workers are to follow standard operating procedures during the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies.

For the U.S., the provisions of the health and safety program are to include: (1) standard operating procedures for entering and leaving the response site, (2) use of equipment and decontamination; (3) accountability for personnel entering and leaving the response site; (4) recommended safety and health equipment; (5) personal safety precautions; and (6) other measures as warranted.

- 308.3 Evacuation and Relocation. In the event of an evacuation, Tribal, state, and local authorities are to be in charge of identifying the evacuation zones, notifying the civilian population, and transporting and relocating them to a safe place, following their established procedures.

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## **400 PREPARATION**

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### **400 Preparation**

This section describes the planning and preparedness activities that are to take place prior to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency. Appendices H and I describe the specific functions and responsibilities of the JRT, the ISJRT and the OSC prior to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.

### **401 Revision, Assessment, and Update of the Inland Border Plan**

- 401.1 When revising the Inland Border Plan, the Co-chairs, in consultation with the JRT, are to take into consideration, the following:
- The SITREPs provided by the OSC; the Incident Final Report and the Final Preparedness and Planning Report, provided by the ISJRT;
  - Lessons learned from the exercises; and
  - Changes or updates in national policies and/or procedures in Mexico and the United States.
- 401.2 Based on the results of the revision, the Inland Border Plan is to be assessed every five years, or as necessary, or at the request of one of the Co-chairs, with prior consultation with the JRT.
- 401.3 According to the assessment, the Co-chairs are to propose the changes and updates to the National Coordinators, as needed.
- 401.4 The proposed changes by the Co-chairs and subsequent approval by the National Coordinators are to be undertaken through written correspondence, once agreed upon and validated by the Participants. When the changes are approved, they will be inserted into a new revised version for the Inland Border Plan.

### **402 Drills**

- 402.1 In order to evaluate each procedure of this Inland Border Plan, each Sister City pair is to plan and conduct binational table top and field drills and exercises, as needed.
- 402.2 In order to promote greater efficiency between the entities and authorities involved in the Inland Border Plan, it is recommended that the JRT and the ISJRT organize planning meetings, during dates when the drills take place and invite more than one Region or State.
- 402.3 In order to improve the response capacity in the inland border area and have specialized personnel to attend the chemical hazardous substances contingency and emergency, training courses are to be schedule prior to the drill, taking into consideration the specific local needs.

### **403 Educational Activities**

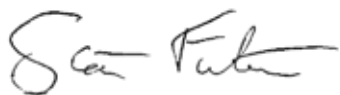
Both countries may participate in an exchange of educational activities including academic courses, seminars, workshops and conferences that contribute to the implementation of this Inland Border Plan.

### 500 Effective Date/Amendments/Termination

- 500.1 This Inland Border Plan supersedes the Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan for Preparedness for and Response to Environmental Emergencies caused by Releases, Spills, Fires, or Explosions of Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area, signed in June of 1999.
- 500.2 This Inland Border Plan is to take effect upon the signature of both Participants.
- 500.3 This Inland Border is to be amended in accordance with section 401.1 of this Inland Border Plan.
- 500.4 Any of the Participants may terminate this Inland Border Plan at any time, by providing written notice, at least ninety (90) days prior to the desired termination date.

Signed on September four of two thousand and eight, in Spanish and English languages, both texts being equally authentic originals.

#### For the United States of America



**Scott Fulton**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of International Affairs*  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### For the United States of Mexico



**Lic. Enrique Lendo Fuentes**

*Head of the International Affairs Unit*  
Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources



**Lic. Laura Gurza Jaidar**

*General Coordinator for Civil Protection*  
Secretariat of Government

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## APPENDIX A

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### Telephone Numbers and E-mails to Notify of an Emergency

Any chemical emergency or contingency that involves a chemical hazardous substance or oil spill that has the potential to affect the other country should be reported by any local, state or federal officer in the following manner:

#### *Notification in Mexico*

For calls in Mexico, the National Communications Center (CENACOM) may be reached by dialing any of the following numbers:

CENACOM (Operates 24 hours a day/7 days a week)  
(01) (55) 5128 - 0000 extensions 11470 to 11476 (telephone)  
(01) (800) 0041 - 300 (telephone only in Mexico)  
(01) (55) 5128 - 0303 (automatic fax)  
E-mail: [cenacom@segob.gob.mx](mailto:cenacom@segob.gob.mx)

For people calling from the United States, CENACOM may be reached by dialing any of the following telephone numbers. The numbers follow the following format: 011 (International Code); 52 (Country Code); 55 (City Code); and telephone number.

(011) (52) (55) 5128 - 0000 extensions 11470 al 11476 (telephone)  
(01) (800) 0041 - 300 (telephone only in Mexico)  
(011) (52) (55) 5128 - 0303 (fax)  
E-mail: [cenacom@segob.gob.mx](mailto:cenacom@segob.gob.mx)

When providing notification of a chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency to the NRC, the person who calls should provide as much information as possible from the list in Appendix B.

Afterwards, CENACOM is to notify (via email and telephone) the members from both countries listed below. CENACOM is to also notify the JRT Co-chair in Mexico and the NRC, in case of a chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency (see Appendix A, Notification Procedures from Mexico).

The border state and local offices for emergency response may access the additional contact numbers for the United States agencies that are listed below. The Local Contingency Plans for Sister Cities (See Appendix I) contain local United States contacts and may be consulted for additional notification procedures.

#### **Mexican Contacts**

(011) (52) (55) 2615 - 2045 (telephone 24/7)  
(011) (52) (55) 5449 - 6300 extension 16129 (telephone)  
(01) (800) (710) - 4943 (telephone only in Mexico, 24/7)  
(011) (52) (55) 5449 - 6300 extension 16253 (fax)  
E-mail: [coatea@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:coatea@profepa.gob.mx)



**PROFEPA/COATEA**

(011) (52) (55) 5449 - 6350/2415 (telephone)  
(011) (52) (55) 5449 - 6391 (telephone)  
(011) (52) (55) 5449 - 6300 extension 16285 (fax)  
E-mail: coatea@profepa.gob.mx

**CGPC/SEGOB**

(011) (52) (55) 5128 0000 extensions 11470 to 11476 (telephone)  
(01) (800) 0041 - 300 (telephone only in Mexico)  
(011) (52) (55) 5128 0303 (fax automático)  
Correo electrónico: cenacom@segob.gob.mx

**Civil Protection of the State of Baja California (Mexico)**

(686) 555 - 4998 (telephone)  
(686) 557 - 2850 (telephone)  
(686) 557 - 4758 (fax)  
E-mail: procivil@gpcs.gob.mx

**Civil Protection of the State of Sonora (Mexico)**

(662) 217 - 5430 (telephone)  
(662) 217 - 5410 (telephone)  
(662) 217 - 3816 (fax)  
E-mail: wac@proteccioncivilsonora.gob.mx

**Civil Protection of the State of Tamaulipas (Mexico)**

(834) 305 - 7134 (telephone)  
(834) 305 - 7132 (fax)  
E-mail: proteccioncivil@tamaulipas.gob.mx

**Civil Protection of the State of Coahuila (Mexico)**

(844) 438 - 9800 extension 5327 (telephone)  
(844) 412 - 6316 (telephone)  
(844) 438 - 4946 (fax)  
E-mail: pccoahuilamx@yahoo.com

**Civil Protection of the State of Chihuahua (Mexico)**

(614) 429 - 7317 (telephone)  
(614) 424 - 4795 (fax)  
E-mail: cic080@buzon.chihuahua.gob.mx

**Civil Protection of the State of Nuevo Leon (Mexico)**

(81) 8343 - 3729 (telephone)  
(81) 8443 - 1116 extension 107 (telephone)  
(81) 8344 - 0170 (fax)  
E-mail: pcivil@nuevoleon.gob.mx

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## APPENDIX A

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### PROFEPA in the State of Baja California (Mexico)

(686) 668 - 9266 (telephone)

(686) 668 - 9267 (fax)

E-mail: [emergencias\\_bc@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:emergencias_bc@profepa.gob.mx)

### PROFEPA in the State of Sonora (Mexico)

(662) 217 - 5453 (telephone)

(662) 217 - 5454 (telephone)

(662) 217 - 5459 extension 3012 (fax)

E-mail: [emergencias\\_son@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:emergencias_son@profepa.gob.mx)

### PROFEPA in the State of Chihuahua (Mexico)

(656) 682 - 3990 (telephone)

(656) 640 - 2815 (fax)

E-mail: [emergencias\\_chih@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:emergencias_chih@profepa.gob.mx)

### PROFEPA in the State of Coahuila (Mexico)

(844) 485 - 0981 al 84 (telephone and fax)

E-mail: [emergencias\\_coa@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:emergencias_coa@profepa.gob.mx)

### PROFEPA in the State of Nuevo Leon (Mexico)

(81) 8354 - 9806 (telephone)

(81) 8355 - 5044 (telephone)

(81) 8355 - 1094 (fax)

E-mail: [emergencias\\_nl@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:emergencias_nl@profepa.gob.mx)

### PROFEPA in the State of Tamaulipas (Mexico)

(834) 312 - 2456 (telephon)

(834) 312 - 8663 (telephon)

(834) 315 - 3830 extension 102 (fax)

E-mail: [emergencias\\_tmpe@profepa.gob.mx](mailto:emergencias_tmpe@profepa.gob.mx)

### International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)

(656) 613 - 9916 (telephone)

(656) 613 - 7311 (telephone)

(656) 613 - 9943 (fax)

E-mail: [cilamex@cilamexu.gob.mx](mailto:cilamex@cilamexu.gob.mx)

### Emergency Attention and Hydraulic Infrastructure Protection Agency (PIAE)

(55) 5365 - 1951 (telephone)

(55) 5365 - 1712 (fax)

E-mail: [antonio.davila@cna.gob.mx](mailto:antonio.davila@cna.gob.mx)

### United States Contacts

The NRC may be reached by dialing: 001-202-267-2675 (not a toll-free number).

