WILSON COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
(ESF-10)

I. PURPOSE

This section provides information for a Wilson County response to hazardous materials emergencies, and assists the Local Emergency Planning Committee in meeting its requirements under the Emergency Planning/Community Right to Know Act - SARA Title III.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. The threat of a major disaster involving hazardous materials has escalated due to the increase in everyday use and transportation of chemicals by the various segments of our population.

2. Hazardous materials emergencies could occur from any one of several sources including shipping, roadway and rail transportation, aircraft accidents, or fixed facility accidents.

3. Evacuation or sheltering in place may be required to protect portions of the population of Wilson County.

4. Certain hazardous materials incidents will require response capabilities that are currently not available in Wilson County.

5. Victims of a hazardous materials incident may require unique or special medical treatment not typically available in Wilson County.

6. The release of hazardous materials may have short and/or long term health, environmental, and economic effects depending upon the type of product.

7. Hazardous materials emergencies may occur without warning requiring immediate emergency response actions.

8. The local jurisdiction must respond to the incident in the initial phase without assistance from outside the jurisdiction. This includes notification and warning of the public, evacuation or sheltering in place, immediate first aid and isolation of the scene.

9. The City of Wilson Fire/Rescue Services is equipped with a hazardous materials team that may assist in the county if requested.

10. Regional Response Team (RRT) 1, located at the Williamston Fire Dept. is the unit that would respond to Wilson County should the need arise. This resource will be requested through the NC Division of EM.

B. Assumptions

1. Planning and training prior to an incident will significantly reduce the risk to personnel.

2. A facility involved in a hazardous material incident will provide all information required by SARA, Title III, section 304 on a timely basis.

3. Emergency response personnel are knowledgeable in the use of available resources.

4. The U.S. DOT Emergency Response Guidebook, alone, or in combination with other reference material, is used as a guide to determine initial protective actions at incidents involving hazardous materials.

5. Response time for resources requested from outside the County will require a minimum of two hours.

6. Incidents in which the military can be identified as the responsible party, will generally be resolved by Federal resources.

7. Hazardous materials incidents that occur in which the responsible party cannot be identified will be resolved at the expense of the jurisdiction in which the event occurred.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. There are several types of incidents involving hazardous materials: (1) incidents at fixed facilities, (2) shipping incidents, (3) roadway or rail transportation accidents, and (4) unknown materials on the water, railway or roadway.

B. The level of response required for an incident is determined by:

1. quantity, quality, and the toxic effects of the material involved in the release;

2. population and/or property threatened;

3. type and availability of protective equipment required for the released material, and;

4. probable consequences should no immediate action be taken.

C. Depending upon the threat posed by the incident, protective measures initiated for the safety of the public could include in place sheltering, evacuation, and/or isolation of the contaminated environment.

D. Response procedures for each incident will be according to local policies and procedures in compliance with worker safety standards.

E. This plan recognizes that a hazardous materials incident can change with time, and necessitate escalating the response, or downgrading the response as the situation dictates.

F. The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is currently non-existent. The function of identifying the magnitude of the local hazards, assess the vulnerability of the community to those hazards, and provide planning guidance for emergency response is currently being provided by the County Emergency Management agency and other response agencies. A point of contact, the Facility Coordinator, will be identified at each covered facility as identified by SARA, Title III, Section 302.

G. Specific hazardous materials facility information has been gathered and is available to the

response community through the Wilson County Emergency Management Agency.

H. Coordination between jurisdictions will be achieved through regional coordination with the Central Branch Office or through direct contact with towns and other counties.

I. Training programs for emergency responders in the County will be through individual agency in-service training, community college courses, the N.C. Division of Emergency Management, and other available related training. Exercise schedules for this plan are developed and maintained by the emergency management office.