

# What “D-HEC” to Expect When an Emergency Occurs:

## Emergency Response 101





# DHEC Response

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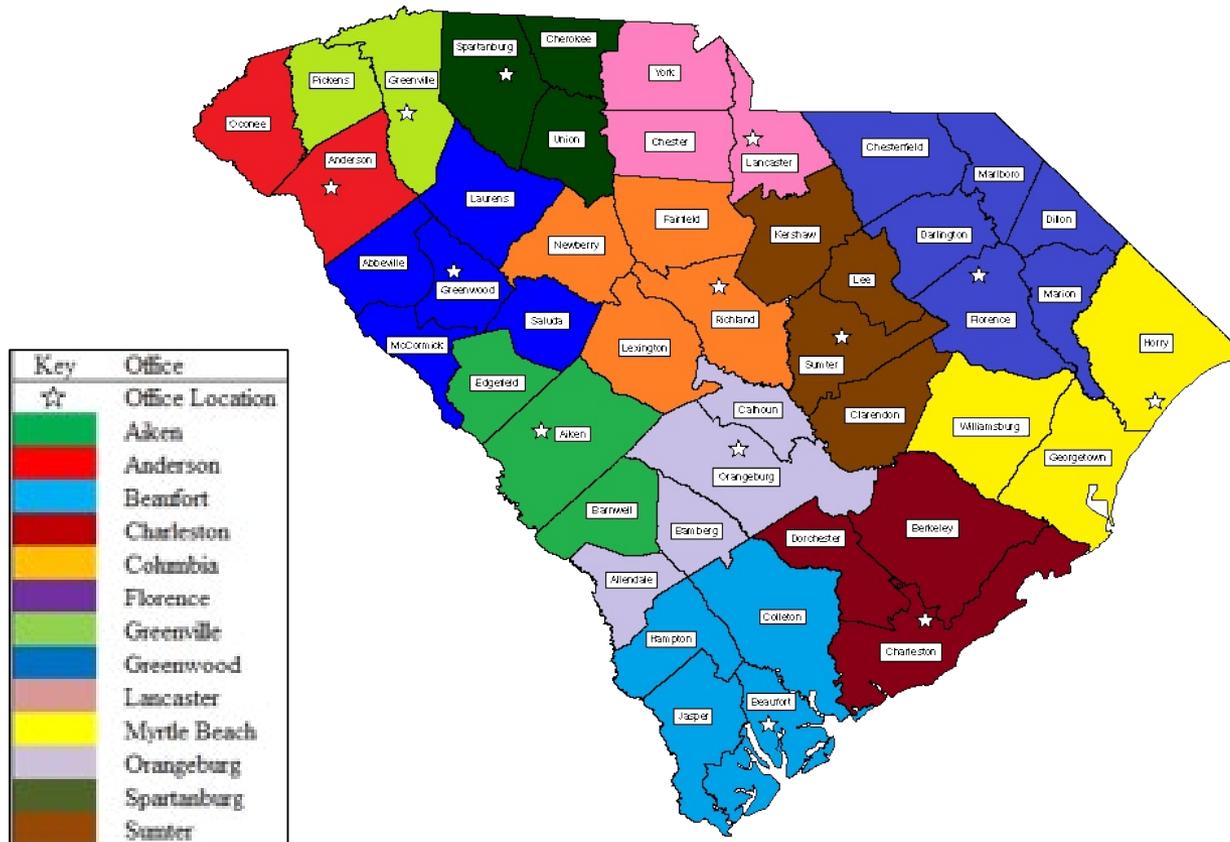
# What is Emergency Response?



# Emergency Response Teams

- Information received by the Division of Emergency Response is directed to one of the 13 Environmental Affairs Emergency Response Teams.
- Each Emergency Response Team is deployed from a Regional Office of Environmental Affairs to respond to incidents occurring within certain counties.