## ***Notification in the United States***

People who call from the United States may contact the National Response Center (NRC), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, using the following numbers:

1-800-424-8802 (toll-free)

1-202-267-2675 (not toll-free)

People who call from Mexico may reach the NRC by dialing:

001-202-267-2675 (not toll-free)

Please note that the NRC may receive verbal notification in Spanish. The NRC utilizes a Spanish translator for these calls.

When providing notification of emergency to the NRC, the person who calls is to provide as much information as possible from the list in Appendix B. The NRC may also receive reports in English through its web site at: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/report.html>

The NRC is to notify (through an exclusive fax line) the Participants in both countries in the following list. In the case of COATEA, Mexico, the notification will be by e-mail.

<b><i>United States Contacts</i></b>	
U.S. EPA Regional Coordinators	US EPA Region 9 US EPA Region 6
U.S. JRT Co-chair	US EPA Office of Emergency Management, Emergency Operations Center (202) 564-3850 (phone) (202) 564-8729 (dedicated fax)
<b><i>Mexican Contacts</i></b>	
National Communications Center (CENACOM)	011-52-55-5128-0303 (exclusive fax)
COATEA/PROFEPA	coatea@profepa.gob.mx

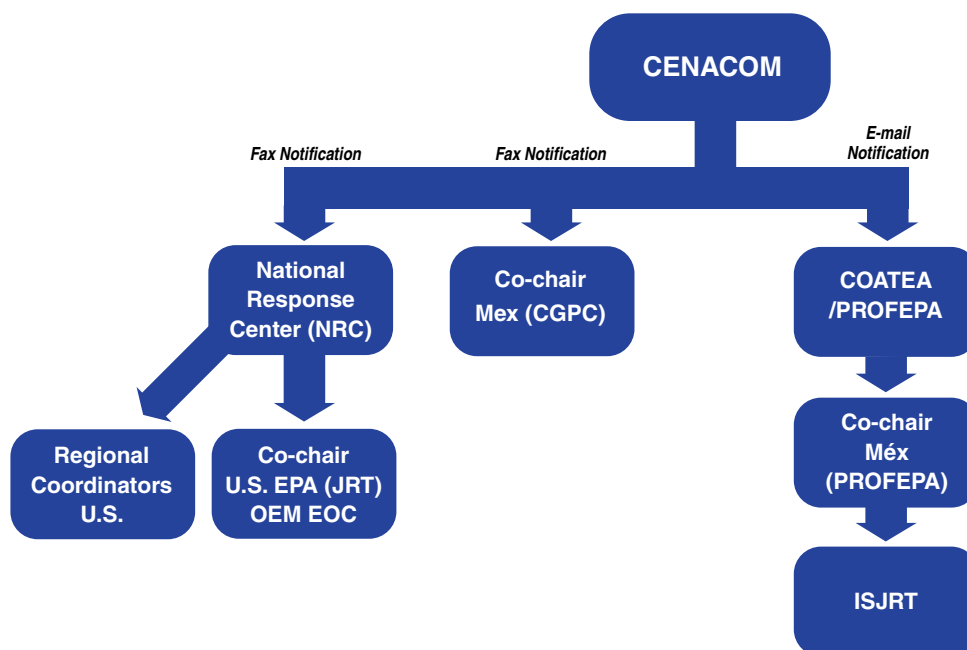
The NRC is to also notify the OSCs from EPA in the jurisdiction of the incident, which in turn is to follow up on the notification. The Tribal Governments are to be notified of incidents through the U.S. EPA Regional Coordinators in the appropriate Region.

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## APPENDIX A

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### *Notification Procedures from Mexico*



**ACRONYM KEY:**

CENACOM – National Communications Center (Civil Protection SEGOB)

COATEA – Center for the Orientation of Emergencies (PROFEPA)

EOC – Emergency Operations Center

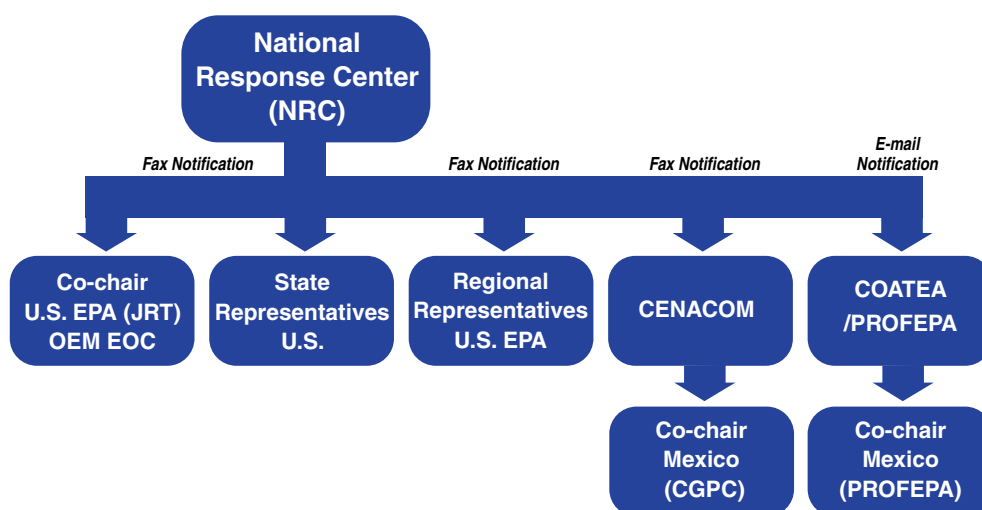
ISJRT – Incident-Specific Joint Response Team

JRT – Joint Response Team (Co-chair Mexico PROFEPA, Protección Civil, and Co-chair U.S. EPA)

OEM – Office of Emergency Management

PROFEPA – Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protección

## Notification Procedures from U.S. EPA



### ACRONYM KEY:

CENACOM – National Communications Center (Civil Protection SEGOB)

COATEA – Center for the Orientation of Emergencies (PROFEPA)

EOC – Emergency Operations Center

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

JRT – Joint Response Team (Co-chair Mexico PROFEPA, Protección Civil, and Co-chair U.S. EPA)

OEM – Office of Emergency Management

PROFEPA – Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protección (Mexico)



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## APPENDIX B

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### Notification Form

When any participating group is notified of a chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency, covered under this Inland Border Plan, the following information is to be provided:

- 
- A Reporting participant (name of employee or responder, telephone number, and address)/Participante que reporta el incidente (nombre del funcionario o de quien llena este formulario, número telefónico, y dirección):
- 
- B Potentially responsible party (name, telephone number, and address)/ Entidad potencialmente responsable (nombre, número de teléfono y dirección):
- 
- C Description of contingency or emergency relating to chemical hazardous substances (how the spill, release, fire, or explosion occurred)/Descripción de la contingencia o emergencia contingencia o emergencia de sustancias químicas peligrosas(cómo ocurrió la fuga, el derrame, emisión, incendio o explosión):
- 
- D Date and time of incident/Fecha y hora de la contingencia o emergencia de sustancias químicas peligrosas:
- 
- E Description of vehicle involved in the contingency or emergency relating to hazardous chemical substances/ Describa el vehículo involucrado en la contingencia o emergencia de sustancias químicas peligrosas:
- 
- F Location/Lugar:
- 
- G Type of container and capacity/Tipo de contenedor y capacidad:
- 
- H Specific signals identifiers of the place of the contingency or emergency relating to hazardous chemical substances (e.g., cross road, railroad milepost)/ Identificadores específicos del lugar de la contingencia o emergencia de sustancias químicas peligrosas (por ejemplo, intersección, aviso de millas de la vía del ferrocarril):
- 
- I Chemical hazardous substances involved/Sustancias químicas peligrosas involucradas:
- 
- J Quantity/Cantidad:
- 
- K Was the substance spilled or released to air, soil, or water: Where is it going? How much to water, soil or air?/¿Hubo un derrame o escape al aire, suelo o agua? ¿Hacia dónde se dirige? ¿Qué cantidad de contaminante cayó al agua, al suelo o al aire?:
- 
- I Corrective actions taken/Acciones correctivas tomadas:
-

M Roads closed/Carreteras cerradas:

---

N Estimated number of deaths, injuries, or evacuations/Número estimado de defunciones, heridos o evacuaciones:

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O Other notifications made/Otras notificaciones hechas:

---

P Additional comments/Comentarios adicionales:

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## APPENDIX C

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### Activation Form

If the Inland Border Plan is activated, the following information is required to supplement the information provided in the Notification Form (see Appendix B):

---

A Summary of information provided in the Notification Form)/Descripción resumida del incidente (un resumen de la información incluida en el Formulario de Notificación):

---

B Justification for joint response/Justificación para la respuesta conjunta:

