

RHIC & AGS Users' Committee Meeting

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Office of Emergency Management

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BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY

a passion for discovery



Office of Emergency Management

Responsible for:

- Site Emergency Planning;
- Continuity Of Operations Planning;
- Local Emergency Plans for all occupied facilities on site;
- Hazard assessment and planning for site;
- Coordination of site wide drills and exercises;
- Maintaining support, training and exercises for all on call Emergency Response Organization members; and
- Providing site wide coordination for events such as severe weather, special or dignitary visits, and hazardous material transportation.

Planning Assumptions

- Hazard Material release
- Severe Weather event
- Wildfire
- Transportation accident
- Man Made event

Identified Shortfalls

- Less than adequate coordination and communication between laboratory stakeholders;
- No coordination in the identification of Essential Staff;
- Limited emergency planning to address guests and visitors;
- Reliance on other departments to provide support during emergencies,
 - Assumptions made without validation
- Communications not provided to all employees, guests and visitors.

Severe Weather Improvements Implemented

- Established a Severe Weather Working Group
 - Participation from expanded to include:
 - Site Services
 - Laboratory Protection
 - CEGPA
 - Guest, User and Visitor Center
 - C-AD
 - RHIC – Star & Phenix
 - NSLS
 - NSLS II
 - Biology
 - Animal Care, Medical, PET/Imaging
 - BHSO
 - Staff Services

Severe Weather Working Group

- Participates in the Regional National Weather Service Severe Weather conference calls;
- Identifies and updates Essential Personnel staffing;
- Pre-identifies and updates the “Snowflake” facilities with respect to on-going experiments;
- Identifies scheduled laboratory activities that may be impacted, such as conferences and out-of-town attendees;
- Communication to on-site housing, guests and visitors pre and post event.

Limiting Staff on Site during Severe Weather

- SAFETY
 - For guests, visitors and employees, especially those working to get the site re-opened
- Limited personnel and vehicles on site;
 - Allows Site Services to utilize heavy equipment for snow removal;
 - Provides unimpeded snow removal in parking areas;
 - Provides for a quicker and more efficient snow removal process to reduce laboratory closure time.

Communication

Current laboratory wide emergency communications include

- BNL Web Page
- Information Hotline
- Emergency Notification Subscriber List
- Communication through the GUV Center and Staff Services

Current System

- Reliance on staff checking email, web site or the Hot-line
 - Does not address communications to those without email or internet access
- Not reliable for sudden changes in site operational conditions
- No acknowledgement that messages are received by staff

Communication Agenda

- Institute a site wide mass notifications system;
- Improve coordination with the GUV Center and Staff Services;
- Develop a more comprehensive communications plan for guest, users and visitors.

Site Emergency Identified Shortfalls

- Guest, users and visitors emergency planning;
- Identifying emergency shelter on site;
- Evacuation and/or identification of emergency shelter off site;
- Transportation for those without during an evacuation;
- Accountability Plan;
- Sustainability with provisions.

Site Emergency Agenda

- Work with Staff Services to address transportation during an evacuation;
- Identify safe shelters on site;
- Work to identify the necessary support for provisions;
- Work with Suffolk County to identify emergency shelters off site;
- Develop a mechanism for providing timely communications.;
- Upgrade the Site Siren system to include tone alerts and annunciation.

Building Relationships

- GUV Center
- Staff Services
- Science

Questions?