# Emergency Response Teams



# Emergency Response Criteria

- Emergency Response can be a lot of things
- Fuel spills, facility fires, SSO's, train derailments, transportation related incidents, etc.
- Emergency means something different to everyone

# An Emergency exists, what now?

- After the initial notification from the CODO, if possible, DHEC will call the on-scene person and verify as many of the facts as possible.
- Notes will be taken of what the hazards are or perceived to be.
- Verification of physical location will occur with a special note of direction if occurring on interstates.
- Best way to access the accident scene (backed up traffic usually plays a role in this)

# An Emergency exists, what now?

- Current weather will be taken into consideration (hot and sunny or cold and rainy can make a difference).
- Is there a PRP on-site for assistance?
- Anything else????
- DHEC is prepared to respond quickly but SAFELY! (30 minutes after call received)
- DHEC ERT personnel are not permitted to exceed any posted speed limit or break any traffic laws while in response to any incident.

# Arrived on-scene

- DHEC will position our vehicle safely out of harms way. Fire trucks are usually parked to shield the responders.
- Proper PPE will be worn and comply with facility requirements.
- Responder will locate the incident commander and check in.



# Where Does DHEC Fit?



# Incident Command

- DHEC fits into the operations section of the incident command flow chart.
- Every incident is unique in size, type, location, etc.
- Incident command can be as large and formal as the flow chart indicates or consist of the most knowledgeable person on-site for that particular emergency. Incident Command is scalable.

# What will the IC be Asked?

- Time occurred
- Material involved
- Amounts
- Any known hazards
- SDS available?
- Shipping papers?
- PRP on-site?
- Is there a contractor on their way?

# We know our place, now what?

- With the assistance of the IC, responder will safely assess the incident.
- DHEC will note how big, how small, what volume, areas affected, any off-site areas affected or could be affected, any other areas of concern.
- If PRP is on-site, responder will gather all of their pertinent information (company name, address, number, insurance company, etc.), and relay to them the gravity of the situation and what their responsibilities are to that incident.

# DHEC Responsibilities at the Scene

DHEC must assure that any environmental release is:

- Controlled at the source
- Contained
- Cleaned up properly
- Properly disposed of (correct waste in the correct type of disposal facility)
- Verify paper trail (manifests)

# For what is DHEC not responsible?

- Traffic Control, HP, or local law enforcement
- Medical Services or advice, EMT's
- Public Safety, Fire Department

# PRP Responsibilities

- Notifications - any off-site notifications required under State and Federal regulations. (NRC, US Coast Guard, County officials)
- Spill Containment - Contain the release in a timely and diligent manner.
- Clean-up and removal of waste - Can be a third party contractor.
- Disposal - What is it, and where should it go?
- Paper trail - Forward all disposal information to the ROSC ASAP.

# PRP Hires a Contractor

- Where is the contractor coming from?
- Have they been fully briefed on the extent of the problem?
- With the contractor on-site, review any and all areas of concern.
- Discuss remediation methods
- Are they thorough and acceptable?
- Will they fulfill the responsibilities of the PRP?
- Is the contractor properly equipped?



# Work Begins!

- DHEC will relay to pertinent members of the command staff what is going to happen.
- If needed, responder will request any special permission the contractor may need to complete their work.
- Monitor progress.
- Sample or no sample?
- Job is finished.
- Clarify who will be providing copy of all disposal information. Will it be the PRP or their contractor?