---

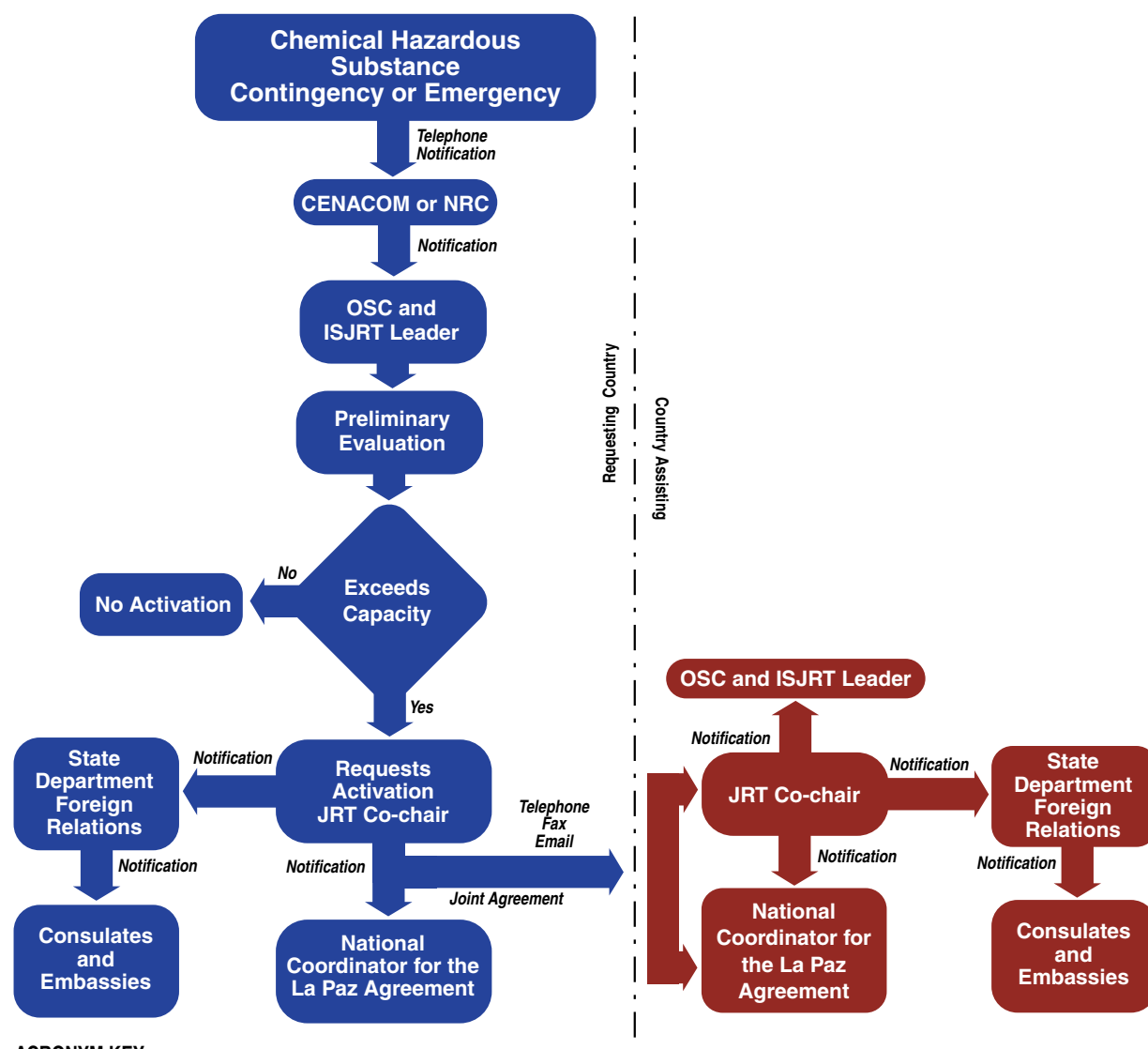
C Date and time of joint response activation/Fecha y hora de la activación de la respuesta conjunta:

---

D Describe assistance required/Descripción del apoyo requerido:

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## Activation Diagram



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## APPENDIX C

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### Deactivation Form

If the Inland Border Plan is deactivated, the following information is required in addition to the information provided in the Notification Form (see Appendix B):

---

A Summary description of the contingency or emergency of chemical hazardous substances (a summary of the information provided in the Notification Form)/Resumen de la contingencia o emergencia de sustancias químicas peligrosas) (un resumen de la información incluida en el Formulario de Notificación):

---

B Justification for deactivation of joint response/Justificación para la desactivación de la respuesta conjunta:

---

C Date and time of joint response deactivation/Fecha y hora de la desactivación de la respuesta conjunta:

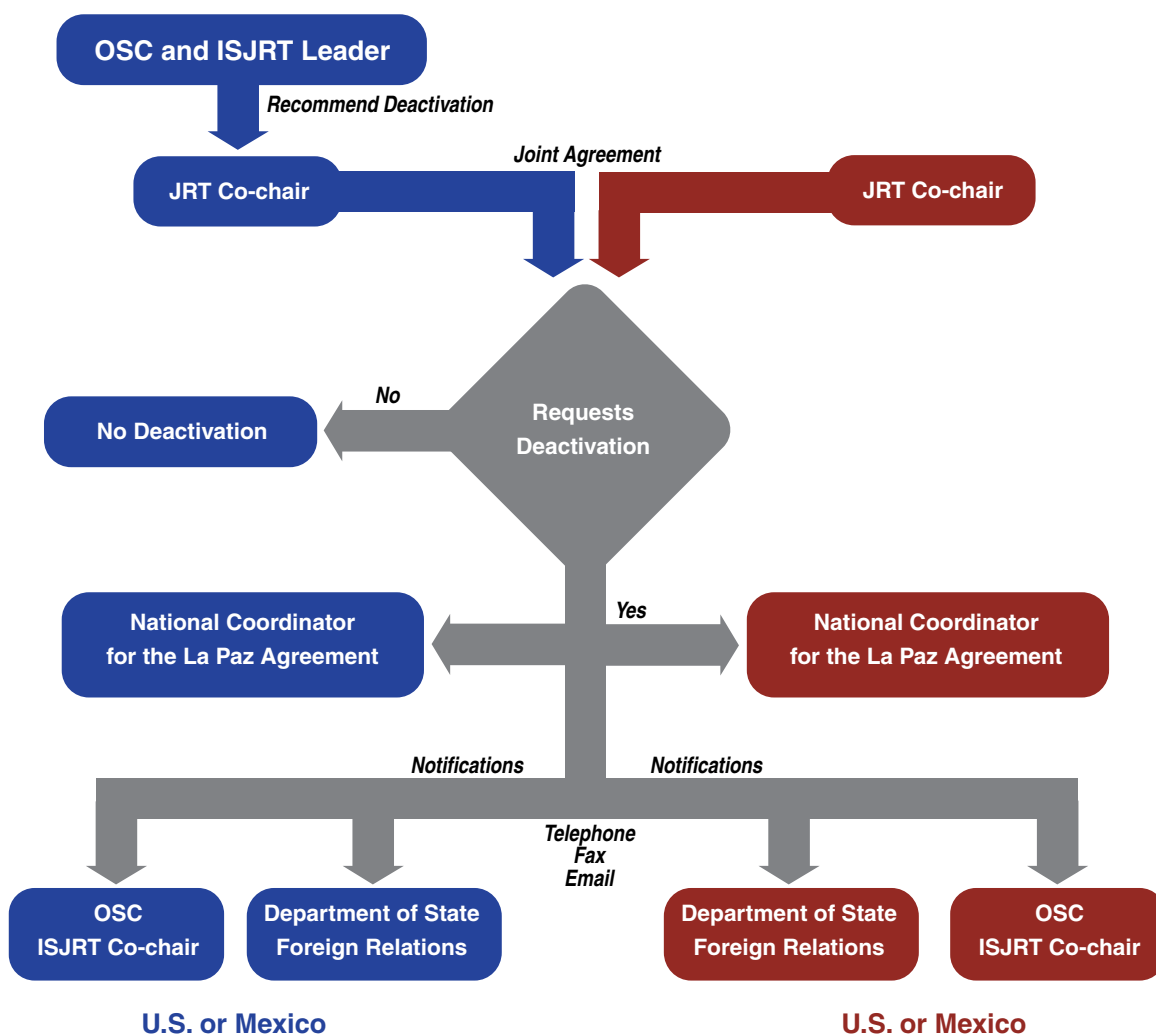
---

D Assistance requested/Asistencia requerida:

---



## Deactivation Diagram



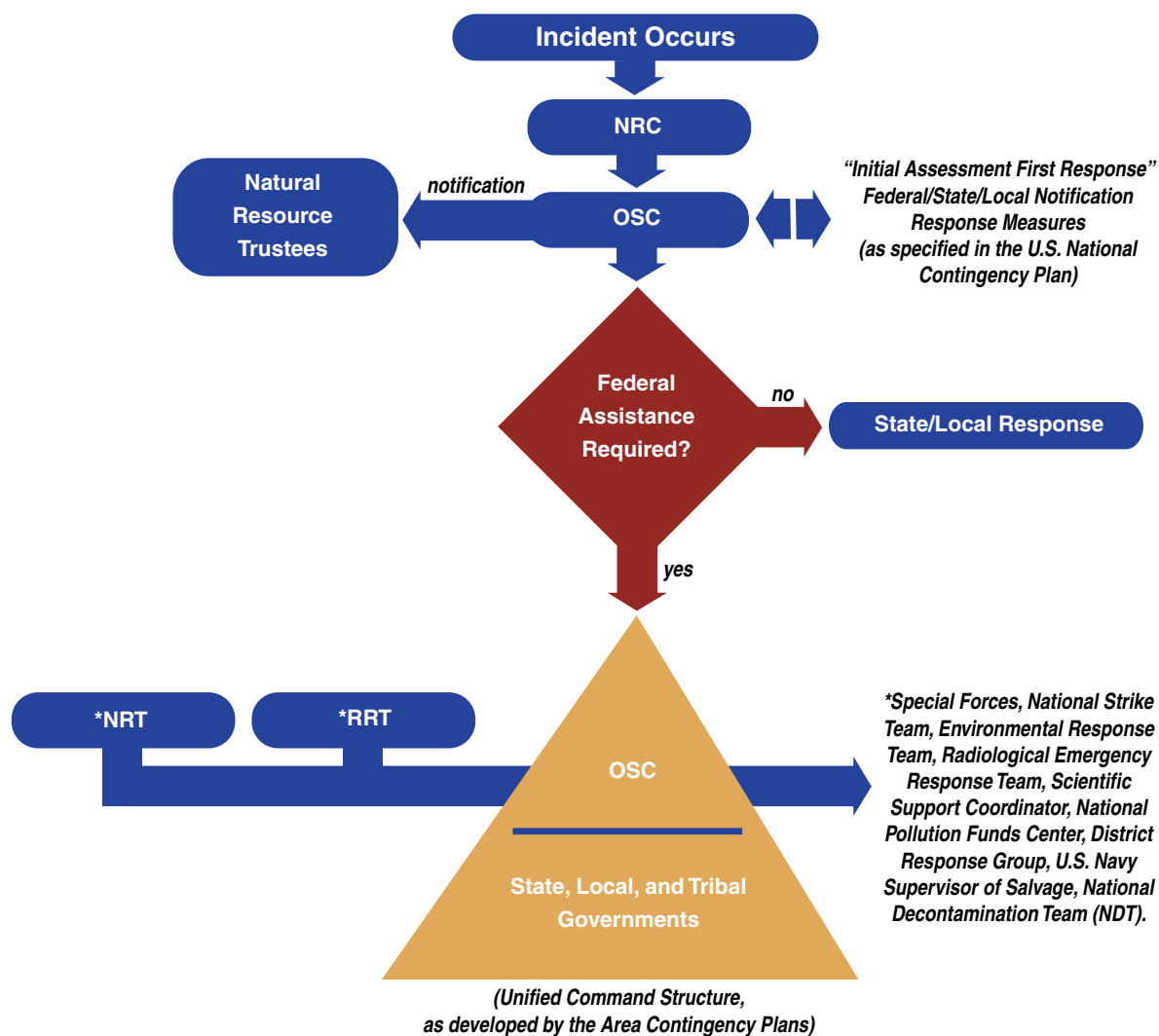
### ACRONYM KEY:

ISJRT – Incident-Specific Joint Response Team

JRT – Joint Response Team

OSC – On-Scene Coordinator

### Response Operations Diagram: U.S. Response



*\*Resources available to support the OSC upon request.*

**ACRONYM KEY:**

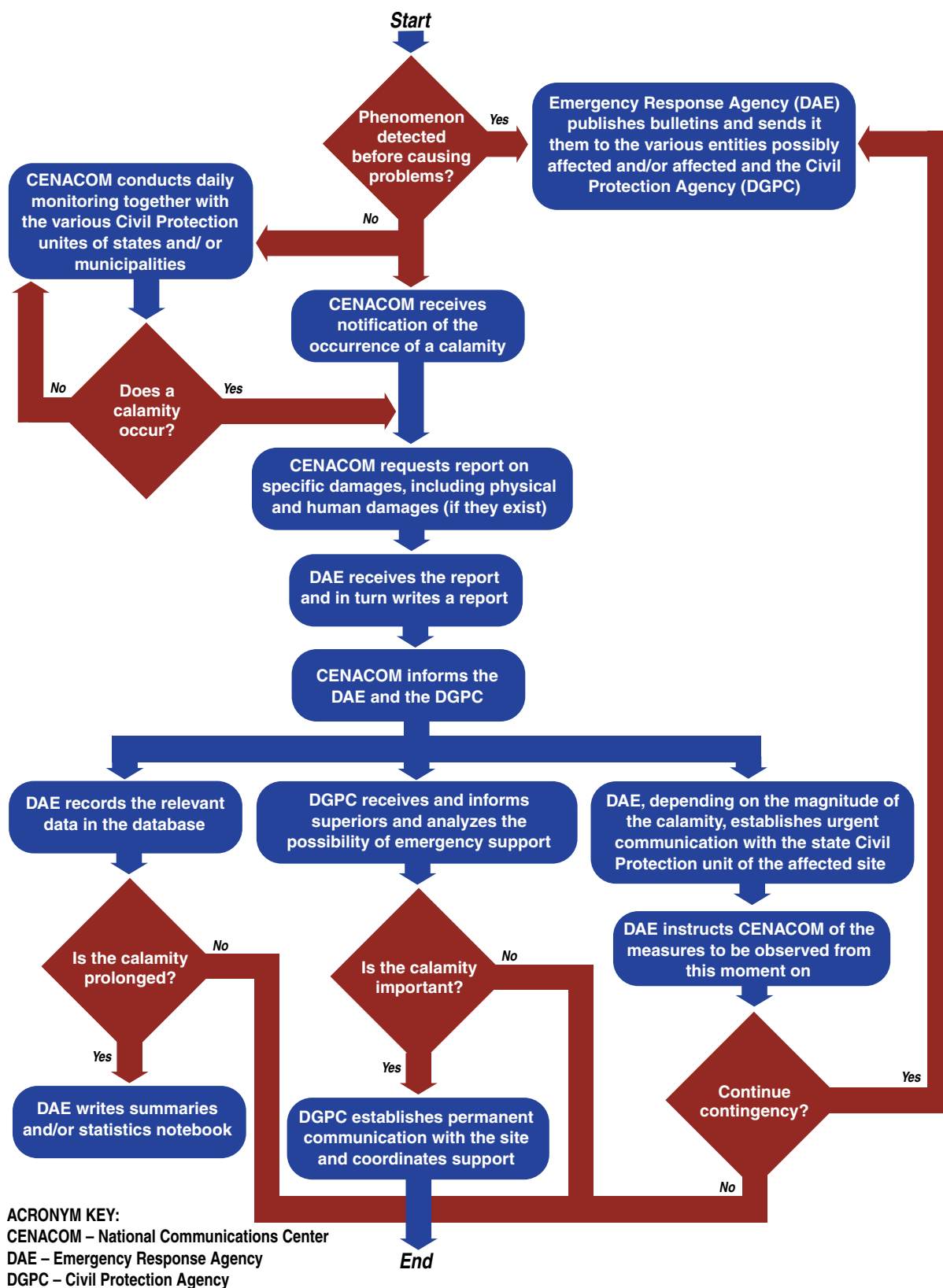
NRC – National Response Center

NRT – National Response Team

OSC – On-Scene Coordinator

RRT – Regional Response Team

## Response Operations Diagram: Mexican Response



### Reporting Information

#### 1. *Preliminary Assessment*

- Date;
- Time;
- OSC name and phone number;
- Receiver name and address;
- SITREP number;
- Location of the incident;
- Status;
- Response actions;
- Recommendations; and
- Future Plans.

#### 2. *Situation Reports (SITREPs)*

Updated information about the chemical hazardous substances emergency and the response action(s) taken in accordance with this Inland Border Plan is to be provided by the OSCs to the leader of the ISJRT. The frequency is to be determined as needed or established by the Co-chairs using the situation report (SITREP), that is to describe the present situation, actions taken, future plans, recommendations, and all the requirements for assistance. The SITREP is to be sent to the Co-chairs and the members of the JRT in written form (e-mail or fax) and by telephone. The SITREP is to contain the following information:

- Date;
- Time;
- Name and phone number of sender;
- Name and address of receiver;
- Number of this SITREP;
- Situation, name of chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, spill, medium it was released to, and concentration (parts per million);
- Action(s) taken;
- Future Plans; and
- Recommendations.

#### 3. *Final Incident Report*

After a joint response is terminated, the ISJRT, in conjunction with the OSCs, is to prepare a Final Incident Report for transmittal to the Co-chairs. The Final Incident Report is to accurately describe the situation as it developed, the actions taken, the resources committed, the problems encountered, and the recommendations. For the United States, the format for the Final Incident Report may be uploaded to the EPA OSC website at: <http://epaossc.org>. The Final Incident Report is to contain the following information:

Summary of Events—a chronological narrative of all events and each of the developed phases, including:

- The cause of the chemical hazardous substances emergency;
- The initial situation;
- Efforts to obtain response action by those responsible for the chemical hazardous substances emergency;
- The organization of the response, including participation by public and private sector organizations;
- The resources committed or used;
- The location of the chemical hazardous substances, released, spilled, or burned in a fire or explosion;
- Details of any action taken to reduce environmental and health impacts; and
- Public information and community relation activities.

Effectiveness of Removal Actions—A thorough analysis of the removal actions taken by:

- Those responsible for the chemical hazardous substances emergency;
- State and local response personnel;
- Federal agencies; and
- Private groups, volunteers, and others.

Problems Encountered—A list of problems affecting response.

Recommendations—OSC's recommendations are a source for new procedures and policy and is to include:

- Means to prevent a recurrence of the incident;
- Improvement of response actions; and
- Any recommended changes to the Inland Border Plan.

#### **4. *Final Preparedness Incident Report***

If an ISJRT is convened to address an issue of planning and preparation in the Inland Border Area as specified in Section 202.2 of this Inland Border Plan, a Final Planning and Preparedness Report is to be prepared and transmitted to the Co-chair. The Final Planning and Preparedness Report is to describe: the specific incident in detail; the specific geographic area; members of the ISJRT who worked on the incident and their roles; actions taken; ideas and options considered for resolving the incident; and if applicable, the pros and cons of each; and final recommendations. The Final Planning and Preparedness Report is to include:

- Description of planning and preparedness issue;
- List of support agency members on the ISJRT and their specific roles;
- Specific steps taken to resolve the planning and preparedness issue;
- Ideas and options considered and pros and cons of each;
- Final resolution;
- Next steps; and
- Final recommendations.