# Local Emergency Management Division Response

**Denise Kwiatek**

*Director of Pickens County Emergency  
Management*

# Facility Response

***BRIDGESTONE***

**Bridgestone Americas, Inc.**

**Michele Horton**

*Environmental Engineer*

# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

1. Clear
2. Complete
3. Practiced
4. Evergreen



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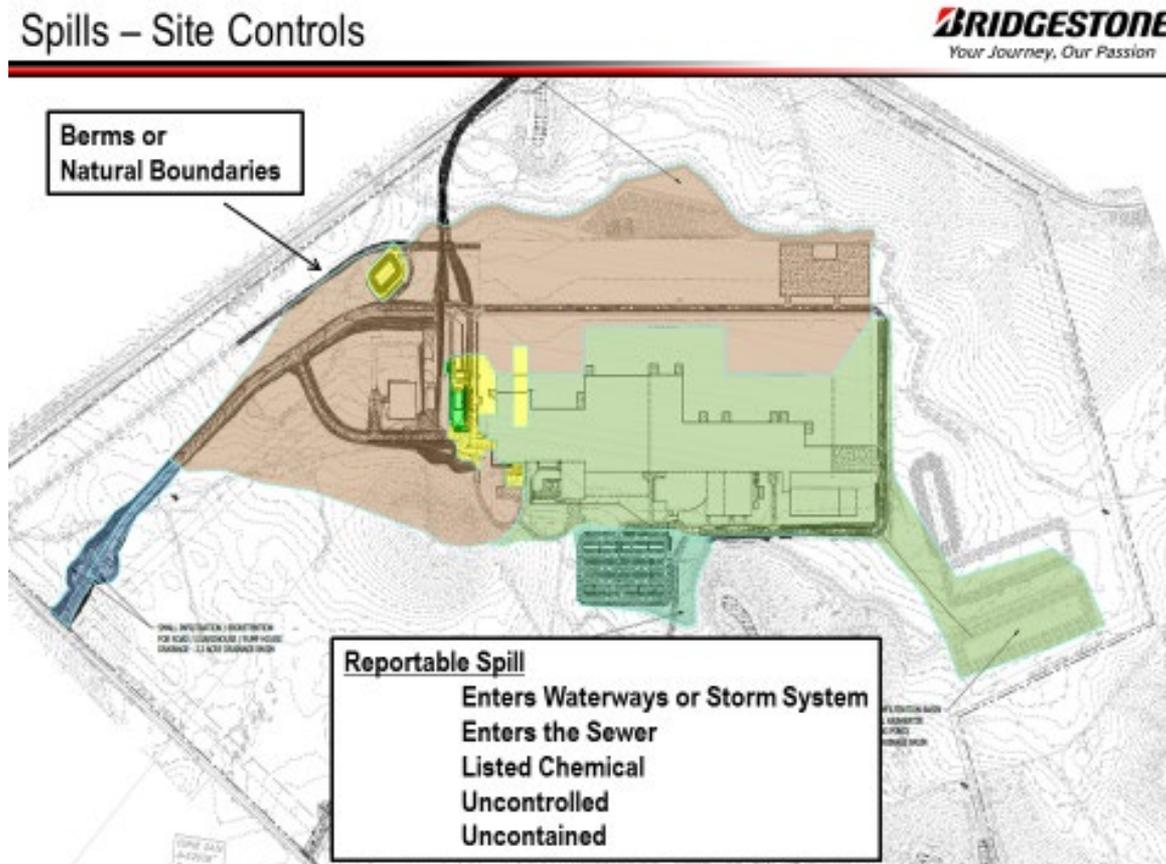


# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

- Outline appropriate actions
- Define all roles, all roles are critical, define what is/is not included in each role
- Determine people accounting methods such as rally point counts, don't forget about contractors, visitors, and delivery personnel.
- Set up command center