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## APPENDIX F

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### Acronyms

APELL	Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at the Local Level (U.S.)
AGA	General Customs Administration (Mexico)
CBP	Customs and Border Protection (U.S.)
CENACOM	National Communications Center (Mexico)
CENAPRED	National Center for Disaster Prevention (Mexico)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (U.S.)
CLAM	Local Committees of Mutual Support (Mexico)
CNSNS	National Commission of Nuclear Security (Mexico)
COATEA	Orientation Center for the Attention of Environmental Emergencies (Mexico)
CONAGUA	National Water Commission (Mexico)
CWA	Clean Water Act (U.S.)
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security (U.S.)
DOC	Department of Commerce (U.S.)
DOD	Department of Defense (U.S.)
DOE	Department of Energy (U.S.)
DOI	Department of Interior (U.S.)
DOJ	Department of Justice (U.S.)
DOL	Department of Labor (U.S.)
DOS	Department of State (U.S.)
DOT	Department of Transportation (U.S.)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.)
ESF	Emergency Support Function (U.S.)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency (U.S.)
GSA	General Services Administration (U.S.)
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services (U.S.)
IBWC	International Boundary and Water Commission (U.S.-Mexico)
INM	National Migration Institute (Mexico)
ISJRT	Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)
JRT	Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)

LGEEPA	General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection (Mexico)
LGPC	General Law of Civil Protection (Mexico)
LGPGIR	General Law for Prevention and Integrated Waste Management (Mexico)
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (U.S.) (a.k.a. the National Contingency Plan)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (U.S.)
NRC	National Response Center (U.S.)
NRF	National Response Framework (U.S.)
NRT	National Response Team (U.S.)
OEM	Office of Emergency Management (U.S.)
OPA	Oil Pollution Act (U.S.)
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator (U.S.)
PAMI	Industrial Mutual Aid Program (U.S.-Mexico)
PEMEX	Mexican Petroleum Company (Mexico)
PFP	Preventive Federal Police (Mexico)
PIAE	Hydraulic Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Attention (Mexico)
PROFEPA	Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (Mexico)
RRT	Regional Response Team (U.S.)
SAGARPA	Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing and Food (Mexico)
SARA	Title III of the Planning for Emergencies and Community Right to Know Act from Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (U.S.)
SCT	Secretariat of Communications and Transport (Mexico)
SEDENA	Secretariat of National Defense (Mexico)
SEGOB	Secretariat of the Government (Mexico)
SEMAR	Secretariat of the Navy (Mexico)
SEMARNAT	Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico)
SENER	Secretariat of Energy (Mexico)
SHCP	Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (Mexico)
SINAPROC	National Civil Protection System (Mexico)
SITREP	Situation Report (U.S.-Mexico)
SRE	Secretariat of Foreign Relations (Mexico)



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## APPENDIX F

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SS	Secretariat of Health (Mexico)
SSI	Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection (Mexico)
SSP	Secretary of Federal Public Safety (Mexico)
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard (U.S.)
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture (U.S.)

## Definitions

**Chemical Hazardous Substance (U.S.-Mexico)**—For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, the term covers oil and chemicals, including those that due to their high indexes of flammability, explosiveness, toxicity, corrosiveness, and/or reactivity, can cause significant effects to the environment, the population and/or property. Chemical hazardous substances as a result of terrorist acts are excluded.

**Co-chair (U.S.-Mexico)**—Co-chair for the Inland Border Plan and Joint Response Team.

For Mexico, the Co-chair for this Inland Border Plan is the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) through the Office of the Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) and the General Coordinator for Civil Protection (CGPC) within the Secretariat of Government (SEGOB).

For United States, the Co-chair for this Inland Border Plan is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) within the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

**Contingency (U.S.-Mexico)**—Unplanned and unexpected risk situation, derived from human activities or natural phenomena that can endanger the environment, the population or its goods. For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, only contingencies associated with chemical hazardous substances will be considered.

**Discharge (U.S.-Mexico)**—The action of depositing, leaking, infiltrating, or injecting a chemical hazardous substance into the environment.

**Emergency (U.S.-Mexico)**—Unplanned and unexpected situation, resulting from human activity or natural phenomenon that affects the environment, the population and/or property. For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, only emergencies associated with chemical hazardous substances will be considered.

**Environment (U.S.-Mexico)**—The atmosphere, land and surface and groundwater, including the natural resources therein, such as fish, wildlife, forests, crop and rangeland, rivers, streams, aquifers and all other components of the ecosystem.<sup>1</sup>

**Event (U.S.-Mexico)**—Contingency or Emergency as defined herein.

**Facility (U.S.)**—(a) Any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment work), well, pit, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, or aircraft, or (b) any site or area where a chemical hazardous substance or oil spill has been deposited, disposed of, placed or come to be located, excluding any consumer product in consumer use or any vessel in navigable waters.

**Incident/Situation-Specific Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)**—The Incident/Situation-Specific Joint Response Team is responsible for effective implementation of the Inland Border Plan on a regional level in the United States and on a state and local level in Mexico in accordance with the policies of the Joint Response Team.

**Inland Border Area (U.S.-Mexico)**—Inland border that corresponds to the area situated 100 kilometers on either side of the inland international boundary as defined in Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement between the United States of America and the United States of Mexico on Cooperation of the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area (as illustrated in Appendix J).

<sup>1</sup>Definition consistent with the La Paz Agreement of 1983.

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## APPENDIX G

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**Inland Border Plan (U.S.-Mexico)**—The Mexico-United States Contingencies and Emergencies Plan for the Preparedness and Response to Events Associated with Chemical Hazardous Substances within the Inland Border Area, based on the principles of the Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement.

**Joint Response (U.S.-Mexico)**—The assistance of one group of Participants to the other group of Participants in relation to a incident, including: (1) one group of Participants entering the territory of the other group of Participants and providing assistance at the request of the other group of Participants or with the their prior consent; (2) coordination of federal response efforts, activities, and resources of both participating groups in response to a incident; or (3) the exchange of information between the two participating groups concerning response to a incident.

**Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)**—Is the policy and decision-making body with overall responsibility for the maintenance and effective implementation of this Inland Border Plan.

**Leak (Mexico)**—Uncontrolled release of chemical hazardous substances in gaseous state.

**National Coordinator (U.S.-Mexico)**—The authorities designated in the La Paz Agreement.

**National Response Framework (NRF) (U.S.)**—An all-discipline, all-hazards plan, established by Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5, that represents a single, comprehensive framework for the management of polluting and other incidents affecting the United States. This framework provides structures and mechanisms for the coordination of response efforts of local, state, or Tribal governments, federal incident commanders, and for exercising direct federal authorities.

**Natural Element (U.S.-Mexico)**—The physical, chemical and biological elements that occur in a determined time and space without human interference.

**Natural Resource (U.S.)**—Natural element that may be used for the benefit of mankind. Also includes land, fish, wildlife, plants, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies, and other such resources.

For Mexico, it is the natural element that may be used for the benefit of mankind.

**On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) (U.S.-Mexico)**—The EPA, PROFEPA and Protección Civil officials authorized to coordinate and direct responses under this Inland Border Plan.

**Operation/Management (Mexico)**—Joint operations that include the storage, production, transportation, disposal and all activities related to the use of chemical hazardous substances.

**Participants (U.S.-Mexico)**—Signatories to this Inland Border Plan.

**Release (U.S.)**—For the United States it is any spilling, burning, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, burning, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing of chemical hazardous substances. It includes the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles containing any chemical hazardous substances or oil. The term does not include: (a) any release which results in exposure to persons solely within a work place, (b) emissions from the engine exhaust of a motor vehicle, rolling stock, aircraft, vessel, or pipeline pumping station engine, and (c) the normal application of fertilizer. For purposes of this Inland Border Plan, “release” also means a threat of release.

For Mexico, release is any leaking, spilling, explosion or fire by a chemical hazardous substance.

**Response Action (U.S.-Mexico)**—The removal of chemical hazardous substances that have been released, spilled, or caught fire in the environment; actions taken to reduce the threat of spills or release; actions taken to monitor, calculate, or evaluate the threat (or the spill itself) of chemical hazardous substances; disposal of removed materials; or other actions taken to prevent or mitigate damages to public health, well-being, or the environment.

**Risk (U.S.-Mexico)**—Combination of the probability of occurrence of a chemical hazardous substances emergency and its consequences.

**Spill (U.S.-Mexico)**—Uncontrolled release of chemical hazardous substances.

**State (U.S.-Mexico)**—(a) The federal entities of Mexico that are part of the border with the United States of America: Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Sonora and Baja California; and (b) the states from the United States of America that border with Mexico: Texas, New México, Arizona and California.

**Unified Command (U.S.)**—An incident command mechanism that may be used in managing complex responses. A Unified Command, as part of an Incident Command System, brings together the “incident commanders” from each organization involved in a response to allow key decision-makers to develop consensus, coordinate, and cooperate.

### Joint Response Team (JRT) Institutions and Agencies

#### *Primary Agencies*

On the part of Mexico, the SEMARNAT through the PROFEPA, and the CPGC within the SEGOB, have the responsibility to give assistance and coordinate Mexican participation in this Inland Border Plan, in agreement with the Secretariat of Government through the National Civil Protection System. For the United States, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has primary responsibility for providing assistance and coordinating the U.S. response under this Inland Border Plan. General responsibilities of these agencies include:

- Coordinating, integrating, and managing the overall joint effort to detect, identify, contain, clean up, dispose of, or minimize the danger of releases of chemical hazardous substances, or prevent, mitigate, or minimize threats of releases;
- Maintaining close coordination with the affected locality, ISJRT, OSCs, and other Participants; and
- Providing administrative assistance, means, communications, and personnel to support response efforts under this Inland Border Plan within that agency's jurisdiction.

#### *Support Agencies*

Assistance available from federal support agencies of the United States and Mexico is presented below. Each support agency is to provide assistance to preparedness and response efforts under this Inland Border Plan in its respective areas of expertise and consistent with its capabilities and legal authorities.

#### *Bi-National Institutions*

**The International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)**—In the event of an incident in international rivers and waters the EPA Regional Offices and/or PROFEPA and CGPC, must notify the IBWC corresponding sections, which are to respond to the extent that its authority, responsibility, and resources permit. The U.S. section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) coordinates with the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, and appropriate federal agencies or U.S. Border States, as well as notify the NRC. The Mexican section of the IBWC may coordinate with the Mexican National Water Commission (CNA) in fulfilling its responsibilities regarding international waters of the United States and Mexico. It will also notify CENACOM.

The IBWC functions as an international organization, consisting of a U.S. and a Mexican section. The two sections operate under the policy guidance of the U.S. Department of State (DOS) and the Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations, respectively. The IBWC is charged with implementing the provisions of existing treaties dealing with boundary and water matters affecting the U.S. Department of State (DOS) and the Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations, respectively. The IBWC is charged with implementing the provisions of existing treaties dealing with boundary and water matters affecting the United States and Mexico, including: preservation of the international boundary, distribution of waters of the boundary rivers between the two countries, control of floods on the boundary rivers, regulation of boundary rivers through joint storage works to enable division and utilization of the waters by the two countries, improvement of the water quality of boundary rivers, solution of border sanitation problems, and use of international waters of the Rio Grande to jointly develop hydroelectric power. In the event IBWC is unable to contain a spill, it would seek the assistance in the United States from EPA, and in Mexico from the PROFEPA and Civil Protection to assure that responsible action is taken.

The IBWC Mexican Section, which functions under the Mexican Secretariat for Foreign Relations (SRE) and in coordination with CONAGUA will evaluate the effects of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in international waters and implement emergency actions.

### ***Agencies Supporting Mexico***

The **Secretariat of Government (SEGOB)** through the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC) coordinates the activities of the agencies of the public sector – federal, state, and municipal – as well as private institutions in order to prevent and respond to incidents that affect the population in areas where an accident might occur. It also protects the population against risks and dangers associated with a natural or human disaster.

The **Secretariat of National Defense (SEDENA)** is the institution that within its respective jurisdiction and in agreement with its procedures, should be able to provide necessary support to assist the civil population, in collaboration with this Inland Border Plan.

The **Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR)** exercises sovereignty over the territorial sea, its aerial space and coasts, surveillance of Mexican marine zones, holds the authority to ensure compliance with judicial order in the marine zones, protects the fluvial and maritime traffic and human life at sea, within its jurisdiction; functions as the marine police to uphold the state of law in Mexican marine zones, participates and develops corresponding actions within the framework of the national system of civil protection for prevention, assistance, recovery and support to the population in disaster situations, provides assistance services to the Army, as well as support services to other federal agencies, federal entities and municipalities that request it or when it is dictated by the Federal Executive Titular.

The SEDENA and SEMAR, according with their respective jurisdictions, provide the necessary elements to help the civil population, adapting its organization for a response and adjusting its procedures with derived actions of this Inland Border Plan.

The **Secretariat of Health (SS)** acts in the event of an emergency caused by a sudden deterioration of the environment that places the population at risk. The agency adopts the prevention and control measures necessary to protect health.

Special actions in matters of general health are undertaken by the Secretariat of Health, which organizes special responders that act under its direction and responsibility and entrust the federal, state, and municipal authorities with the execution of activities these responders deem necessary.

The SS will also coordinate the health institutions and other public, social and private centers that participate in the emergency. It provides medical assistance requested by the population, workers, and personnel that will assist during the chemical hazardous substance emergency and contingency. It will implement the necessary health protection actions within its jurisdiction.

The **Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT)** has the authority to determine the guidelines that will guarantee the conservation or restoration of ecosystems; it regulates high risk activities in coordination with other dependencies from the Federal Public Administration and provides support in the coordination of the Inland Border Plan through the federal and state representatives in the Border States.

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## APPENDIX H

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The **Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA)**, as a decentralized office of SEMARNAT, has the authority to verify compliance with environmental norms, carry out environmental audits of private or public firms under federal jurisdiction with respect to the activities that might be of potential risk to the environment, and to provide specialized guidance for spills, explosions, fires, and releases of chemical hazardous substances.

The **National Commission of Water (CNA)**, as a decentralized member of SEMARNAT, is the authority that promotes the efficient use of Mexico's water resources, its reutilization, and operates the services for its preservation, conservation and quality improvement in the phases of the hydro biological cycle and promotes a water culture that considers this element as a vital and scarce resource. Additionally, it implements the mechanism of rapid, timely and efficient response for a hydroecological emergency or an environmental emergency that occurs in the water bodies or national goods under its charge.

The **Secretariat of Communications and Transport (SCT)** has the authority to: formulate and direct the policies and programs for transport development and communications in accordance with the needs of the country; provide concessions and permits to establish and exploit systems and services of wireless communications via telecommunications and satellites; establish and operate aerial services in the national territory; exploit auto transport services on federal roads and for the surveillance of their functioning and operation; establish and exploit services related to communications as well as the remaining rights laid out in the laws and regulations.

The SCT will advise the concessionary or/and concessionaire of telecommunications, the services they should provide to the Mexican institutions involved in a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.

The mission of the **Secretariat of Federal Public Safety (Spanish acronym: SSP)**, through its **Decentralized Administrative Agency the Preventive Federal Police (Spanish acronym: PFP)**, is to protect the integrity and rights of people, to prevent crime, and to preserve freedoms, public order and peace, in the border zones, paths and border bridges, tax precincts, customs sections, customs control and check points, supervision and migratory control centers, the federal highways, the railroads, the airports, the seaports authorized for the international traffic and the means of transport that operate in the general routes of communication, as well as its auxiliary service, in the Mexican border zone.

To collaborate with request of the corresponding authority and in the scope of its capacities, with the services of civil protection in cases of chaos, disasters by natural or human causes, or risks of imminent danger.

To design, coordinate and order the inspection devices and monitoring to maintain order, guarantee public security and prevent the commission of crimes in the territorial scope according part III of article 4 of PFP's laws.

The **Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development** has authority to control the foods that can be affected during an emergency.

The **National Center for Disaster Prevention (Spanish acronym: CENAPRED)** is an agency under the jurisdiction of the Secretariat of Government that promotes the training of emergency response personnel in the participating institutions. CENAPRED develops research strategies, applies and coordinates technologies for the prevention and mitigation of disasters, promotes professional and technical training, and supports the dissemination of information regarding preparation and self-protective measures for the population before the risk of a disaster and, through these activities, supports and assists SINAPROC.



The **National Communications Center (Spanish acronym: CENACOM)** contains the Emergency Operations Center. CENACOM monitors and conducts preparedness activities for possible incidents. It also conducts research, training, and outreach to reduce significant risks to the general population.

The **Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (Spanish acronym: SRE)** helps the immigration and customs authorities conduct bilateral negotiations to establish mechanisms to expedite the entrance of emergency response equipment and personnel into Mexico, which must be accredited before SRE to guarantee the applicable regulations and non-tariff restrictions.

The **General Customs Administration (Spanish acronym: AGA)** authorized by the **Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (Spanish acronym: SHCP)** will implement the legal procedures and mechanisms that facilitate the expedited border crossing for emergency response equipment.

The **National Immigration Institute (Spanish acronym: INM)**, technical and decentralized agency of the SEGOB, in accordance with the applicable regulations and dictated measures, will facilitate the entry or exit to the national territory of the group of participants in relation to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.

The **Secretariat of Energy (Spanish acronym: SENER)**, through the **National Commission of Nuclear Security and Safeguard (CNSNS)**, advises federal, state, and local entities concerning nuclear and radiation safety measures that would be required in the event of an incident or potential incident and the evaluation of the consequences of the radioactive emergency, as well as in the implementation of safety measures to protect the population and the environment/natural ecosystem. When technically prudent, the SENER is also responsible for containment equipment and securing ionizing radiation sources.

The **Mexican Petroleum Company (PEMEX)**, which is part of the federal government, promptly reports the existence of an emergency should a spill or release of hazardous substances to international waters occur at one of its plants in the border zone between the U.S. and Mexico. PEMEX implements the first response action measures until those legal authorities charged with the response arrive. Also, in the event of an emergency in the Border Zone, PEMEX provides aid with response personnel and equipment.

### ***Agencies Supporting the United States***

The **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** Co-chairs the U.S./Mexico Joint Response Team, chairs the National Response Team (NRT), Co-chairs the standing Regional Response Teams (RRTs), and the Incident-Specific Joint Response Team at the response level; provides pre-designated On-Scene Coordinators for the inland zone, and generally provides scientific support to coordinators for the inland zone. EPA provides expertise on environmental effects of releases and on environmental pollution control techniques. In addition, EPA provides guidance, technical assistance, and training in hazardous materials preparedness and response. Furthermore, EPA is working with other federal partners to prevent accidents as well as to maintain superior response capabilities. One of EPA's roles is to provide information about response efforts, regulations, tools, and research that will help the regulated community, government entities, and concerned citizens prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

The **U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)**, now part of the Department of Homeland Security, provides On-Scene Coordinators for the coastal zone, the NRT Vice-chair, and Co-chairs for the standing RRTs. The USCG staffs and administers the National Response Center; maintains the continuously manned facilities that may be used for command, control, and surveillance of releases in coastal waters; and serves as fund manager for the Oil Spill

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## APPENDIX H

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Pollution Liability Trust Fund established under the Oil Pollution Act. The Coast Guard's National Strike Force is specially trained and equipped to respond to major pollution incidents. In water pollution incidents in which the USCG has financial responsibility jurisdiction, the USCG ensures that responsible parties, both from the United States and foreign countries, are able to compensate the United States and other damaged parties through the Certificate of Financial Responsibility program.

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** has scientific and technical capability to measure, evaluate, and monitor, either on the ground or by aircraft, situations where natural resources, including soil, water, wildlife, and vegetation, have been impacted by hazardous substances. Agencies within the USDA with relevant expertise are: the Forest Service, the Agricultural Research Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Food Safety and Inspection Service, and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The **Department of Commerce (DOC)**, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), provides scientific support for responses and contingency planning in coastal and marine areas, including assessments of the hazards that may be involved, predictions of movement and dispersion of oil and hazardous substances through trajectory modeling, and information on the sensitivity of coastal environments to oil or hazardous substances. NOAA provides scientific expertise on the living marine resources it manages and protects. It also provides information on actual and predicted meteorological, hydrologic, ice, and oceanographic conditions for marine, coastal, and inland waters, as well as tide and circulation data.