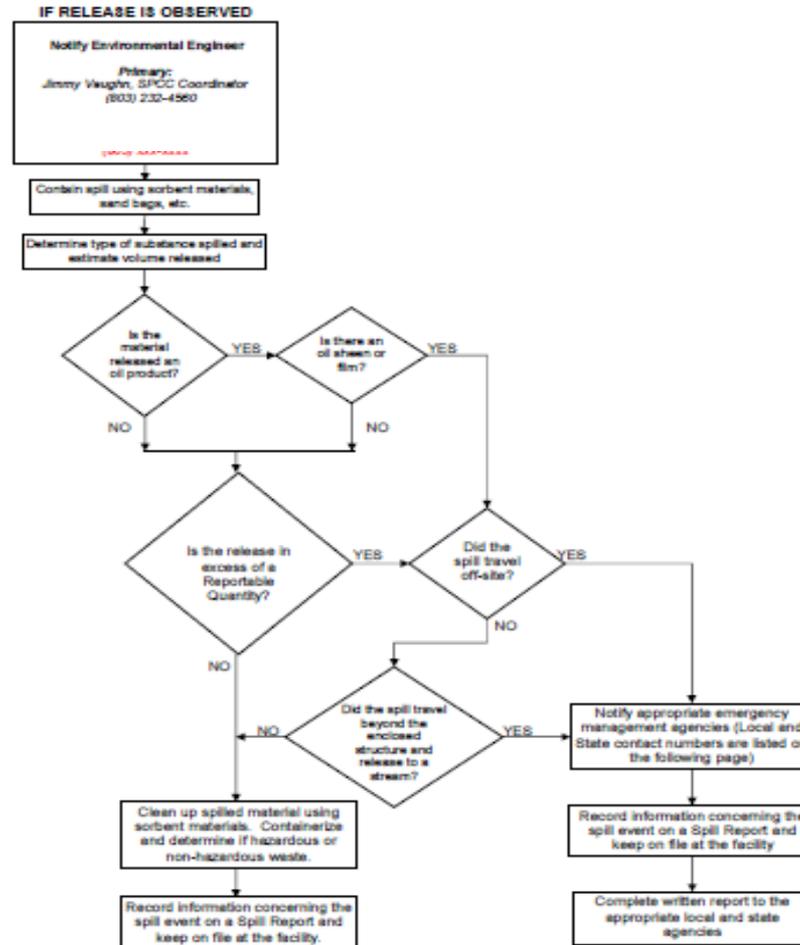


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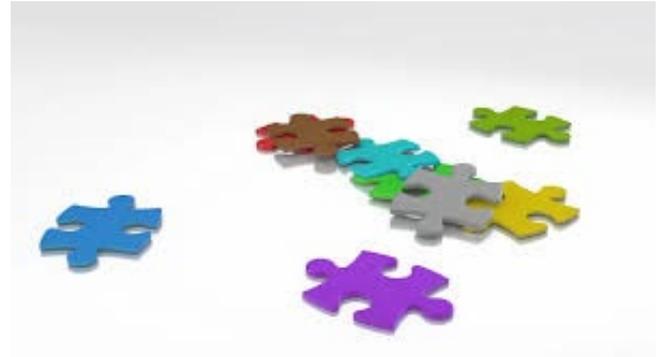
# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

SPILL REPORTING FLOW CHART  
 Bridgestone Aiken ORR Plant



# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

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- 2. Complete**
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# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

Consider all situations / scenarios.

- Fire, explosion, spills of hazardous chemicals
- Natural disasters, such as severe weather, floods, winds, hurricane or tornados, extended freezing temps
- Major structural failure
- Sabotage or terrorist activity, such as deliberate release of hazardous biological agents
- External issues, such as hazards from neighbors, loss of power, loss of water supply, loss of communications

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# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

## Drill, Drill, Drill



# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

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- 4. Evergreen**

# Key Elements of an Effective Emergency Response Plan

- Learn
- Update
- Repeat



# Mock Scenario

It's the evening of Black Friday. Santa and his elves are taking a quick hiatus before the Christmas season begins. Around 10:00 p.m. that evening, Santa receives a phone call saying that there is a fire in one of his workshops. Due to most of his elves being in a turkey-induced food coma, there are only a few workers left to fight the fire.

Thankfully, no casualties (other than a few dolls) have been reported. Along with the fire, two things are of concern: The Santa Doppler Weather Radar Station is calling for a chance of a snow storm and the workshop is located right near a stream. How would each of you respond to this emergency?

# Complication 1:

Santa's environmental manager identifies that there are oxidizers, flammable solids and gases, corrosives, and incompatibles stored in the warehouse adjacent to the workshop where the fire is currently located. The environmental manager also reports that a substance previously used in their processes is water-reactive. That waste material was supposed to be picked up on Wednesday before Thanksgiving, but the environmental manager was off for the holiday and is having difficulty getting confirmation whether or not the material was picked up as scheduled. The firefighting crew is concerned about the acrid black smoke and wants to know if there should be evacuations.

## Complication 2:

Santa's phone rings again. The environmental manager is on site and has been able to confirm that the waste material was picked up on Wednesday and that it is safe to fight the fire with water. Unfortunately, the fire is spreading and will likely affect the warehouse shortly. To make matters worse, the snow storm that wasn't supposed to arrive until mid-day on Sunday will make an earlier than expected appearance.

## Complication 3:

The fire is contained and should be out soon, but one of the chemical tanks ruptured during the fire. The substance is being transported toward the creek with the firefighting runoff. The environmental manager is reasonably certain that the runoff will be contained on site, but is concerned that the substance is considered environmentally hazardous.

## Complication 4:

The fire has been extinguished and just in time. Snow has started falling. The workshop and its contents were lost and the adjacent warehouse was partially consumed. The only known release is the substance reported earlier. It appears to have been contained in storm water ponds on site, but the projected snowfall could hinder cleanup and eventual melt may lead to eventual offsite impacts if the runoff isn't dealt with quickly.



# QUESTIONS?



## Contact Us

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