The **Department of Defense (DOD)** takes all action necessary with regard to the releases of hazardous substances where the release is at, or the sole source of the release is from, a facility or vessel under jurisdiction, custody, or control of DOD.

The DOD may also, consistent with its operational requirements and at the request of the On-Scene Coordinator, provide locally deployed U.S. Navy oil spill equipment and provide assistance to other federal agencies upon request. The following two branches of the DOD have particularly relevant expertise:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has specialized equipment and personnel for removing navigation obstructions and accomplishing structural repairs.
- The U.S. Navy has an extensive array of specialized equipment and personnel available for use in ship salvage, shipboard damage control, pollution abatement and diving.

The **Department of Energy (DOE)**, except as otherwise established in Executive Order 12580<sup>3</sup>, provides designated On-Scene Coordinators that are responsible for executing all response actions with respect to the releases of hazardous substances where the release is either at, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel under its jurisdiction, custody, or control. In addition, under the National Response Framework (NRF), DOE provides advice and assistance to other OSCs for emergency actions essential to the control of immediate radiological hazards. Incidents that qualify for DOE radiological advice and assistance are those believed to involve source, by-product, or special nuclear material or other ionizing radiation sources, including radium, and other naturally occurring radio nuclides, as well as particle accelerators. Assistance is available through direct contact with the appropriate DOE Radiological Assistance Program Regional Office.

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<sup>3</sup>Executive Order 12580 delegates to various Federal officials the responsibilities vested in the President for implementing the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA).

The **Department of Homeland Security (DHS)** is responsible for preventing and deterring terrorist attacks and protecting against and responding to threats and hazards to the nation. The DHS strives to ensure safe and secure borders, welcome lawful immigrants and visitors, and promote the free flow of commerce.

The **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** is responsible for providing assistance on matters related to the assessment of health hazards at a response site and the protection of both response workers and public health. Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, the HHS is the delegated authority when it is determined that illness, disease, or complaints may be attributable to exposure to a hazardous substance or pollutant. Agencies within the HHS that have relevant responsibilities, capabilities, and expertise include the U.S. Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the National Institutes for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The **Department of the Interior (DOI)** manages a wide variety of natural, cultural, historical, and mineral resources and has certain responsibilities for Tribal Governments and U.S. territories. The DOI manages almost 40 percent of the land base in the United States along the Mexican border. These areas consist of internationally and nationally significant parks and monuments, wildlife refuges, biosphere reserves, wilderness areas, public lands, wild and scenic rivers, and other waterways. The DOI has additional management responsibility for federally listed threatened and endangered animals and plant species, migratory birds, and certain marine mammals. The nine DOI bureaus with jurisdiction over and expertise in these resources may be contacted during hazardous material emergency incident response through DOI Regional Environmental Offices in Albuquerque (representing Texas and New Mexico) and San Francisco (representing Arizona and California). DOI's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for the administration and management of land held in trust by the United States for Native Americans Tribes. BIA's specific responsibilities include developing forestlands, leasing assets on these lands, directing agricultural programs, protecting water and land rights, developing and maintaining infrastructure and economic development, and providing education services to Native American students. The DOI's Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance is the designated DOI representative to the U.S. RRTs and the JRT.

The **Department of Justice (DOJ)** provides expert advice on legal questions arising from discharges or releases, and federal agency responses. In addition, the DOJ represents the federal government, including its agencies, in litigation relating to such discharges or releases.

The **Department of Labor (DOL)**, through the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the States' operating plans approved under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, has authority to conduct health and safety inspections of pollutant response operations and hazardous waste sites to assure that employees are being protected and to determine if the site is in compliance with health and safety standards and regulations. Upon request, OSHA is prepared to provide advice and assistance regarding hazards to persons engaged in response activities.

The **Department of State (DOS)** leads the negotiation of international agreements that provide for international joint contingency plans. The DOS also helps to coordinate an international response when discharges or releases cross international boundaries or involve foreign flagged vessels. Additionally, the DOS coordinates requests for assistance from foreign governments and U.S. proposals for conducting research into incidents occurring in foreign waters. The DOS also works with U.S. immigration and customs authorities to conduct any needed bilateral negotiations to establish mechanisms to expedite the entrance of emergency personnel and equipment into the United States.

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## APPENDIX H

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The **Department of Transportation (DOT)** provides response expertise pertaining to transportation of oil or hazardous substances by all modes of transportation. Through the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT offers expertise in the requirements for packaging, handling, and transporting regulated hazardous materials. RSPA provides technical assistance in the form of Emergency Response Guidebooks and planning support in the development of protective action decision strategies and exercise scenarios.

The **U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)** is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security. CBP combines the inspectional workforces and broad border authorities of the United States Customs, United States Immigration, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the entire U.S. Border Patrol. CBP includes more than 41,000 employees who manage, control, and protect the borders of the United States, at and between the official ports of entry. As the nation's unified border agency, CBP is strategically positioned at and between the United States' ports of entry to prevent terrorist attacks on the United States. This includes carrying out traditional border-related responsibilities, such as stemming the tide of illegal drugs and illegal aliens, securing and facilitating legitimate global trade and travel, and protecting the food supply and agriculture industry from pests and diseases.

The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, as part of the DHS, provides guidance, policy, and program advice, and technical assistance in hazardous, biological and radiological emergency preparedness activities (planning, training, and exercising) to state and local governments. During a national response, FEMA provides advice and assistance to the lead agency on coordinating relocation assistance and mitigation efforts with other federal agencies, state and local governments, and the private sector.

The **General Services Administration (GSA)** provides logistical and resource support to federal response operations. Such assistance includes emergency relief supplies, office and other space, office equipment, office supplies, telecommunications, contracting services, transportation services, and personnel required to support immediate response activities.

The **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)** responds, as appropriate, to releases of radioactive materials by its licensees. In addition, the NRC is able to provide advice to the On-Scene Coordinator when assistance is required in identifying the source and character of other hazardous substance releases where the NRC has licensing authority for activities utilizing radioactive materials.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### *I.1 Duties and Responsibilities of the Joint Response Team (JRT)*

The JRT Co-chair of each country is to identify its support agencies, designate its members on the JRT, and communicate these designations to the other country. When the JRT meets in Mexico, the Mexican Co-chairs are expected to preside. When the JRT meets in the United States, the U.S. Co-chair is expected to preside.

Listed below are the specific planning, preparedness, response, and activation duties and responsibilities of the JRT.

#### **I.1.1 Specific Preparedness Duties and Responsibilities of the JRT**

When the JRT is not activated, it is to:

- Develop and update procedures for carrying out a joint response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, including procedures to promote the coordination of federal, Tribal, state, and local government as well as private industry responses to chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies.
- Foster the development and international cooperation of local action groups, such as the Local Committees of Mutual Support (CLAM) and units under the Industrial Mutual Aid Program (PAMI Spanish acronym) program in Mexico, and the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) in the United States; and
- Promote the preparation, maintenance, and execution of exercises of Sister City Plans to ensure emergency preparedness at the local level to respond to chemical hazardous substances emergencies.
- Review and/or revise the Inland Border Plan as necessary, incorporating any findings from:
  - Final Reports developed by the ISJRT after the termination of a joint response, especially the recommendations for improving the joint response;
  - All reports developed by the ISJRT;
  - Lessons learned from drills and exercises; and
  - Changes in the national policies and/or procedures in the United States and Mexico.
- Conduct annual meetings to discuss the issues of preparedness and activation issues related to the successful implementation of the Inland Border Plan. The JRT Co-chairs may meet more frequently;
- Maintain an updated contact list of names and telephone numbers of all support agencies of the JRT as well as appropriate persons to contact under this Inland Border Plan. This list is to be updated annually or as necessary;
- Develop recommendations for training of federal, Tribal, state, and local planners and responders;
- Develop recommendations (based on each country's requirements) for equipping and protecting response personnel; and
- Conduct periodic exercises of this Inland Border Plan.

### I.1.2 Specific Activation Duties and Responsibilities of the JRT

When the United States and Mexico have agreed to activate the Inland Border Plan, the JRT is to:

- Follow instructions in Section 303 of this Inland Border Plan;
- Notify the National Coordinators and keep them informed;
- Coordinate national-level activities of all involved federal departments and agencies;
- Develop a joint public information strategy in conjunction with the ISJRT and the OSCs; and
- Facilitate information exchange between the countries.
- Provide assistance to the ISJRT, this assistance could include:
  - Facilitating the provision of emergency resources, support, and promote the activation of other related emergency plans, such as those involving customs and immigration during a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
  - Advising the ISJRT and the OSCs about possible measures to take in response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency and about the resources available to carry out these measures;
  - Evaluating and making recommendations concerning the response activities and measures taken by the ISJRT and the OSCs;
- Address policy issues and procedures as they arise; and
- Request through the Co-chairs the deactivation of the Inland Border Plan as stipulated in Section 304.

## ***1.2 Duties and Responsibilities of the Situation/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT)***

The Situation/ Incident-Specific JRT (ISJRT) is responsible for effective implementation of the Inland Border Plan on a state and local level in Mexico and on a regional level in the United States, in accordance with the policies of the JRT.

The duties and responsibilities of a Situation/Incident Specific JRT are listed below, in sections 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.

The Situation/Incident-Specific JRT is to address all the preparedness activities and the Incident-Specific JRT is to address all the response activities during activation.

### I.2.1 Duties and Responsibilities of the Situation Specific JRT

The Situation Specific JRT is to:

- Conduct annual (or as necessary) meetings to plan, review actions and activities in the border area, address emerging issues, resolve outstanding issues, and exchange information;
- Assist in the preparation, update, and exercise of Sister City Plans in order to guarantee a preparation and opportune response or ensure chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency;



- Develop procedures (in coordination with the JRT) for a joint response to a chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency;
- Conduct exercises for this Inland Border Plan;
- Develop and present a Final Preparation and Planning Situation Report to the Co-chair, as stipulated in Sections 306.3. and Appendix E; and
- Recommend to the JRT any changes and/or improvements needed to this Inland Border Plan.

#### I.2.2 Duties and Responsibilities of the Incident Specific JRT

The Incident-Specific JRT is to:

- Monitor incoming reports, evaluate the possible impact of chemical hazardous substance contingencies or emergencies reported, and be fully aware at all times of the actions and plans of the OSCs;
- Seek arrangements with appropriate agencies in having services, facilities, or equipment that may be useful in the response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
- Coordinate the actions of the various agencies and governmental institutions and the private organizations in supplying the human, material and financial resources required to the OSCs;
- Inform and advise the OSCs about the resources and assistance available to carry out the OSCs' response activities;
- Make recommendations and provide advice to the OSCs concerning the response activities, as requested;
- Coordinate all reports sent to the Co-chairs on the status of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
- Ensure that the OSCs have adequate public information support and assist in the preparation of information releases in compliance with the joint public information strategy (see Section 307.2);
- Serve in an advisory capacity and function as the liaison between the JRT and the OSCs;
- Review post-incident reports from the OSCs on the handling of chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies for the purpose of developing the Final Incident Report as stipulated in Section 306.3;
- Develop, in conjunction with the OSCs, a Final Incident Report as stipulated in Section 306.3 and Appendix E; and
- Send the Final Incident Report to the Co-chairs.

### ***I.3 On-Scene Coordinator***

The functions and responsibilities of the OSC, as detailed under the framework of the laws, rules, and operating procedures of each country, are to:

- Coordinate and direct measures related to the detection of chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies;



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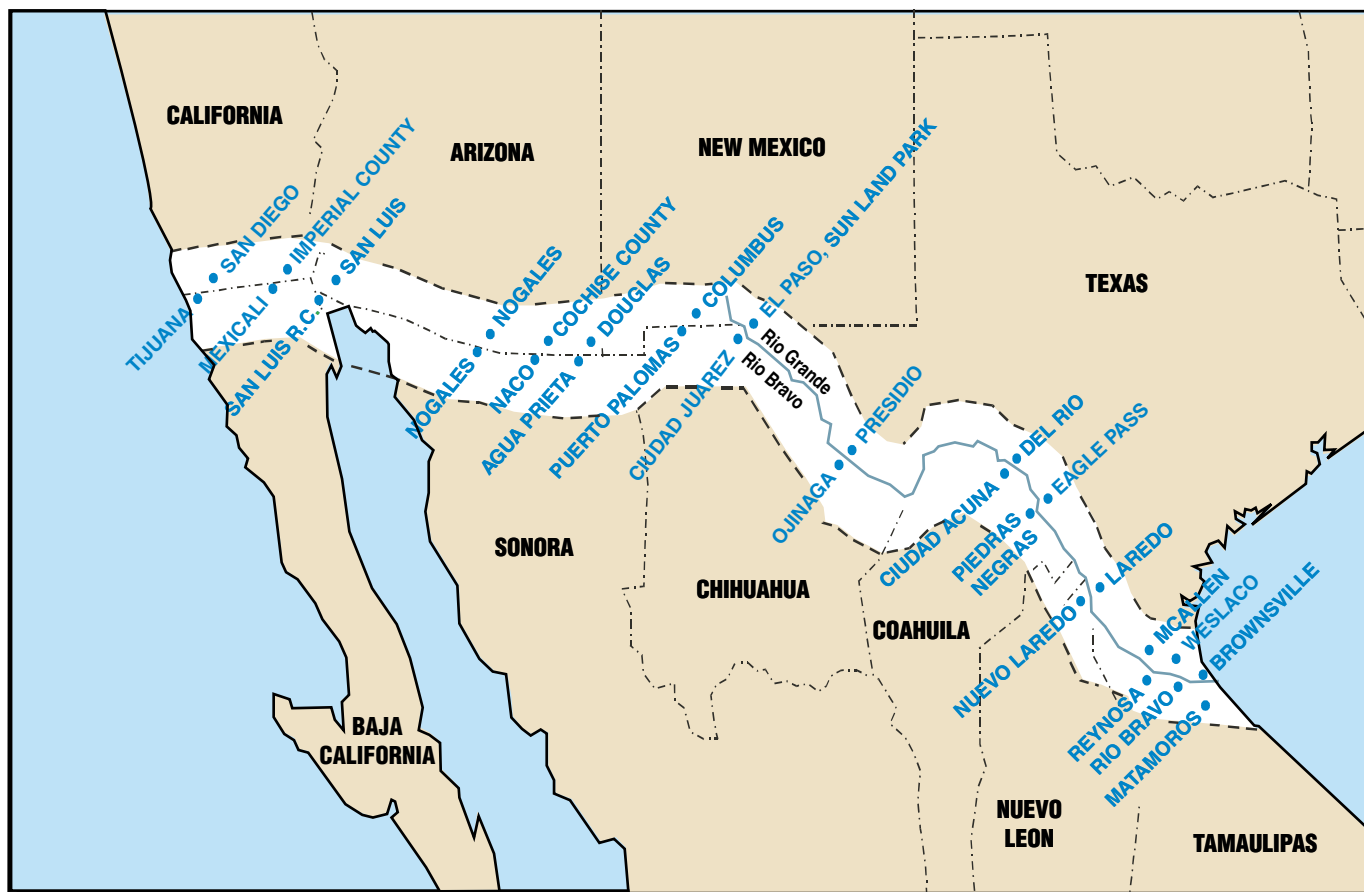
## APPENDIX I

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- Determine the facts related to the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, including the nature, quantity, and location of the chemical hazardous substance; the direction and probable travel time of the chemical hazardous substance; the available resources and those resources required; and the potential impacts on public health and welfare, and on the environment;
- Develop a Preliminary Assessment based on his/her findings (as stipulated in Section 306.2 and Appendix E);
- Coordinate and direct all phases of the response action within his or her jurisdiction;
- Develop detailed situation reports (SITREPs) to the ISJRT as stipulated in Section 306.2 and the Appendix E;
- In coordination with the ISJRT, recommend the deactivation of the Inland Border Plan to the JRT Co-chairs; and
- Prepare a Final Incident Report and/or a Final Preparation and Planning Report, in conjunction with the ISJRT and submit it to the Co-chair, as stipulated in Section 306.3 and the Appendix E.

In cases where chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency involve multiple jurisdictions, the OSCs are to coordinate their actions using a Unified Command (UC). The UC is an on-site tool to efficiently manage all chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency responses. The UC provides a forum to develop a common set of emergency response objectives and strategies, share information, optimize the use of available resources and increase the efficiency of the individual response organizations.

## Map of Inland Border Area and Sister Cities



● Plan Signed

### *Sister Cities*

<b>MEXICO</b>	<b>UNITED STATES</b>
Tijuana, Baja California	San Diego, California
Mexicali, Baja California	Imperial County, California
San Luis RC, Sonora	San Luis, Arizona
Nogales, Sonora	Nogales, Arizona
Naco, Sonora	Conchise County, Arizona
Agua Prieta, Sonora	Douglas, Arizona
Puerto Palomas, Chihuahua	Columbus, New Mexico
Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua	El Paso, Sun Land Park, Texas
Ojinaga, Chihuahua	Presidio, Texas
Cuidad Acuna, Coahuila	Del Rio, Texas
Piedras Negra, Coahuila	Eagle Pass, Texas
Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas	Laredo, Texas
Reynosa, Tamaulipas	McAllen, Texas
Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas	Weslaco, Texas
Matamoros, Tamaulipas	Brownsville, Texas

## List of Federal, State, and Local Plans

### I.1.1 Bi-National Plans

United States-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment due to Oil Spills and other Toxic Substances, July 24, 1980.

United States-Mexico Agreement of May 3, 1968, on Cooperation in Cases of Natural Disasters:

- Plan for Geological Phenomena (San Diego-Tijuana)
- Plan for Hydro meteorological Phenomena (Brownsville-Matamoros)
- Brownsville/Matamoros Sister City Contingency Plan (May 1997)

### I.1.2 Mexican Plans

#### *National Plans*

- Organization Guide and National System Operation of Civil Protection.
- National Program for Medical Attention During Disasters (Secretariat of Health)
- Navy Plan of Assistance to the Civilian Population in Cases and Zones of Emergency or Disaster (Secretariat of Navy)
- Plan DN-III-E: Civilian Population Assistance (Secretariat of National Defense)
- Manual of Emergency Attention for Hydro ecological Emergencies Related to Continental National Waters (CONAGUA)
- National Plans of Contingencies to Combat and Control Oil Spills and Other Toxic Substances in the Sea (Updates and modifications, published in the D.O.F. on February 8, 1999) (Secretariat of Navy)

#### *State Civil Protection Programs*

- Baja California
- Sonora
- Chihuahua
- Coahuila
- Nuevo Leon
- Tamaulipas

#### *Local Plans*

- Plan for Management of Toxic Substances and Frequently Used Chemicals (Federal Electricity Commission)
- Plan for Solid Waste Management
- Plan for Aerial Safety that considers Contingencies and Emergencies (Local Committee of Airport Safety)
- Plan for the Preventive Management of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) (Civil Protection Units)
- Emergency Control Systems

### I.1.3 United Status Plans

#### *National Plans*

- National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- National Drinking Water Plan

#### *Regional Plans*

- Region 6 Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan
- Region 9 Mainland Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan

#### *State Plans*

- State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan (SERRP)
- State of California Emergency Plan
- State of New Mexico All-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan
- State of Texas Emergency Management Plan: Annex Q – Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response